

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Selected from Eastern Papers.

The Allgemeine Zeitung of Nov. 20. contains letters from Zante of the 26th. & Corfu of the 30th Oct. Several English men of war had arrived at the former island to repair, and the wounded of all the three squadrons were expected there.— Ibrahim was not at Navarin during the battle of the 20th, but half way between Navarin and Patras, whither he was going by land to relieve the garrison, which was hard pressed by the Greeks, and in want of ammunition and provisions.

On the news of the destruction of his fleet, he turned back without executing his purpose. When this became known to the Egyptian troops in garrison at Patras, they were seized with such terror that they abandoned the place and retreated to Coron and Modon, leaving the defence of Patras to the native Turks, till famine shall compel them to submit. This retreat of the Arabs was also hastened by an unsuccessful sally which they had made from the fortress, in order to forage, but in which they had been driven back by the Greeks without any booty.

The Turkish garrison at Tripolizza is in a still more distressed condition, now that winter has commenced in the interior of the Morea. A Greek corps has occupied the passes of Leonardi, and thus the Turks can neither procure provisions, nor open themselves a way to escape by flight.

Letters from Trieste of the 23d Nov. state a report brought by a vessel from Alexandria, that Mecca had been taken by the Wahabees, after a slaughter of four thousand men.

Twenty six days later from London.

By the packet ship Canada, Cap. Rogers, from Liverpool, the New York Commercial of Friday, has files of London papers to the 1st of January, and Liverpool to the 2d both inclusive.

Reported destruction of the Greek fleet.—The intelligence by this arrival is important, though not decisive. Our readers may recollect that on the 16th ult. we published a letter from the three admirals commanding the allied fleet, in which they forbade the meditated descent upon Scio.

Nevertheless, we have already been partially informed, that the Greeks persisted in their design of attacking Scio, and the Austrian Observer confirms the fact of the invasion of that island by the troops under Col. Fabvier, on the 28th October. This town has been pillaged, and the Turks on the 15th November, continued in the castle, which was besieged by the Greeks, notwithstanding a request made to Col. Fabvier, by Admiral de Rigny, some days before to withdraw. The consuls of the European consuls are said to have been pillaged by the invaders. It appears now that the combined admirals have made good their declaration above quoted, with a vengeance. An express arrived in London from Paris, on the 20th December, bringing the Gazette de France of the preceding day. It contains the very important intelligence, on the authority of letters from Trieste, which received the fullest credit at Vienna, that the French Admiral de Rigny had destroyed the Greek fleet off Scio, for having refused to obey the injunction of the 24th October to desist from hostilities against the Turks; and after having summoned Col. Fabvier to suspend further operations. The truth of this intelligence was doubted by some of the papers, and among them by the Morning Herald of January 1, which considers the silence of the Smyrna advices to the 10th Nov. upon this point as a fact of at least sufficient importance to render the statement questionable.

We had written thus far, when the Courier to the evening of January 2d, inclusive, the latest dates in town, were handed in. The first editorial article in the Courier of the last, contains a private letter from Paris of December 29, which says—"The government had not received any intelligence relative to the destruction of the Greek fleet, but it is considered not improbable, as the instructions of the Admirals of the allied fleets are such as would justify them in taking such a measure, should the conduct of the Greeks render it necessary." The Courier of January 2, announces that the Gazette de France of the preceding day, had been received by express. "I merely state that no information had arrived at Paris respecting the events at Scio, or the departure of the Ambassadors from Constantinople." Here we must leave this question, with the single expression of an opinion that the weight of testimony, positive and circumstantial, favors the account of the disaster which the ex-lieut. Fabvier seems by his stubbornness to have brought upon the Greek navy.

Situation of the Allied Ministers.—The next prominent question involved in these intricate affairs in the east, is the situation of the Allied ministers at Constantinople. By our former advices, reaching us by different arrivals, the public were led to expect that the great question of Peace or War between the Turks and the Allies, would be positively determined, on the 11th of November. The British Traveller of the 2d January (evening) announces an express from Vienna of the preceding day, which states, that when the Russian Ambassador at Constantinople communicated to his French and English colleagues his determination to leave for Odessa, they strongly remonstrated with him, and used every exertion in their power to detain him there; as they wished to remain until the very last hope of an accommodation with the Porte should have vanished, when they might all leave the Turkish capital together. It was reported at Vienna that he would not listen to their pressing solicitations, and accordingly they embarked.—"But it is not determined even yet, and it was announced in Paris on the 29th of December, and in London on the 1st ult. that so late as the 4th of December, the Ministers were still in Constantinople; but it is added for the fortieth time, "that they were on the point of departure." The Courier of Dec. 24, announces the receipt of despatches at the Foreign office from Mr. S. Canning, down to the 20th of November. It is added—"They of course give ample details of the progress of the negotiations with the Divan. All we have to say at present is, that our Ambassador had demanded his passports, but that up to the moment of sending off his messenger, no answer had been given by the Ottoman government either as to whether they would be refused or granted. Unless, however, Mr. Stratford Canning should be prevented from leaving the Turkish capital in a way which we think is hardly to be expected, there is every reason to believe his departure would not be any longer delayed."

