

Letter from a British officer to the editor of the London Courier.

Description of the Island of Huen, or Woen, situate in the centre of the Sound, between Denmark and Sweden.

This island was the residence of Tycho Brahe, who had here the famous observatory and printing-office, built for him by the King of Denmark, and of which nothing now remains but some trifling ruins. It belonged by the Treaty of Roschild, in 1658 to Sweden. It has been for some time regarded as neutral, and has only fifty or sixty families in it, principally fishermen. It contains about 8000 geometrical pieces in circumference—is mountainous, very fertile, and is well supplied with water. It possesses two excellent harbours, one on the North and the other on the South, which renders it a capital station for thoroughly commanding the opening or shutting of the Sound; and it may be, in the present situation of affairs, rendered as invulnerable as Heligoland or Gibraltar, with a little attention and activity, requiring only two or three thousand men to keep possession of it. Ramparts & bastions, and a strong fort in the centre, should immediately be erected; one month alone would suffice to erect at both its harbours, every thing necessary for the present, and to trace out all other works, so as to prevent any thing like a coup de main being attempted. Every thing necessary for either constructing barracks, erecting fortifications, &c. may now be had from Copenhagen, where our fleets and armies can command all its possessions. Six battalions and a quantity of muskets, carpenters, smiths, &c. would suffice to render the Island tenable during the whole of this winter, and next spring the whole might be so far completed, that in less than 12 months it might be rendered impregnable. It may always be well served with provisions, either from Sweden, Zealand, or England, during war. A fleet of three or four men of war with some small craft, should be stationed for protecting the works, and for closing the Sound. This fleet might winter at Malmoë, in Sweden, during the frosty season, and rake its station immediately after the sea became navigable.

It may, perhaps, be objected that an expedition from Zealand might attack it during the winter; but it is very rare indeed that the sea is frozen sufficient in this straight to enable an army to pass, as the current is exceedingly strong between the island and the neighbouring coasts. However if that should happen to be the case, the batteries might easily be multiplied on the straight, and in advancing the fortifications nearer the sea; six battalions would be more than sufficient to resist any attack that could be made against it, as it could not last more than 24 hours, the enemy not being able to open trenches, nor erect batteries on the ice, which might be rendered impracticable by bombs and other contrivances to break it. And indeed it can only be during this winter that any thing of the kind could be attempted, for by the next, a triple row of fortifications would be ready, and render the place like Gibraltar, perfectly impregnable. Therefore the objections is chimerical. Thus would these no very extensive fortifications, secure to us during the war, and perhaps for ever, the empire of the sound, and of course the whole of the Baltic.

#### BOSTON, Dec. 1.

Arrived, brig Henry, McLellan, of Portland, Guadaloupe, 26 days, sugar and coffee.

Below, a ship and two brigs. One of the brigs is supposed to be the Liberty, from Guadaloupe, via the Vineyard.

Entered, C met, Grow, Alexandria; Three Friends, Wisson, Savannah; Olympus, Trot, Waldoboro.

Cleared, packet, Little, Waldoboro; Ranger Basset, Passamaquoddy; ship Brunswick, Smith, Cherbourg; brigs Enterprize, L. well, St. Croix; Robert, Mitchell, do.; Sally, Pickett, Nantz; Eliza, Norton, Leghorn; Sally and Mary, Cobb, Alicant; schrs. Harmony, Hopkins, Havana; Morning Star, Smith, do.; Isabella, Bliss, Cayenne.

