

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE,

By the Ship JANE, Capt. HAYNES, who arrived here on Friday Evening, in 49 days from London.

LONDON, FEBRUARY 26.

THE letter which Mr. PITT received from Kew on Monday night, which commanded his attendance there on his Majesty, the following day, was in the King's own hand writing, and is one of the first letters which His Majesty has written since the happy recovery from his late dreadful illness.

We are informed, that when the Ambassadors of Tippo Sultan were taking leave at the court of Versailles, they requested to know what mark of friendship from their master would be most satisfactory to the King of France: On which the King declared, "that the liberty of any English officers or soldiers, who might still be detained prisoners in the Sultan's dominions, and more especially of those who had been prisoners with M. SUFFREIN, would be the greatest test of regard for his Majesty." A declaration, which reflects honor upon the throne from which it proceeded, and which exalts its author above the rank of Kings! The Protector of Humanity!

It was not, we are informed, the intention of the court of France to make this interesting request known, till it took a happy effect in India: The Indian Ambassadors gave the first public intimation of the request: M. Suffrein wrote upon the same subject a very strong letter to Tippo, and orders have been sent to the French governors in India to use every possible influence at the court of Tippo to carry a point equally interesting to humanity, and to the policy of an enlightened and powerful nation.

The particulars of a negotiation, so creditable to its author, and which displays so happily the liberal spirit of the age, cannot and ought not to remain long unexplained.

[The above article exhibits an evidence, among a thousand others, that daily occurs, of the increasing urbanity, and refined sensibility of the present age—and while it extorts a just tribute of applause on the MONARCH OF FRANCE, the generous acknowledgement of the English is highly complimentary to their character.]

FEB. 28. By His Majesty's command the Physicians' report is to be discontinued from this day.

By private letters from Madras we learn, That Tippo Sultan has lately made on the frontiers of the Carnatic, some military movements that indicate a strong desire to break a peace to which he consented so reluctantly. Educated in camps, and accustomed from his infancy to the din of war, that turbulent and enterprising Prince will never cease to employ against the English, every engine of force or fraud, till such time he has driven them from the Carnatic, or ruined himself in the attempt.

MR. HASTINGS' trial is to be resumed on the 16th of April next. The King we are happy to say, is recovered. He is now as perfectly himself as he ever was at any period of his life. All that remains to be guarded against, is, the possibility of a relapse. Against this, there are reasons as well grounded as the best observations of physicians can possibly be.

On that observation, His Majesty's malady has been held to be, not an Insanity, but a Delirium—and for this reason—In cases of Insanity, the disorder is little affected by the pulse. The patient retains his disorder, be the pulse high or low.

In cases of Delirium, the thing is directly the reverse: As the fever decreases, the patient recovers his mental faculties.

It has happened exactly so to His Majesty. When his pulse was at 120, his malady was at its height. His pulse now is at 64, and he is perfectly recollected: and it will be a satisfaction to the public to know, that cases of delirium cease with the cause, and scarcely ever return. The King now sees, and converses with perfect composure, with different people; and so sensible is he at present of what has passed, that he only requests they would not talk to him on public affairs—"Let me be quiet for the present."

Every thing announces a second campaign against the Turks. The company of miners, commanded by Capt. CHATELET, quitted Ples some time since to go to Gradiska; they are ordered to march as fast as possible. The next campaign we expect will be opened by the siege of Birbir.

The peace of the North, which many have expressed a hope to see established, does not seem likely to be settled without a farther appeal to arms. For although the King of Sweden, on the 25th ult. declared his mind to the Diet of that Kingdom, yet their continuing to arm with vigor, and the general unanimity that prevails between the King and his States, are strong motives to excite our belief, that war will continue on the part of Sweden.

Nothing could possibly be more incommode to opposition, than the recovery of the King. A noble Lord, supposing his appointment to the Lieutenancy of Ireland certain, had bespoke all his liveries, which were uncommonly ornamented with lace. They were actually finished, and ready to be packed up. The new Favorite's coach-maker indeed was less precipitate in his operations. A splendid carriage, lined with rose-colored satin, was ordered, but counter-ordered before any progress in the work was made.

THEATRE, COVENT-GARDEN.

A few minutes before the curtain drew up, on Saturday night, Dr. WILLIS took his seat in the King's Box: His green glasses were on, and he kept them on during the whole Evening. The moment he was seated, the band, as if by previous intimation, struck up GOD SAVE THE KING. And at the end of the play, the actors came on the stage and sung it. And, as Garrick said, ALL THIS FOR DR. WILLIS.

What a pity Dr. WILLIS was not sent for, previous to the breaking out of the American war. Who knows but he might have saved America, as well as an hundred millions of money, and a hundred thousand lives.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 1789.

REGENCY BILL.

The Lord Chancellor left the Woolstack, and said, the idea their Lordships had gone upon in their late adjournments, had arose from their wishes that his Majesty might have as much time as possible allowed to him for the re-establishment of his health as could be allowed, consistent with the pressure of public affairs, before he took any part in the public business.