The two following items we extracted from some of the letters from Greece, published by the celebrated friend of Greece, M. Eynard, at the head of the Greek committee at Geneva.

"Ibrahim seems to wish to quit the Morea; he has begun to concentrate his troops at Coron and Modon; but he will be obliged to hire vessels to transport his army, as he has not enough left after the affair at Navarin.

"It is said that the Arabs and Albanians in Ibrahim's bay, have left Patras, and that the Turkish inhabitants have written to General Church, saying that they wished to surrender, on condition that their lives and property be secured, and that they promise to live peacefully under the Greeks. Under these circumstances, it is impossible not anxiously to wish for the arrival of Count Capo d'Istria; and he is therefore, impatiently expected by all the Greeks who love their country."

One of the letters to Mr. Eynard, gives the following particulars of a splendid achievement of the Greeks in the Gulf of Lepanto, of which we have hitherto received no other particulars than those furnished by rumor:—

"The official account reached us yesterday at Poros. Seven armed Turkish vessels have been destroyed, and three Austrian ships confiscated. The Greek crews of the brig Salvador, given by the committee, and one of the gun boats, have particularly distinguished themselves. The steam-boat acted in perfection; the affair was a very warm one; for as she passed close in shore in the port of Salona, the Turkish vessels were supported by the fire of the Albanian troops to the number of 1,000, who were concealed among the rocks. Thus we have had several wounded, and Mr. Schanlau, the first lieutenant of the brig Salvador, was killed at the very moment he had carried a fine Algerian schooner. The greater part of the European officers were wounded, but the impression which the results of this battle will leave upon the enemy, cannot fail of being advantageous to our cause."

Letters received in London from Paris, on the 20th of December, mention advices from Napoli di Romania, announcing that owing to the representation of the Allied Admirals the Greek Government are going to send to sea forty national ships, to put an end to the piracies in the Archipelago, and to protect the commerce. It is said also that, according to the letters from Corfu of the 17th November, Patras has surrendered to gen. Chouren, but the town had not been given up to the Greeks. They were only waiting for the ratification being signed.

Russia.—Peace has been concluded between Russia and Persia, on terms humiliating, it is said, to the latter.

The U. S. ship of war Warren, Capt. Kearney, had been very active and successful in cutting up piracy, in the Chinese

Archipelago, and in recapturing and restoring merchant vessels of all nations from the pirates. Captain Kearney receives great praise in the Smyrna papers for his great activity and success.

A tremendous earthquake occurred on the 16th November last, at Popayan, in Colombia. The scene of this visitation was in the midst of an extensive district formed by a range of the Andes and two of its minor chains. The buildings in the city have suffered considerably. The inhabitants have left the place. Fortunately only two lives were lost. It is supposed so great has been the disaster, that the town will be "blotted from the map of Colombia." Popayan is the capital of a province of that name in New Granada, now part of the republic of Colombia. It is situated 5900 above the level of the sea.

TWENTIETH CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

Monday, February 18.

In the SENATE, Mr. Webster resumed his seat. The bill for the erection of a breakwater at the mouth of Delaware bay was taken up, and explained and advocated by Mr. Woodbury and Mr. Marks; when it was postponed, on motion of Mr. Smith, of S. C. to Wednesday. The Process bill was taken up. The motion to reconsider the late vote, ordering it to a third reading, was lost.

In the HOUSE, after the usual number of petitions, in which we observe no diminution as the session advances, the two resolutions offered by Mr. Weems, one calling on the Sec. of War for information relative to the manner of appointing Cadets, and the other requiring from the Sec. of the Navy information on the subject of Navy Officers, were agreed to.—The House, in committee of the whole, went through the bill making appropriations for the Military Service, in which some amendments, offered by Mr. McDuffie, were adopted. The committee then took up the bill making appropriations for the Indian Department, and made some progress in it, but rose without coming to any decision upon it. The committee reported the first bill and amendments to the House.

Tuesday, February 19.

In the SENATE, after an unsuccessful effort to reconsider the vote on the Process Bill, it was laid on the table. The bill for the relief of the Columbia College produced some debate, but was postponed.