#### NEW-YORK, December 4.

Arrived, ship Calipso, Burk, 44 days from Bordeaux, wine, brandy and dry goods. Left ship Felix, Ross, for New-York discharging; Fame, Crowell, do.; Susan, Howard, do. in 10 or 12 days; Amity Harrison, do. in 20; brigs Midas, Dobell, do. uncertain; Mentor Parks, do. do.; ship Lorenzo, Dill, for Philadelphia, in 15; brig Nancy, Mitchell, do. 10; ship Argo Hunt, Boston, in 15; brigs Ranger, do. certain; Dolphin, Merchant, do. in 12; Washington, Adams, for New-York, in 4; Thomas Jefferson, Goodrich, of Boston, uncertain; William Dow, for Baltimore, in 8; ship Pamela Taylor, of Charleston, for the Baltic, in 6; John and Francis, Silberman, for Charleston, in 6; Franklin, Whiteck, for New-Orleans, in 18; Sarah, Sutt, do. in 20. In lat. 45, 25, long. 4, was boarded by the British frigate Emerald, and treated politely. November 22d. in lat. 45, 32, long. 10; passed a large convoy of 60 sail under convoy of the two frigates. Nov. 24. lat. 38, 22, long. 66, spoke ship Eliza, 4 days from Baltimore, for Amsterdam. 30th, lat. 38, 58, long. 72, 30, schr. Sally, of Baltimore, 38 days from Porto-Rico, in great distress, having been out of all kinds of provisions for six days, and had lived during that time on coffee—supplied them with necessaries. Lat. 39, 13, long. 73, 30, spoke brig Sally, 46 days from Bonavista for New-York.

The ship Haron, Newell, 52 days from Tenerife.

British ship Thornton, Dougall, 42 days from Newcastle.

Brig Ann, Warren, 71 days from Marseilles, brandy, wine, oil, silk, &c. The ship Brunswick, Beedle, was to sail for New-York in 5 days.

Brig Jefferson, Dove, 11 days from Philadelphia, with fire-wood, to J. F. Pinaud, on board.

Schr. Fair American, Pritchard, 12 days from Fredericksburg.

Cleared, ship Augusta, O'Connor, Dublin; brig Eunice, Smith, Havana; Little, Cherub, Davies, Cayenne; schr. Blazing Star, Crowell, Charleston.

December 5.

ARRIVED.

Brig Sally Smith, 49 days from Waterford, coal and glass. Nov. 10, lat. 42, long. 56, spoke ship Missouri, 21 days from Nantz for Philadelphia. 13th, brig Plymouth 6 days from Salem, for Nephorn.—Sailed in co. ship Olive-Branch, Littlefield, for Boston.

The Br. Sch'r Industry, Livingston, 30 days from Bermuda, in ballast.

Sloop Sally, Mattocks, 10 days from Nassau, N. P. cedar, lignumvite, &c. Sloop Ambition, Green, of New-York, was still waiting trial. The brig Ann, Phillips, from Charleston for Havana, was wrecked the 28th of Oct. on St. Salvador—crew saved—vessel and most of the cargo lost.—The Elk and Tambouline, had arrived from a cruise; the latter with Spanish schooner L'Amiableness, from Vera Cruz for Havana having on board 27,000 dollars. The schr. Monongahela Farmer, Clapp, from New-York for Havana was ashore on the Bahama bank—expected to be got off with little injury. The sloop Lilly, Munroe, had arrived at Nassau in 18 days from R. Island.

Below, last night, a brig, supposed to be the Troy, from Matanzas.

Cleared—ship Amiable Matilda, Hilliard, Mediterranean; sloop Edward Rodgers, St. Croix.

The schr. Resolution, from Savannah, driven on Cony-Island during the late gale, arrived in port yesterday not materially injured.

By the Calypso, Burke, arrived at this port on Thursday night, in 44 days from Bordeaux, we have received files of Bordeaux papers to the 13th and Paris dates to the 10th Oct.

Captain B. informs, that on the 22d Oct. in lat. 46, long. 7, he was boarded by the British frigate La Revolutionnaire, then in company with the Pom na frigate, who having hoisted several signals, the officer of the La-Revolutionnaire informed captain B. that the Telegraphs of the frigate intimated the capture of sea sail of the line of the Russian fleet, off the Dardanelles.

After a hasty perusal, the following appeared to be the only articles worth translating:

PARIS, October 4.

A letter just received from Dunkirk, contains the following information.

The Boulogne Flotilla is arming and equipping with the greatest expedition; the necessary orders have been given to this effect; and the departure of his excellency the minister of marine, for the coasts on the north of France, in some degree corroborates the general opinion, that measures are adopting to attack England. Many troops are on their march for the coast, and the camps at Boulogne will soon be as numerous as they were two years ago.

