Foreign Intelligence.

LATEST FROM FRANCE.

BALTIMORE, February 24.

By the arrival at this port yesterday, of the sch'r. Fawn, capt. Young, in 57 days from St. Sebastians, the editor of the American has received through a mercantile friend, Paris, Bordeaux and Bayonne papers, bringing Paris dates to the 16th of December. We have only room for the following to day. More important articles on Monday.

One of our papers is filled with the proceedings of the conversative senate, on the application of Bonaparte for a divorce from the empress Josephine—She consents to the measure.

On the prospect of a speedy restoration of intercourse with America, cotton fell in France to a very low price.

On the 12th of December the minister of the interior submitted his report or *expose* of the situation of the French empire to the legislative body; towards the close of which he sketches the relations of France with other nations.

What concerns the United States more particularily is the following.

His excellency terminates his report by the examination of the political relations of France with foreign powers. The report announces that a peace with Sweden will soon be signed; that Holland equally bruised by France and by England, will undergo some changes—*that our relations with the United States of America are only to be suspended for the moment and will immediately resume their natural channel*; (Marche naturelle)—that the part of Poland added to the grand duchy of Warsaw, and freed from the yoke of Austria is about to prosper under the laws of the king of Saxony; that a true friendship unites Russia to the French empire—lastly, that the kings, allies of France, will receive an increase of territory, and that France herself, acquires new sources of prosperity, and new openings for her commerce by the means of the countries incorporated with the empire."

[N. B. This is extracted by our translator from a summary of the expose published in the French papers.]

American.

PARIS, December 11.

Yesterday, before mass, his majesty the emperor and king, seated on the throne, surrounded by princes, ministers, grand officers of the empire, members of the senate and of the council of state, received in the palace of the Thuilleries, a deputation of the legislative body.

The deputation was conducted to an audience of his majesty, by a master of ceremonies and his assistant, introduced by the grand master of the ceremonies, and presented by the prince vice grand elector.

The deputation being admitted to the foot of the throne, count de Fontanes, president of the legislative body, delivered the following address to his majesty:

"SIR—The legislative body recognize your greatness every time it has the honor to approach your majesty's throne. To you every year is an age of glory; every return to your capital is a new triumph.

"When you were far from France, your genius did not abandon her;—it dwelt in the midst of us. At the first appearance of the enemy, your people whom you beheld on the banks of the Danube, hurried in crowds to your threatened frontiers; they fled with precipitancy as if you had been present.

"Your last exploits and the happy peace which has succeeded them will aggrandize the territories of your allied princes, Some important unions will complete the system of this vast empire of which they are members, and which has you for its chief and founder.

"But Cesar, in his zenith of power, respected rights which were not his own. He marked out himsef the limits of the priesthood and of the empire. Religion will not cease to protect itself by the throne which re-established it and the successor of St. Peter will always be more dear and venerable to us, in blessing the successor of Charlemagne, in the name of the God of peace, whose, will changes empires; but whose worship does not change.

"Whosoever attaches himself to you will be aggrandized and whosoever seeks a foreign influence is threatened with an approaching disaster. Your ascendancy must be obeyed, which is at once the counsel of heroism and policy.

"Sire, you have said that you will remain but a few days in this palace:—that your first passion is the love of France. This word has resounded in every heart. You announce to day that the victory has cost no new sacrifices; the legislative body return you thanks therefor. But it fears not to be contradicted by a brave and generous nation when it tells you that Frenchmen will do every thing possible for a sovereign, who has covered them with so much glory; and who has judged them so well in recompencing their sacrifices with all his love."

To which his majesty replied:

"Gentlemen, the president and deputies of the legislative body; the sentiments you have expressed accord with my own. I know the attachment of your body to my person. France needs a monarchy moderate but strong. The present epoch ought not only to be distinguished by the glory of the arms of France, but also by the prosperity of her commerce; by the wisdom of her laws, and by the splendor of her arts, science and literary acquirements.

"To bring France to her present state, I have surmounted the greatest obstacles. I and my family will ever sacrifice our dearest affections to the interests and welfare of this great nation. By the help of God and the constant love of my people, I will be enabled to overcome every obstacle which shall oppose the accomplishment of my great designs.

"I desire to live thirty years longer, in order to be able to serve my subjects thirty years more to consolidate this great empire, and to see all the prosperity that I have conceived for this dear France."

The audience being finished, the deputation was re-conducted with the greatest ceremonials.

The following order of the day was published the 20th of November, at Madrid:

The king gained yesterday at Ocana, a memorable and decisive battle. Two hours were sufficient to annihilate that army of insurgents, which hoped in a few days to make its entry into Madrid. It was entirely destroyed or dispersed, 4000 men dead on the field of battle—20,000 prisoners, of which 800 were officers; besides 30 or 40,000 muskets. 20 stand of colours, 30 pieces of cannon, an immense quantity of baggage, are the result of this brilliant victory.