In the HOUSE, a number of resolutions were adopted. The House then went into committee on the appropriation bill for the Indian Department, the question being on an amendment proposed by Mr. Woods, the object of which was to withhold the appropriation necessary for the removal of the Indians to the west of the Mississippi. On this proposal some debate took place. Mr. Smith, of Indiana, spoke at considerable length in opposition to it, and in support of the policy of removing the remnants of the Indian tribes to a region west of the Mississippi. The motion of Mr. Woods failed.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Secretary of War, transmitting Reports of the Commissioner appointed to lay out the National Road from the western line of the State of Ohio to the seat of Government of the State of Missouri, accompanied with drawings of the route and location of that Road; which were read and laid on the table.

Wednesday, February 20.

IN SENATE.

The Vice President communicated a memorial of the Legislature of Indiana, suggesting the expediency of making an appropriation of money for the purpose of removing the timber standing on that part of the Cumberland road which passes through said State; which on motion of Mr. Noble was referred to the select committee on roads and canals, and to be printed.

Mr. Noble presented resolutions of the Legislature of Indiana, instructing the Senators and requesting the Representatives in Congress from that State, to use their endeavors to procure the passage of a law appropriating a sufficient quantity of public lands to enable the State to raise funds adequate to the construction of a permanent road, with suitable bridges and causeways, from Louisville, in Kentucky, through Indiana and Illinois, to St. Louis, in Missouri; and also to invite the co-operation of the Senators and Representatives of the States of Kentucky, Illinois, and Missouri, to effect that object.

Referred to the select committee on roads and canals, and to be printed.

Mr. Hendricks presented resolutions of the Legislature of Indiana, instructing the Senators and requesting the Representatives of that State in Congress, to use their exertions to procure the passage of a law to extend the time of payment on all lands now forfeited, or liable to be forfeited, and

to authorize each and every purchaser whose land is either forfeited or liable to be forfeited, to redeem the same on price the amount of which including minimum price of Congress lands; and also the passage of a law giving to every purchaser and occupant of Congress lands, whose lands have been forfeited or relinquished, or which are liable to be forfeited a privilege in the nature of a right of pre-emption for — years, to purchase the same, or other land of equal value, at a sum, which added to his former payments, shall make the amount, per acre, not exceeding the minimum price of Congress lands; and that in the interim, and before government has disposed of the same, every purchaser who has improved his lands, without completing the payments, shall have the privilege of occupying the same.

Referred to the Committee on Public Lands, and to be printed.

Mr. Hendricks presented a resolution of the Legislature of Indiana, instructing the Senators and requesting the Representatives of that State in Congress, to use their reasonable effort to restrain the importation of hemp, raw wool, and molasses, to afford full and ample protection and encouragement to all articles of domestic growth and manufacture; and to the United aid and co-operation to those which encourage a national system of domestic manufactures and internal improvement.

Ordered that so much of said resolution as relates to the encouragement of domestic manufactures be referred to the committee on manufactures, and that the other parts thereof be referred to the committee on roads and canals, and to be printed.

In the HOUSE, the Indian appropriation bill was discussed, in committee of the whole, but no decision came to.

After the committee rose, Mr. Miller observed, that he hoped the House would be willing to take up and dispose of the appropriation bills as had passed the committee of the whole, and were on the table of the House. The cause of his suggestion, was his anxiety to reach the Tariff Bill as early as practicable.

On motion of Mr. Blake, it was

Resolved, That the Committee on Roads and Canals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of making an appropriation to deepen and improve the channel of the river Wabash, at the Grand rapids below Vincennes.

Thursday, February 21.

In the SENATE, Mr. Noble presented a joint resolution of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, instructing the Senators and requesting the Representatives of that State to use their exertions to procure from Congress, for the use of the State of Indiana, duplicate copies of the Journals of both houses, from 1793 to the commencement of the second session of the Fifteenth Congress; also the same number of copies of the Journals of the Convention of 1787, and of the State Papers &c. printed by Congress, and to procure the co-operation of all States hitherto admitted into the Union. Referred to the Library committee, and ordered to be printed.

In the HOUSE, the bill making appropriations for Fortifications, and the Military bill were severally ordered to be engrossed, and read a third time to-morrow.

Friday, February 22.

In the SENATE, Mr. Hendricks, presented a select committee on roads and canals, reported a bill for the continuance of the Cumberland road with amendments.

Mr. Chambers presented a memorial of the "American Society for colonizing the free people of color of the United States," praying for the immediate and efficient interposition of government to provide for the common defence, and to promote the general welfare of the country, by accelerating the removal to the coast of Africa (with their own consent) of such people as, with the United States are already free, and such others as the humanity of individuals and the laws of the different States may hereafter liberate.

Mr. Hendricks offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the committee on commerce be instructed to inquire into the expediency of an appropriation for the improvement of the Wabash, between Vincennes and the mouth of that river.

In the HOUSE, Mr. Wilde called up a resolution requesting information from the President of the United States on the subject of the formation of any new State within the limits of the old States, stated his purpose to be to obtain information relative to the formation of a new State by the Cherokee, which he stated as a justification of the Executive resolution was laid on the table.