Oct. 5.

M. de Lindholm, aid-de-camp to the prince royal of Denmark, has set out for head quarters at Kiel. Previous to his departure, he received from his majesty the emperor, a superb snuff box, garnished with diamonds, and ornamented with his majesty's portrait.

M. Laforet, formerly ambassador at Berlin, is appointed ambassador to Russia.

Oct. 10.

By a decree of his imperial majesty Bonaparte, dated 7th October, citizen Pichon, consul general and charge d'affaires near the United States of America was deprived of his functions for having (amongst other charges) gone beyond the powers with which he was invested.

VIENNA, Sept. 24.

The court Gazette has published an act of amnesty of the new sultan Mustapha IV, in favor of the corps of Janissaries, who took so active a part in the late revolution, and deposition of the sultan Selim.

The measures adopted by the Russian government against English commerce, and its refusal to renew the commercial treaty, a treaty which, as experience has proven, was as prejudicial to the Russians, as it was advantageous to the English, have occasioned great difficulties. Since the peace of Tilsit, the coldness between the two courts has augmented, and the violation of the law of nations by England in her attack on Denmark, will probably occasion a rupture between the two countries. As soon as the general review of the Austrian troops is terminated the arch-duke Charles will return to Paris.

FALMOUTH, Oct. 14.

Arrived, American brig Mary, capt. Rice, 9 days from Oporto, with wines. The greatest bustle prevailed there in shipping off the British property, &c. in consequence of orders from the Portuguese government to shut the ports against the English, which was expected to take place about the 13th inst. In expectation of the sailing of the convoy from Oporto, 20 gun-boats, &c. sailed from Vigo to intercept them, 10 of the gun-boats were sunk, and 4 driven on shore and destroyed by an English frigate and a brig, the remaining 6

got back to Vigo. No accounts had been received at Oporto of any French troops being on their march for Portugal. Also arrived American ship Cabinet, Beatson, from Norfolk, 29 days passage, with tobacco, for orders.

COWES, Oct. 16.

Mr. Muros, surgeon of the Chesapeake, arrived here yesterday morning express from London, and immediately proceeded on board the Revenge American schooner, captain Reeves, which vessel has been lying here some time, waiting his return.—The Revenge sailed this morning on her return to America.

LONDON, Oct. 17.

There is reason to believe, that all the British ships in the ports of Russia are actually under embargo at this moment. The latest arrival from St. Petersburg is that of the American vessel Pigou, which sailed from thence on the 26th ult. on the preceding day, information was received from the British Ambassador, that it was probable an embargo would be laid on all British shipping immediately, and he therefore recommended that they should proceed to sea with all possible expedition. In consequence, about 15 vessels, among which was the Pigou, came out of Cronstadt. The latter is the only ship of the fleet yet arrived, but the remainder may be hourly expected.—There was not, we understand, more than eight or nine British vessels at Cronstadt or St. Petersburg, when the Pigou sailed.

NEW-HAVEN, Dec. 1.

Died at his house, at Windsor, on the 26th inst. at 12 o'clock, OLIVER ELSWORTH, aged 62 years.

In private life, he was uniformly a pattern of all the cardinal virtues. His death therefore to his family is an affliction inexpressibly great. His native state is deprived of one of her brightest ornaments. The United States have lost one of her best and greatest men.

PHILADELPHIA, December 5.

Arrived, schr. William Earnest, Lunenburg, 12 days, fish and oil.

Cleared, ship Venus, King, Isle of France; brig Sophia, Arundel, Algiers; schrs Juno, Fuller, Charleston; Ruby, Macy, Nantucket; sloop Three Sisters, Murphy N. York.

IMPORTANT.

