



DE CURAÇAOOSCHE COURANT.

Deel VIII.

ZATURDAY den 26sten FEBRUARY, 1820.

N. 9.

Gedrukt en Zaturdag's morgens uitgegeven by WILLIAM LEE, Drukker van Zyne Majesteit den Koning der Nederlanden.

NAAR AMSTERDAM.

Zal zonder uitstel op den 26sten February aanstaande van hier vertrekken,

Het schip,

CAROLINA,

KAPT. JAN BARTELS.

Voor vragt of passagie addresseere men zich by den Kapitein of ten kantore van BEUTNER & TH. JUTTING.

Des 25sten February 1820.

DE prijs van het Brood voor de volgende week is bepaald op

De Fransche Broden 21, en

De Ierde Broden 22 once.

SALOMON PULTE, Eerste Klerk.

Den 18den February 1820.

INGEVOLGE autorisatie van, Zyne Excellentie Mr. P. B. van Starckenborg, Gouverneur General ad-interim van Curaçao en onderhoorige Eilanden, Ridder van de orde des Nederlandschen Leeuws, &c. &c. &c.

Zal de Raad en Contrarolleur Generaal ad-interim der Finantien, by inschryving aan de meestbiedende verkoopen ongeveer 8000 gulden Hollandsch Courant, in Wisselbrieven te trekken door Zyne Excellentie den Gouverneur General ad-interim, op en betaalbaar by het Ministerie voor het Publieke Onderwys, de Nationale Nyverheid en de Kolonien in s'Hage, alle op Twee Maanden na zigt, zynde voor Militaire Traktamenten en Soldijen over de Maand February 1820. De betaling van voornoemde Wissels zal moeten geschieden de eene helfte in zilver-of-klein geld, en de andere helfte in bewyzen van enkelde Johannissen.

De inlevering der Billetten van inschryving zal kunnen geschieden van heden af tot niterlyk Woensdag den 1sten Maart aanstaande.

Zullende het antwoord op dezelve gegeven worden op Donderdag den 2den daaropvolgende.

De Raad en Contrarolleur Generaal ad-interim voornoemd, C. L. VAN UYTRECHT.

Den 18den February 1820.

DE ondergetekende van voornemen zynde dit Eiland binnen kort te verlaten verzoekt een iegelyk die aan haar verschuldigd is, binnend den tyd van twee maanden hunne Rekeningen te komen liquideren, tot vermyding van ongenoegen en vertraging van haar vertrek.

Weduwe J. STEELING.

Den 18den February 1820.

DE ondergetekendh verzoekt aan het publiek geen krediet te verlenen aan de equipagie van de Amerikaansche schoeher Superior, dewyl zulks door hem niet zal worden voldaan.

SAMUEL LORING, Kapitein.

DE Raad Fiscaal ad-int: dezes en onderhoorige eilanden intercedeert by drze alle en een iegelyk, om den Neger PEDRO LARGO, Slaf van den Heer G. M. Ellis, niet by zich op te houden, herbergen of eenigzins in zyne voortvlugtigheid behulpzaam te zyn; zulende de Raad Fiscaal voornd, tegens de overtreders van dit verbod naar de gestrengheid der wet ageeren.

Fiscalaat den 27sten January 1820.

De Raad Fiscaal ad-int. voornd.

J. J. ELSEVIER.

Curaçao den 29sten January 1820.

Te Koop aan het Druckery-Kantoor,
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BOSTON SPEL.

For Sale at the Printing-Office.

Elegant Embossed Cards, English Playing ditto—Black Writing Ink, in stone bottles—Blank Bills of Exchange, ditto of Lading, in Dutch, English, French and Spanish—ditto Prices Current: in Dutch and English—and Tariffs of Import and Export Duties.

Para vender en la Imprenta,

LETROS DE CAMBIO, y CONOCIMIENTOS, en la lengua Española.

CHINEESCHE KENNIS EN BYGEOVIGHEID.

Den 23sten Mei 1818 ontstond er plotzeling een storm te Peking, dewelke den hemel verduisterde, en de lucht met zand en stof vervulde. De keizer was zeer onrust, begrypende zulks een goddelijk oordeel te zyn, en zeer begrijp deszelfs bedoeling te weten, riep hy alzoo zyne staats ministers te zamen, om te pogen de oorzaak te onderzoeken.