The Governor General,
(Signed) BELLIARD.

GRAND BATTLE OF OCANA,
Gained by the Imperial and Royal French Army commanded by the Duke of Dalmatia, (Soult) over the Spaniards on the 19th Nov. 1809.

SPAIN.

Letter from the Duke of Dalmatia to the Minister at war, in Paris.

Head Quarters, Des Barrias, Nov. 19.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

His majesty the emperor's troops have just gained a signal victory. The battle was fought at Ocana, where the Spanish insurgents had collected 55,000 men, of whom 7000 were cavalry, besides a numerous artillery. The 4th and 5th corps of the army commanded by the marshal duke of Treviso (Mortier.) The division of general Milhaud, the division of light cavalry of the 5th corps, commanded by general Beauregard, and the brigade of light cavalry of general Paris, with the royal guard, and two battalions of Spanish troops, left Aranjuez this morning, in order to meet the enemy, who according to the information received, had taken position at Ocana. At nine o'clock, the advanced guard in reality observed that army: at 11 o'clock the engagement began, and at 2 o'clock the battle was gained. The Spaniards made a brave resistance; the superiority of their numbers encouraged them; but they were attacked with such spirit by all the troops, that their position was carried without the least hesitation. The charges made by the infantry and cavalry, threw the enemy into dreadful disorder. All the artillery and baggage fell into our hands. We have already counted 50 pieces of cannon, 15 stands of colours, and a great number of prisoners, (amongst whom are 3 generals, 6 colonels and 700 officers) were taken by the imperial troops. The ground was strewed with dead bodies, and with more than 40,000 musquets, as well as with the wrecks of baggage, and other military effects. At every instant prisoners are brought in. The remainder of the army is flying without arms, and without knowing what will become of them.

If the English have another Spanish army to sacrifice, they may send it on. The whole imperial army in Spain is disposable.

This morning the king gave the command of all the cavalry to general Sebastiani. The fine changes he has made have justified that appointment; he manœuvred with precision & boldness. General Milhaud distinguished himself very much. All the chiefs of cavalry deserve to be mentioned. The light horse of the royal guard behaved with the greatest intrepidity. The marshal duke of Treviso commanded the infantry of the 4th and 5th corps.—It was impossible for any one to act with more courage. General Girard who commands the 1st division of the 5th corps, made a charge with his infantry which determined the enemy to give way, and yield to us the position he had taken.

General Leval was wounded at the head of his division. His conduct deserves praise. The marshal duke of Treviso received a contusion on his arm, but which did not prevent him from commanding.

General Dessoles commanded the 2d division of the 5th corps, which formed the second line—He had occasion to engage with that part of the army on the right of the village of Ocana.

General Senarment commanded all the artillery of the army. His dispositions were the best that could be made. Thus the artillery has rendered the greatest service on this important occasion.

Our loss is trifling considering the result and best of the battles it does not exceed 400 men.

Not having received the reports of the different corps of the army, I am not able to send your excellency a more particular account; but as soon as I will receive them, I will hasten to give you a general report of the battle, and of the dispositions which took place—at the same time, I shall make known to you the officers of the general staff, and of the troops who distinguished themselves in a particular manner, and who have this day deserved the thanks of his majesty the emperor. In the mean time, I must say, that all generals and officers of the staff, had the honor of making themselves useful, and of signalizing themselves on this memorable day.

The marshal duke of Belluno (Victor) received orders to pass the Tagus this morning between Villar megue and Puerti Dueñas. He was to have attacked the enemy in the position he had taken yesterday morning at Santa Cruz, and afterwards pursue him in whatever direction he would take on his retreat. This morning it was written to him that the enemy appeared to concenter his troops at Ocana, and he was ordered to direct his column towards that place as soon as possible. As the distance which he had to go, was a very long march, he was not able to take part in the action. The king did not receive news from him during the day—thus his majesty is ignorant of what the marshal duke of Belluno has done. I shall have the honour of giving your excellency an account of it in my next report. I have the honor to beg your excellency to be so good as to lay my report before his majesty the emperor. I beg you also to accept of the sentiments of my high consideration.

Signed the marshal of the empire Major General.

Marshal Duke of Dalmatia.

FREDERICK TOWN, February 21.

REPUBLICAN MEETING.