In addition to the information in the London papers received by the Leopard, arrived at New York, we have the pleasure to assure our readers that we have perused private letters, of as late date as the 17th of October, from respectable houses in London to their correspondents in this city, which state that there were the strongest reasons for believing in an amicable adjustment of our differences with Great Britain; that the mission of Mr. Rose, as envoy extraordinary to the United States, was expressly made to effect this desirable purpose; and that the appointment of sir John Borlase Warren, who is considered as one of their best admirals, and an accomplished gentleman, to succeed admiral Berkeley on the American station, is made from the same conciliatory motives; and that it was understood the blockade of their enemies' ports would not (as had been sometimes ago supposed) be rigorously enforced; and, under this impression, these letters advise a continuance of shipments. On the 17th of October, advice had reached London, that a treaty offensive and defensive had been concluded between France & Denmark; all hopes of a reconciliation with the latter power were at an end.

Combining these advices with opinions recently expressed from the highest authority at Washington, we are led to the pleasing conclusion that the government of the United States and Great-Britain will prefer the peace and prosperity of their respective countries, to war and desolation, the statement of the rumoured purport of Mr. Canning's note, as given in the National Intelligencer, to the contrary notwithstanding.

[Register.]

Private Correspondence.

(Communicated for the Register.)

Extract of a letter from Rotterdam, dated September 29, received via London.

"We are this instant informed by the arrival of the French post with a new decree of the emperor, authorising all cruisers to detain and carry in as lawful prize, all vessels bound to or from England. This has been officially notified to the American minister at Paris, who has sent off an express to his government via Bordeaux."

FROM ALGERIAS, Oct. 1.—"We learn that the English will capture and send into Gibraltar any American vessel bound from one enemy's port to another, even in ballast. Several vessels, who were destined to Malaga had concluded to return home. The Spaniards are capturing all vessels bound to or from an English port, under Bonaparte's blocking decree."

From St. Kitts, Oct. 27.—It is said that Admiral Cochrane is gone to leeward for the purpose of taking possession of the Danish islands, and of all vessels bearing the flag of that nation. His majesty ship St. Christopher, has detained all Americans in this road; and we understand the same measures have been adopted in the other islands. From this precautionary act we are led to infer, that the differences subsisting between Great-Britain and America are not likely to be as amicably adjusted, as we were induced to hope.

From Norfolk.

"The seamen who deserted from the Halifax, not only rose on their officer, but insulted their captain in the open streets, having enlisted in the service of the United States the same day. On the other hand a little time before that, some men deserted from the French frigate Cybelle lying in this port, and enlisted with an officer of the U. States. They were demanded by the French captain, who received them from the American officer, having delivered them to an armed force sent from the frigate to receive them. This was known to the British officers."

NORFOLK, Nov. 30.

On Saturday arrived here the fast sailing ship Sheffield, Capt. Davis, left Helveot the 14th of October, and the Channel the 22d. By this ship we have received files of Dutch papers to the 10th, and hope to be able to get some translations for this day's paper.—We learn by this vessel, that the Decree of Bonaparte dated at Berlin, declaring Great Britain and her dependencies in blockade, has been republished in France and Holland, with orders to enforce it without respect to the vessels of any nation. The decrees relative to intercourse with England, are enforced with great rigour. A camp was again forming at Boulogne to alarm the English, or what is probable, to furnish a pretext for keeping up a military force that may be able to fix the destinies of continental Europe as the emperor Napoleon pleases.

A pilot from Dover boarded the Sheffield on the Nineteenth of October, informed that Mr. Monroe was in London on the Seventeenth of that month, and that the Revenge was at Cowes.

The pilot's report at Dover we believe was correct as far as it went, and we think augers well. Mr. Monroe would hardly remain, without he judged there was a prospect of bringing matters to a favourable issue.

By St. Kitt's papers to the 30th of Oct. we notice that in consequence of a report that war had been declared between the U. States and Great Britain, that a American vessels had been seized. The report was contradicted in a few days, and the vessels put into possession of their master's again.