Ia een publiek document bestraftte hy zyne eterrekundigen, om dat zy hem niet bevoren berigt gedaan hadden, wanneer de orkaan zoude plaats hebben; zy hadden slechts drie dagen bevoren hem berigt, welke gunstige sterren hunnen gelukkigen invloed rondom zyn perzoon verspreiden, lang leven en geluk aankondigden; doch al dat, zeide hy, was de taal der vleyesy, terwyl zy noch konden of wilden hem zeggen, welke kwalen hem over het hoofd hingen.

Die dezer wyze lieden gaven hunne meening te kenden, dat de oorzaak van de orkaan was de afzetting van den voorigen eersten Son Taiju geregtende geschiktheid voor hem terugeroepen; doch zyne majestie was verre van het door hun aangevoerde goed te keuren, en bestraftte de raadgevers wegens hunnen leugen waan, om zich met zyne koninglyke prerogativen te bemoeien.

Uit het bovenstaande schijnt het, dat de gemoederen der hoogste klassen der maatschappij in China, gevestigd zyn, op zonde — voorzienigheid — en straf, en dat het licht, het welk om bygestane rede hun aan de hand geeft in geen deele zoodanig is, als dat dezelve een goddelijke openbaring nodeloos maakt.

Het mathematichche college gaf tevens hun gevoelen, en steldt vast, dat de oorzaak, vergezeld door een soort van duister, stof, een gebeten dag voortduerde, hetzelve slechte gevolgen en oneenstemmige raadsplegingen tuschen den souverein en zyne ministers aanduidde. Hetzelve kondige tevens groote droogte en duurte van grañen aan.— Zoo de wind het zand opwaarde, de steenen beweegde, waren er overstromingen te wachten. Zoo de nadervulling van stof slechts een uur duurde, mag een pestziekte in de zuid west oorden verwacht worden, en de halve bevolking in het zuid oosten ziek worden.

De courant drukte zyne majestets pyndelyk angst uit, over de lange droogte, en heeft zyne zoonen gezonden om te vasten, te bidden, en om offers aan den hemel, aan de aarde, en aan den god der winden aantebieden. Den 20sten Mei zou er eens plegtige vasten zyn — en op den dag der offertafde zoude de onderkoningen, edelen, ministors van stat, &c. &c. allen met een byzonder hoofdsiersel en opperkleed, diepe verslagenheid aanduidende, er op verschynen.

TAFEREEL VAN DE APURE

Van Kol. Hippesley's verhaal.

Indien wy verbaasd, verheugd en zomtys bevreesd waren, bij onze verdere nadering tot de verschillende schepzelen, zoo wel te land als te water. Indien wy met bewondering de schoone vejderen der vogels beschouwden, toen wy de Orinoco overstaken, hoezeer moesten wy verwondering, verbazing, en zelfs schrik, vereenigd met eenen zeker graad van genoegen gevonden, bij het zien der inwoners aan de Apure, toegenomen als dezelve waren honderd maal in evenredigheid, van dat wat wy bevoren gezien of ons verbeeld hadden. Ik zou vrezen te beschryven wat ik zag en hoorde, indien alle myne medgezelnen niet voor de nauwkeurigheid konden instaan. Crocodillen (Caymans) van veertien of zestien voeten lang, lagen op de zandplaten, nabij de oevers der rivier, in groepen van zes of acht.— Iederen minut werden er anderen gezien zwemmende of dryvende door den sturom, verscheiden waarvan de lieden met de riemen van de boot sloegen, en anderen zichtbaar met kogels uit pistolen en musketten gewond waren, doch niet zwaar gekwetst. Tygers van zeer groote gestalte waren op de zandvlakte te zien, en een groot dier, de Once, welke de lieden be-