At a very large and respectable meeting of Republican citizens of Frederick county, convened pursuant to public notice, at the house of George Creager, Esq. in Frederick Town on the 11th & 12th instant, to select persons to be recommended to the people of Frederick county, as suitable characters to represent them in the next General Assembly. DAVID SHRIVER, senior, was chosen Chairman, and ROGER NELSON, Secretary,—when, upon mature consideration and full discussion, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That JOHN SCHLEY, PATRICK M'GILL, JOSHUA COCKEY & RICHARD BROOKE, be recommended to the good people of this county, as fit & proper persons to represent them in the next General Assembly.

Resolved, That the members of this meeting pledge themselves to each other, and the gentlemen above named, to support their election by all the fair and upright means in their power.

Resolved, That this meeting recommend to their political brethren in the different counties of Maryland, an early nomination and vigorous support of republican characters to represent them in the next Legislature; to the end, that the democracy of the state be fairly bro't into action, and the world be admonished to reverence and respect for the freemen of Maryland, by the energy and decision with which their rights and privileges shall be maintained.

Resolved, That in the estimation of this meeting the republicans in the legislature of this state, have with dignity and firmness taught an intolerant opposition the respect due to freemen, and have honorably and beneficially represented the rights and interests of the people, for which they merit and receive the thanks of this meeting.

Resolved, That the republican administration of the general government, meets with the entire approbation of this meeting, particularly in the dismissal of Francis James Jackson, minister plenipotentiary of his Britannic Majesty, for an unprovoked and outrageous insult to the American government and people.

Resolved, That the Chairman and Secretary sign and attest these proceedings, and that the editors of the different republican papers of Maryland be requested to publish them.

Signed,
DAVID SHRIVER, Chairman.
ROGER NELSON, Secretary.

Extract of a letter to the Editor, dated Louisville, Jan. 1810.

"A boat landed about two miles above the mouth of Bear Grass, a few days since—the whole crew sick with the *small pox*. *W. World.*

TORPEDO WAR.

To the Members of both Houses of Congress.

GENTLEMEN,

In my lecture, the 17th inst. not being prepared to exhibit the manner of harpooning, that part of the operation has since been performed at the Navy Yard from a boat into a target of three inch oak plank, where the harpoons are now sticking. There the simplicity and certainty of the operation, and the solid manner in which the harpoons will fasten to the side of a ship, are, I believe, fully demonstrated. This subject has now excited some public interest—it is one in which sufficient has been done to give encouraging hope of success, and if successful will be of immense importance to the U. States: Therefore every plan which may be devised for placing Torpedoes under ships of war, merits the most scrupulous examination, and every mode which may be conceived for destroying the Torpedoes or guarding a ship against their effects should also be critically examined. In scrutinizing the combinations and results connected with this invention, it is not my wish that gentlemen should believe more than I have proved, or can hereafter prove by experiment on the large scale. What I have proved is as follows:

First. That the explosion of powder under a ship will destroy her. If any gentleman unacquainted with the physics of submarine exploisions, should suppose that the brig blown up in the British channel, and the one at New-York were old and weak, and if a stronger vessel can be obtained for experiment, she may be loaded with stone or in any other manner a committee for that purpose will please to direct, and with 500 pounds of powder she shall disappear in 20 seconds after the explosion.

Second. That a vessel while at anchor or under way can be harpooned, *courage added*, and I will not pay my countrymen so bad a compliment, as to suppose them deficient in so necessary and honorable a quality, particularly as more is not required than in ordinary combat.

Third. That if harpooned on the larboard and starboard bow, any where between the fore chains and stem, either while at anchor or under sail, *as usual*, the torpedoes will go under her, where the clock work striking fire at the expiration of 30 or 40 seconds will blow her up.

I have shewn that Torpedoes anchored under water exhibit a fair prospect of destroying vessels which might run against them, and that such engines at a small expence would be a useful aid in defending our harbors. My leading principles of attack and defence being within these operations, it becomes necessary to examine every mode by which the enemy could have a hope to defeat the Torpedoes. For this purpose I beg leave to submit to your consideration the propriety of a standing committee of your own body, who with the Secretary of the Navy can investigate all objections, and call in some of our most experienced naval commanders to devise means for defending or guarding the ship. If any plausible means be discovered, it will then require a new exertion of mind, and combination of powers to destroy the guards which may be put round or to the vessel. Such committee would procure the necessary models and means to carry on the proofs by experiment. Two good row boats and a ship should be granted for this purpose, with 50 men to man the boats and work the ship. On such ship all invented guards could be placed, and the practice could be conducted with mute Torpedoes. At present I do not know any mode of arriving at a correct knowledge of the power of Torpedoes unless by such a succession of experiments. Hence I conceive in justice to the friends and enemies of the system this mode should be pursued: justice to the nation demands it, and it is but simple justice to the progressive arts which are now developing a new mode of war, that has in prospect the liberty of our commerce and the best interests of our country. I have been induced to suggest this measure, which I hope every gentleman will consider fair and reasonable, in consequence of hearing it rumored that a transverse boom at the bow of a ship as low as her keel would drive before it or destroy anchored Torpedoes, I have long contemplated such booms and various kinds of sweeps. I have constructed an anchoring Torpedoe so that the instant it is touched by a boom, rope, or chain, it will explode and carry away all such tackle; and Torpedoes may be so anchored as to render it extremely difficult to get them up or destroy them with sweeps of any description. All kinds of spars, nets or ropes let down perpendicular to the sides of a vessel, may be carried away by one explosion, leaving the ship exposed to the succeding 20 or 50 Torpedoe boats; however of such things exact knowledge will be acquired in the committee, should one be appointed.