Arrived, ship Sheffield, Davis, 40 days from Rotterdam, and 35 from the channel, Left at Rotterdam the 14th Oct. ship Jane, Evans, to sail in 9 or 10 days; brigs Roubuck Bolan, uncertain; Orion, Tenney, of New Bedford, for New York; Reward, Thompson, of Port-mouth, N. H. for New-York; Enterprize, Newel, of Seabrook, for North Bergen, the first wind. Came out of Helveot, and down channel, with the ship Alofto, Clark, of and bound to New Bedford, and the ship Recovery, Webb, of Salem, bound to Lisbon. Spoke, Oct. 19, off the beach head ship Elvira, brown, of and for Philadelphia, 5 days out from Amsterdam. Nov. 5, in lat. 42, 55, long. 57, brig netsey, of and bound to Wiscasset from Liverpool, out 37 days. 7th, lat. 42, long. 62 ship Remittance, of and bound to New-York, 30 days from the Downs. 15th, lat. 38, long. 65, schr. Dispatch, from Liverpool bound to Norfolk, out 40 days. 22d, schr. Experiment, Dickson, of and for this port, from St. Jago-de-Cuba, out 24 days. 23d, lat. 36, 03, long. 73, ship United States, Coleman of and for Alexandria from St. Christophers, out 24 days.

Ship Eliza, Vickery, 56 days from Ivica, salt.

Schr. Virginia, Phillips, 39 days from Montserrat, rum, bound to Fredericksburg, Spoke Nov. 18, in lat. 36, long. 74, schr. Thomas and Henry, Fletcher, 16 days from St. Bartholomews, bound to Folly-Landing—informed that all the American vessels at Antigua were embargoed—Supplied us with provision.

Schr. Charles, 45 days from Jamaica, and 17 from Havana fruit.

Schr. Felicity, George, 67 days from New-Orleans, bound to Philadelphia in distress, having carried away the head of her fore-mast, split the greater part of her sails, and short of provision.

#### FEDERAL GAZETTE.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7.

General L. Winder and Mr. Gale, of Somerset, have been added to the committee appointed to bring in a bill to regulate and discipline the militia of this state.

On the question (in the house of delegates) that leave be given to bring in a bill to tax Bank Stock in this state, the votes were—yeas 25, nays 22; majority against taxing bank stock, 7.

John M. Kim, junr. and Edward Johnson, have been appointed directors, on the part of the state, in the Bank of Baltimore, and Thomas Dixon and Samuel Wright, in the Union Bank.

#### PRICES CURRENT.

LIVERPOOL, 15th Oct. 1807. Ashes, 1st Pot, 65s. Od. a 68s. Ods. cwt. There has of late been a considerable demand for Pot Ashes, which has caused an advance in the prices.

Cotton, Georgia, 1s. a 1s. 5d; Sea Island, inferior, 1s. 6d. a 1s. 11d; middling, 1s. 7d. a 1s. 10d; fine, 1s. 10d. a 1s. 11d; very fine, 2s. Od. a 2s. 6d.; stained, 1s. 3d. a 1s. 8d.; New-Orleans and Natches, 1s. 4d. a 1s. 6d. The sales of cotton last month went off very heavily, and prices have declined.

Flaxseed, for crushing, 7s. Od. a 7s. 6s.; for sowing, none.

Flour, superfine, 86s. Od. a 38s. Od.; fine, 84s. Od. a 36s. Od.

Flour is but little in demand, and prices have experienced a further depression.

Tobacco,—York and James river, 4½d. a 7d; Rappahannock, 4½d a 4d; Potomac, 4½d a 5d; Georgia, 4d, a 5d.—The stock of Tobacco in this market is about 7500 hogsheads consisting chiefly of the lower descriptions.—The unsettled state of our American relations has created a speculative demand, and the article has been improving daily. The export to the continent is at present limited, with little appearance of amendment.—Good qualities, suitable for the Irish market are very scarce, and obtain high prices.—Stemed is also in request, & likely to maintain the present quotations.

#### PREMIUMS OF INSURANCE.

Per m or to the U. S. per British ships, 5 a 8 guineas per cent; do. do. per American ships, 2½ a 5 do. do.; do. New-Orleans, per do. 4 a 5 do. do.

A letter from the Bay of Bulls (Newfoundland) received at New-York, dated the 31st of October, mentions the loss, ten miles from that place, of the brig Rambler, Norris, from Thurso, one of the Orkney islands, bound to Pictou. There were 250 persons on board, men, women, and children, and all lost except seven, who were shockingly mangled against the rocks. Not a plank of the vessel was left together, and the shore was strewn with the dead bodies.