grepen een leeuw te zyn, doch die waarschijnelyk eene verscheidenheid van den luipaard is, als de koning van het woud onbekend aan dit klimaat. De talryke vluchten vogels van iedere kant der rivier vliegende, en die over onze hoofden snellen, waren steeds te veel om te tellen, en eenige der vluchten zoo talryk, als om volstrekt onze flechera voor de stralen der zon, gedurende hunnen overtocht te beschutten. De oevers der rivier waren bedekt met alle soorten van keerkring vogels, alle welke, als onbewust van de nadering en magt van den mensch ons toelieten hen onverhinderd te bezien en voorbij te gaan, vanden grootsten pélican af tot het kleinste soort van kraanvogel. Hier wordt de flamingo in alle deszelfs statigheid en grootheid gezien. De kroonkraan was tevens zichtbaar, en een vogel van dezelfde soort, als de kraanvogel, doch veel fraaier en schooner in symmetrie en voorkomen, en die ik dikwyls in Zuid Afrika gezien heb, waar dezelve de secretaris genoemd wordt. Ja door vogels, beesten, amphibien, visschen, en kruipende dieren, werd het oog op het laatst door de snelle op een volging vermoeid, en de ziel was niet meer vatbaar te denken. De spotvogel een inboorling van deze overgroote wouden, gaf my een zeer beslissende proef van deszelfs vermogens van uitspraak, en deszelfs bekwaamheid om twee of meer syllaben, met zulk eene duideljkheid van toon en uitdrukking uittespreken, dat dit allen moest verbazen, die zulks hoorden. Aan geen der papagaayen soorten zou ik den voorkeur geven; noch heb ik nummer gehoord (en ik heb vele van de besten en duidelyk sprekkende vogels gehoord) een derzelven, woorden te herhalen, en de zelven zoo duidelyk uittespreken, als om iemand in twijfel te brengen, of dezelve niet door den stem van eenen mensch waren voortgebracht.

By het opvaren der Apure, was ons volk naar gewoonte geland, om hun avondeten te koken, en om voedsel voor het gebruik van den volgenden dag gereed te maken. De nacht werd geheel aan wal doorgebragt zoo wel door de officieren als de soldaten. De hangmat, waar ik in sliep was opgehangen tuschen twee boomt, op eenige hoogte van den grond, en beoosten de vruchten. By het aanbreken van den dag, toen ik ontwaakte, een van de officieren moestende spreken, en hem niet by my ziende, riep ik luid zyn naam. Ik riep een tweede keer, wanneer my verteld werd, dat hy naar onze boot was gegaan. In weinige seconden daarna hoorde ik een steen, gelijk aan de myne, overluid herbalende, "Denis! Denis! Denis!" met de gewone-tusschen-ruimten. Dit geroep hoorde kapitein Denis duidelyk, dacht zulks het myne te zyn, en antwoorde, dat by dade lyk by my zou zyn; en door de gedurige herhaling verbeelde hy zich, dat de aard myner bezigheid dringend moest zyn, en haaste zich daarom. Verscheidene der niet gecommissioneerde officieren, die ook het geroep hoorden, zonden anderen om het woord aan kapitein Denis overtebrengen, daar de kolonel hem wachtede.

Onze oogen en ooren werden eindelyk op de plaats gevestigd, wy ontdekten, dat myn verpligtinge, oplettende en herhalende vriend, in de gedaante van een vogel op de opperste tak van eenen dunnen boom nabij my zat, waavvan hy dadelijk van daan vloog, doende dezelfde wouden met den naam van "Denis" wedergalmten.

De Curaçaoche Courant.

rigt. "De Tolkotter der V. S. Louisiana, kapt. Loomis, heeft het Britsche schip Frances en Eli van London genomen, zynde met twee uitkla ringen voorzien, een van Margarita, en de laatste van Falmouth, (Jamaika). De laatste onderwerp haart aan neming, uithoofde der navigatie acte van April 1819, welke allen handel, niet de Britsche West Indische colonien in Engelsche bodems, verbied, en zelfs van dezelve van te doen, of van daar uit te klaren.— Het is een eechoon schip van 350 ton, en voert 10 st. Men twyfelt niet of 'tzelve zal gecondemneerd worden. Het is een der schepen, die laatst Engeland verlieten, met troepen voor de Patriotten in Zuid Amerika."

Harde tyden in Engeland.—Een Londen papier van den 7den November zegt, dat er een nieuw paleis voor den Prins Regent in de lente zal begonnen worden, op dezelfde plaats, waar Buckingham House nu staat. Het moet een prachtig paleis worden van drie frontstukken, ten einde geheel Pinlico te overzien; en de matige som van zeven miljoenen is de begroting der onkosten. Doch "daar de Prins Regent aarselt van het Parliament te verzoecken," zullen de gronden van St. James paleis, de King's Mews, en Werwich houze, verkocht worden, en dan zullen er slechts 1700-000 benodigd zyn om den bouw te voltooyen. De hertog van York zal Carlton houze hebben, uithoofde einer valuable consideratie.—De Triumph boog zal de ingang van het nieuwe paleis naar London.