Since their last adjournment, his Majesty had found his health so far re-established and confirmed, that he had expressed his intention of signifying on Tuesday next, to his parliament, what business was necessary to be taken; he should therefore move their Lordships to adjourn to Tuesday next.

Ordered nem. dis. At five o'clock the House adjourned, till Tuesday next.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 1789.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer rose and said, from the present happy state of his Majesty's health, he had the pleasure to inform the House it was probable that they would receive a communication from the King on Tuesday next: he should therefore move the House to adjourn to Tuesday next.

The King's (of Great-Britain) personal property amounts to seven millions Sterling.

CORLEY is carrying on the siege of Gibraltar, with those slow and regular approaches, which cannot fail of success. One barge of Marines, forms a principal feature of the work, and is disposed with a dexterity, and a fertility of invention, peculiar to this great matter.

MARCH 7.

The commotions in Brabant seem now drawing to a crisis; for no doubt can now remain of the Emperor's intention. That he has sold the country to France appears evident; for no power can be so great a stranger to the intrigues of that court, as to allow it to garrison its fortified towns on the faith of having them restored.

We have long intimated a secret correspondence which has passed between the courts of Vienna and Versailles. The Queen has been trying every art to give the Emperor some effectual assistance, and it now seems that the country of Brabant is to be the price of it. It only remains to be shown in what manner the Flemings will resist such an usurpation.

The Emperor has presented PRINCE POTESKIN with a star, of the value of 100,000 florins.

Letters from Warlaw, dated February 8, say, that the spirit of opposition between the two principal parties which divide that republic, far from diminishing, augments daily; they are no longer content with differing in opinion only, but even proceed to those fatal marks of distinction which, without doing the least good, excite divisions, and produce many other evils. The triumphant party wear red caps with gold lace; those of the King's green ones with gold lace. The latter use all their endeavours to re-establish the permanent council; and it is astonishing how they resist the opposite party, especially as it seems neither the court of Russia nor Vienna will support them against the patriotic party, which appears to be supported with the approbation of a powerful potentate, and will no longer bear of a permanent council, but mean to form another under the title of a council of vigilance, which will be of a quite different form, and where his Majesty will have very little influence.

PERA, Dec. 21. This morning we were astonished to hear that Oczakow had been carried by the assault of the Russians.—This news was so little expected, that most part of the foreign ministers had sent advices to their courts of the siege having been raised.

PROCEEDINGS of CONGRESS.

In the HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES of the UNITED STATES.

MONDAY, MAY 4, 1789.

The House met agreeably to adjournment.

A petition from the shipwrights of the town of Baltimore was presented by Mr. SMITH, and being read, was referred to a committee of the whole on the state of the Union.

MR. MADISON gave notice, that on the fourth Monday of the present month, he should introduce the subject of amendments to the Constitution, agreeably to the fifth article of the Constitution: He thought it necessary thus early to mention the business, as it was weighty and important, and upon motion, the time proposed by the gentleman was assigned.

MR. AMES presented three petitions from private persons, which were ordered to lie on the table.

MR. GOODHUE then proposed, that the remainder of the report of the committee, respecting tonnage, should be taken up.

The first article was then read, viz. That all vessels belonging to a citizen or citizens of the United States, should pay a tonnage duty of 6 cents.

MR. BLAND proposed an amendment, which was seconded, viz. That these words should be added—excepting vessels bound from one port to another within the United States.

The gentleman observed, that as the article now stood it was contrary to the express letter and meaning of the Constitution, which provides that vessels bound to or from one State, shall not be obliged to enter, clear or pay duties in another.

MR. LAWRENCE was opposed to the amendment: He thought that the Constitution fully warranted the laying a tonnage duty—that the article the gentleman referred to was plain in its meaning, and ought to be construed only as referring to entrances and clearances at a third port—coasting vessels were greatly benefited by light houses, pilotage, &c. and it was but reasonable that they should pay for those advantages.

MR. MADISON was in sentiment with Mr. LAWRENCE, in his construction of the meaning of the clause in the Constitution. The ideas of some gentlemen upon it, he observed, were unreasonable and inconsistent, he conceived, with the Constitution, and must in their opinion totally defeat the revenue—for if vessels were not obliged to enter and clear at some port, the whole duties might be evaded: He thought the construction of the article simple, and easy to comprehend.

MR. BLAND replied, that he was not convinced of the impropriety of his motion—the gentleman's reasoning, he conceived, went too far—here was a plain, positive declaration, and if we were to suppose, that because the Constitution gave Congress necessary powers, it gave them every power, they would be absolute at once: The article was definite, he conceived; but gentlemen have put different constructions upon it—it was however well known, that the Convention in framing this article, designed to encourage the coasting trade.

MR. LIVERMORE, MR. BALDWIN and MR. CLYMER coincided in sentiment with Mr. MADISON.