The legislature of North-Carolina, on Tuesday last, elected Col. Benjamin Williams, of Moore county, governor of that State for the ensuing year. The following is the result of the third and last ballot:

|                        |    |
|------------------------|----|
| For Benjamin Williams, | 89 |
| Nathaniel Alexander,   | 62 |
| Joseph Winston,        | 15 |

For the Federal Gazette.

A CARD.

A well regulated Dancing Assembly, has ever been considered as the best school for polite and graceful manners. It surpasses private parties, in as much as you mingle with strangers, and persons of the same place with whom you are not in habits of social intercourse; the effect produced thereby, is the most engaging and correct deportment on the part of the young Ladies; they being sensible that every eye is fixed on them, for the purpose of censure or applause. The writer of this being very desirous that an institution so pleasing and innocent as the Baltimore Dancing Assembly, may not fall through, respectfully requests, (as the only means of preserving it) that the proprietors and subscribers, who are in the habit of giving private parties, will not have them on the same week of the stated Assembly, or at least not less than two days before, or two days after the assembly evening—and the writer takes the further liberty of observing, that it would be a most pleasing circumstance, and in his judgment very influential, in bringing forward a greater number of young ladies, than usually attend if married ladies would more generally honor the Dancing Assemblies with their presence.

#### THEATRICAL.

Communicated.—On Wednesday night was performed for the second time this season, the tragedy of Gustavus Vasa—the performers did ample justice to the celebrated play, and were in general more perfect than upon its first representation. Messrs. Warren and Wood were particularly correct, and the latter seemed to have lost none of his energy, from his rapid and fatiguing journey to and from New-York.

He gave the sentiments of the author with truth and justice. In consequence of Mr. Wood's expected absence, some change in the arrangements took place, by which the part of Arveda was allotted to Mr. Cone, and the character was played with much propriety by this unassuming young performer.

The after piece was the Agreeable Surprise, a farce too well known, to require any comment. Mr. Jefferson's highly comic talents in Lingo are so generally admitted, as to render our praise superfluous.

We were sorry to observe a very thin house, to witness the exertions of the company, occasioned by the very unfavourable appearance of the evening.

The Theatre closed on Thursday night, with the new comedy of Prior Claim, and the entertainment of the Weathercock.

This play is the joint production of Pys, the British Poet Laureat, and Mr. Arnold, son of the celebrated musical composer of that name, and is a piece of considerable merit. Mr. Jefferson was very happy in his personification of the vacant and frivolous Bond-treer lounge, and was incomparably well dressed for the character.

Mr. Mills played the Scotchman with the true Caledonian accent and manner, and Mr. Webster was inimitable in the Irishman. The broad humour & national eccentricity he throws into the character, however it may offend the squeamish, or irritate the ill-natured, presents to the reflection of many a warm hearted Eibernian, scenes long since passed in his "dear native Erin."—We have no hesitation in saying, that if Mr. Webster gives to this line of acting the attention it deserves, and his abilities call for, he will become a valuable acquisition to the stage as a performer.

We were much gratified in finding a full house assembled, to receive the parting bow of the managers, who must, notwithstanding remain considerable losers, from the succession of unproductive houses we have witnessed this season.

The entertainment we have received from our Theatrical visitors, was on Friday evening closed by a Concert, given by Mr. Webster, which was numerously attended. Were Mr. Webster's musical character yet unknown amongst us, this night's performance would have unequivocally established it, he presented the musical amateurs with rich repast—and by his plaintive melody, drew the tear of sympathy from many a bright eye. Mrs. Wilnot sung her songs with great taste, although evidently labouring under a severe cold, and was listened to with that approbation she so usually merits and so justly obtains.

Interments in the city of Baltimore last weeks.

|               |   |   |      |
|---------------|---|---|------|
| Infantile,    | - | - | 3    |
| Sudden,       | - | - | 1    |
| Consumption,  | - | - | 6    |
| Unknown,      | - | - | 3    |
| Pleurisy,     | - | - | 1    |
| Manifacation, | - | - | 1    |
| Adults,       | - | - | 10   |
| Children      | - | - | 5-16 |