ST. THOMAS.

January 18.—Een heer nu van Madeira gekomen berigt, dat weinige dagen voor zyn vertrek, berigtten op dat eiland waren aangekomen, dat een Britsche vloot van 40 zeilen Kup Ottigal gepasseerd was. Dit berigt is gedeeltelyk versterkt door een gerucht 'twelk wy gehoord hebben (men zegt niet byzondere brieven hier gekomen te zyn) van de aankomst eener expeditie te Barbadas, bestaande uit 8000 man, &c. Men vermoed, dat Cuba de bestemming der voorschrevene expeditie is.

Den 11den Feb.—Zyne Majesteits fregat Diana, kapt. Swenson, aan boord hebbende, Zyne Excellentie de kolonel en kamerheer v. Holten, commandant van de eilanden St. Thomas en St. Jan &c. &c. &c., kwam hier Donderdag namiddags II. van St. Crux aan, waar dezelve kortelings van Europa is aangeland. By het inkomen der Diana in de haven werd Zyne Excellentie gesalueerd door Z. B. M. schip Salisbury. By het landen aan de koninglyke werf, werd er een salut gedaan door het fort Christiaan, en hy werd door zyne edelheid commandant v. Scholten ontvangen, en door alle de reguliere en militie officieren van het eiland, in een groote toeloop inwoners. Den volgenden morgen, werd er een salut van het fort Christiaan gedaan, in antwoord op het compliment door Z. B. M. schip Salisbury he wezen; en denzelfden dag hernoemde Zyne Excellentie het bestuur der eilanden St. Thomas en St. Jan.

By de opening van het huis der vergadering te Bermuda, den 1sten December deed Sir Wm. Lunley, de nieuw benoemde gouverneur, zinspelingen op de omstandigheid, dat Bermuda, tot een vrye haven is gemaakt, de volgende opmerkingen:—

"Daar het den Prins Regent by eene Jonstelde acte behaagd heeft, de thans grotere vrydom van handel en gemeenschap met deze kolonie, en het vaste land van Amerika te sanctioneeren, om groote nationale oogmerken, tot welzijn van het ryk in het algemeen, en van den belangryken West Indischen handel in het by zonder, waardoor hetzelvige, met de toegenomenedarstellingen, van bet dok, en zee arse naal, een groot zee depot schijnt te worden, tusschen Groot Brittannie, Amerika en de West Indien; hangt het van U zelven en van de inwoners desez Eilands af, eene gheele uitvoering aan deze gunstigen meeningen te geven; en om derzelve voortdrieng, door eene vrygevende en verlichte politie te sterken, door gezamenlyk of ieder in het byzonder, alle gemakkelijkheid aan alle vaartuigen, van iedere natie, die in onze havens komen, toestaan, en te verleenen, waar door wy byna hopen, deze kolonie de hoofdmarkt, en stapsplaats van de Westlyke wereld te maken."

His Majesty's brig Mercury, captain Pool, sailed on Saturday morning for Puerto Cabello and La Guayra, to give convoy to the vessels from these ports to this island.

His Excellency the Governor General, paid a visit on board His M. ship Dolphin, capt. Wardenburgh in the forenoon of Wednesday, for the purpose of inspecting that vessel; after which His Excellency partook of some refreshment, and on returning to the shore was complimented with a salute, which the company of artillery reciprocated.

The following is an extract from a declaration made at Aruba by captain Muller, of the schooner Attractive, belonging to this port:—

"The Dutch schooner Attractive, Jan Muller, master, sailed from Port Royal, Jamaica, on the 1st Feb. On the 4th, off Aux Cayes, the master perceiving some commotion among six Spanish passengers, namely Antonio Valderamas, Lucas del Ciero, Fernando d'Aguirre, Jose Bitoiz, Jose Maria Peneteli, and Jose An-

tonio Mendez, he suspected that they had some evil design against him, and therefore used precautions for his safety. Their conduct at last was such that the master discovered they intended to destroy him, both from their actions and from their conversation, which they thought he did not understand, and he was therefore under the necessity to order his crew to confine the passengers in the cabin, which was effected without using force, as they did not offer any resistance. On the 10th the Attractive fell in with H. B. M. sloop Bann, capt. Mitchell, and requested convoy to Curaçao, which the captain promised. On the 11th, being at breakfast, the cabin boy brought a flask of rum from the cabin, from which the master took a little, and mixed it with water; shortly after he had drunk it, he felt its poisonous effects, he then swallowed part of a bottle of sweet oil, and sent for the doctor of the Bann, requesting the captain at the same time for the medical assistance of that gentleman. The doctor gave the master a white powder, and when he went away he carried with him part of the rum, saying he took it with him to be evidence in case any thing should happen; arsenic was supposed to have been infused in it."