MR. BOUDINOT observed, that this amendment would deprive Congress of all power to raise a revenue: The Constitution had vested such powers in Congress, and they were sworn to support the Constitution: When these powers were duly considered, he presumed, that it would not be contended, that they had not this in particular: The idea of the Convention in the construction of the clause, was to preclude all partiality to any individual State: It moreover extends, he observed, to all vessels indiscriminately, so that the construction of the gentleman goes to exempt all from any obligation to pay duties—Sir, shall a vessel bound to Europe not pay tonnage, because she may collect her cargo at different ports upon the continent—this would entirely overset the whole system of revenue.

MR. BLAND replied that the Constitution was express, that no duty should be imposed or paid by one State on the articles of another: Tonnage was a duty of this description.

But by the revolution in 1757, the company's servants obtained a mighty ascendant over the native Princes of Bengal, who owed their elevation to the British arms. The company, which was new to that kind of power, and not yet thoroughly apprized of its real character and situation, considered itself still as a trader in the territories of a foreign potentate, in the prosperity of whose country it had neither interest nor duty. The servants, with the same ideas, followed their fortune in the channels in which it had hitherto ran, only enlarging them with the enlargement of their power. For their first ideas of profit were not official; nor were their oppressions those of ordinary despotism. The first instruments of their power were formed out of evasions of their ancient subjections. The passport of the company in the hands of its servants was no longer under any restraint; and in a very short time their immunity began to cover all the merchandise of the country. Cossim Ali Khan, the second of the Nabobs whom they had set up, was but ill disposed to the instruments of his greatness. He bore the yoke of this impetuous commerce with the utmost impatience: he saw his subjects excluded as aliens from their own trade, and the revenues of the Prince overwhelmed in the ruin of the commerce of his dominions. Finding his reiterated remonstrances on the extent and abuse of the passport ineffectual, he had recourse to an unexpected expedient, which was to declare his resolution at once to annul all the duties on trade, setting it equally free to subjects and to foreigners.

Never was the method of defeating the oppressions of monopoly more forcible, more simple, or more equitable: no sort of plausible objections could be made; and it was in vain to think of evading it. It was therefore met with the confidence of avowed and determined justice. The presidency of Calcutta openly denied to the Prince the power of protecting the trade of his subjects, by the remission of his own duties. It was evident that his authority drew to its period; many reasons and motives concurred, and his fall was hastened by the odium of the oppressions which he exercised voluntarily, as well as those to which he was obliged to submit.

When this example was made, Jaffer Ali Khan, who had been disposed to make room for the last actor, was brought from penury and exile to a station, the terms of which he could not misunderstand. During his life, and in the time of his children who succeeded him, parts of the territorial revenue were assigned to the company; and the whole, under the name of residency at the Nabob's court, was brought directly or indirectly, under the controul of British subjects. The company's servants, armed with authorities delegated from the nominal government, or attended with what was a stronger guard, the fame of their own power, appeared as magistrates in the markets in which they dealt as traders. It was impossible for the natives in general to distinguish, in the proceedings of the same persons, what was transacted on the company's account, from what was done on their own; and it will ever be so difficult to draw this line of distinction, that, as long as the company does, directly or indirectly, aim at any advantage to itself in the purchase of any commodity whatever, so long will it be impracticable to prevent the servants availing themselves of the same privilege.

The servants therefore, for themselves, or for their employers, monopolized every article of trade, foreign and domestic; not only the raw merchantable commodities, but the manufactures, and not only these, but the necessities of life, or what in these countries, habit has confounded with them; not only silk, cotton, piece goods, opium, saltpetre, but not unfrequently salt, tobacco, betel nut and the grain of most ordinary consumption. In the name of the country government they laid on or took off, and at their pleasure heightened or lowered, all duties upon goods: the whole trade of the country was either destroyed, or in shackles. The acquisition of the Duanne, in 1765, bringing the English into the immediate government of the country, in its most essential branches, extended and confirmed all the former means of monopoly.

In the Progress of these ruinous measures, through all their details, innumerable grievances were suffered by the native inhabitants, which were represented in the strongest, that is, their true colours, in England. Whilst the far greater part of the British in India were in eager pursuit of the forced and exorbitant gains of trade carried on by power, contests naturally arose among the competitors: those who were overpowered by their rivals, became loud in their complaints to the court of directors, and were very capable, from experience, of pointing out every mode of abuse.

ANECDOTE of SWIFT and ADDISON.

ONE evening, during a tete-a-tete conversation between Addison and Swift, the various characters in Scripture were canvassed, and their merits and demerits were fully discussed. Swift's favourite, however, was Joseph, while Addison contended strongly for the amiable Jonathan. The dispute lasted some time, when the author of Cato observed, that it was very fortunate they were alone, as the character which he had been praising so warmly was the name-fake of Swift—while the other, of which Swift had been so lavish in his commendations, was the name-fake of Addison.