Convinced that these engines will give important protection to the ports and commerce of our much injured country, and it being evident that no one can now see the additional improvements which may be made, or the limits of their utility, I cannot resist recommending them to your serious consideration and protection. Shall a few thousand dollars, or weeks or months of experiment be balanced with the happy consequences of success in this enterprize? With great respect I offer you my services.

ROBERT FULTON.

Kalorama, Feb. 22, 1810.

It is with regret we are obliged to notice what we consider disgraceful to the present legislature of Massachusetts, *(for the great body of the people have no part or lot in this matter)* that they have commenced a warfare against the general government of the country similar to that pursued last winter. They have authorised the publication of an inflamatory report of a committee, in which they attempt to justify the conduct of the English government and its insulting envoy, of Copenhagen memory—and condemning the government of our own country.—THE PEOPLE cannot, they WILL NOT countenance such *toryfied proceedings*;—but, at the approaching election, will hurl from their seats the authors of these base attempts to paralize the arm of the nation.

Essex Reg.

There are now living in Dover, N H. three sons of Robert and Sally Stevens, who were all ushered into this world at one birth. Their names are George Washington, John Adams, and Thomas Jefferson. They are about two and an half years old.

Salem Register.

Laws of the Union.

[BY AUTHORITY.]

AN ACT

To prescribe the mode in which application shall be made for the purchase of land at the several land offices; and for the relief of Joab Garret.

BE *it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled*, That from and after the first day of June next, every person making application at any of the land offices of the United States, for the purchase at private sale of a tract of land, shall produce to the register a memorandum in writing, describing the tract, which he shall enter by a proper number of the sections, half sections, or quarter (as the case may be) and for the township and range, subscribing his name thereto; which memorandum the register shall file and preserve in his office.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That Joab Garret shall be permitted to withdraw his entry, made on the second day of September, one thousand eight hundred and seven, at the land office at Vincennes, from the north west quarter section, number two, township number seven, south range number seven west; and the money paid by him on the said entry shall be placed to his credit, on any purchase he shall, or may have made of public land in the same district.

J. B. VARNUM, *Speaker of the House of Representatives.*
GEO: CLINTON, *Vice-President of the United States and President of the Senate.* *February* 24, 1810.
APPROVED, JAMES MADISON.

AN ACT

Authorising the discharge of William Hawkins from his imprisonment.

BE *it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress Assembled*, That the marshal for the district of Maine, be, and he is hereby authorised and directed to discharge William Hawkins from his imprisonment, upon an execution issued against him in behalf of the United States: *Provided*, That the said William Hawkins shall pay and satisfy all the costs that have arisen on the part of the United States in the said prosecution, and shall assign and convey all the estate, real and personal, which he may own, or be entitled to, to some person, for the use and benefit of the United States, under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury: *And provided also*, That any estate, real or personal, which the said William Hawkins may hereafter acquire, shall be liable to be taken and sold, in the same manner as if he had never been imprisoned and discharged, as aforesaid.

J. B. VARNUM, *Speaker of the House of Representatives.*
GEO: CLINTON, *Vice-President of the United States, and President of the Senate.*
February 20, 1810.
APPROVED, JAMES MADISON.

Notice.

WAS committed to the gaol of Washington county, Maryland, on the 21st ult as a runaway, a negro man who calls himself WILLIAM PANE, and says he belongs to Mrs. Priscilla Courts, of Charles county, (Md.)—He appears to be about 23 years old, about 5 feet 9 inches high; his clothing one light short cloth coat, with a black collar, one dark cloth coat, a fancy Bennett's cord waistcoat, dark cloth pantaloons, a wool hat and [illegible] shirt. The owner is requested to come and release him, otherwise he will be [illegible] as the law directs.

MATTHIAS SHAFFNER Sheriff.
Feb. 2[illegible] (March 6) 1810.