Captain Muller left the six Spaniards in custody of the Commandant of Aruba.

A Negro, named Lucas, slave to Don Bartol Navarro y Narrogo, was shot in the morning of Saturday last by a Negro named Fernando, slave to Mr. Jeosuah Henriquez. Fernando was on guard in his master's plantation, and it seems that Lucas, accompanied by two other Negroes, having come there to steal, Fernando discharged his gun upon them, and shot Lucas in the back, when he fell and almost immediately expired. Information of the above circumstance having been speedily conveyed to the Fiscal, Fernando was seceded on Saturday, and on Monday underwent an examination before two Commissioners of the Court of Civil and Criminal Justice; and on Wednesday his master having been also examined, the Commissioners thought proper to acquit the prisoner.

The public has been anticipating with much anxiety, for some time past, the result of the contest between the conflicting armies on the Main, which we lately noticed to have been within two days march of each other, and which it is thought will decide the fate of Venezuela, in favor of one or the other party—"a consummation devoutly to be wished." The advices since our last, however, add but little to what we formerly new of the posture of the belligerents, the letters from La Guayra being almost silent on the subject, although advices from St. Thomas reiterate the report of a division of Royalists, under Morales, having met with some reverses; but as the last accounts from La Guayra are so late as Wednesday, we cannot give full credit to this rumour, because, if true, there is no doubt but some account of it would have reached this island from La Guayra before now.

General Morillo according to the latest accounts was at Pao, a small village, a short distance in advance of Valencia, with 4000 men, and the regt. of Valencey, 1200 strong, in his rear at Victoria; this would certainly seem to indicate a retrograde movement, if we compare it with the accounts from La Guayra of the 7th inst. which stated Morillo to be at Calabozo.

A frigate, a sloop of war, 3 brigs, and 4 armed schooners were to sail from La Guayra in a few day, to reinforce Cumana, as is said, and to make a descent upon Margarita.

By an arrival yesterday afternoon from St. Thomas, we learn that colonel Montilla had arrived at Margarita from that island, in the Independent brig Bogota, with 1500 muskets, and also an American brig laden with provisions, which sailed from St. Thomas in company with the Bogota. The patriot fleet, consisting of 14 vessels of war, and transports carrying 1200 men, all foreigners, under the command of Montilla, was to sail from Margarita on the 24th inst. for the Main, having three months provisions on board. The Artisan brig Irresistible, capt. Daniels, had arrived at Margarita from Buenos Ayres, with dispatches, and sailed immediately after landing them for Angostura. An American brig from Baltimore lately arrived at Margarita, laden with warlike stores.

The Halifax papers of the 6th Jan. state, that in consequence of the great influx of specie, good bills of exchange commanded a premium of 5 per cent.

A Russian squadron of five sail, anchored at Rio Janeiro on the 28th of Nov.; and the British squadron of four sail of the line, under the command of Sir Thomas Hardy, had arrived at that port a week before.

Accounts from the island of St. Domingo of a late date, state, that the understanding between the two chiefs, Christophe and Boyer, has become so friendly that an intercourse with neutral vessels may be carried on between, their respective ports without molestation—i. e.—a foreign vessel may touch at any port within the dominions of Christophe, enter, sell her cargo in whole or part, and clear for any port within the dominion of Boyer—and vice versa without molestation.

Sixteen pirates were condemned at New Orleans on the 30th Dec. and are to be hung on the 27th of May next.

A letter from a Spanish house in Havana, dated the 5th Jan., contains the following.

"Since the 1st of December, there have been

upwards of 160 arrivals at this port, of which nearly 100 are Americans. Consequently the markets are completely overstocked with their produce. Our exports continue at about the same prices—coffee 19 to \$22, sugar 7 1/2 to 9 1/2, molasses 7 bits."

The John Howe, which sailed lately from Philadelphia, carried upwards of 100 passengers for the new settlement at Fernandina, Cuba.

A trader at St. Thomas, writing to his friend in Baltimore, under date of the 5th Jan. says, "I have come to a bad market, and what is worse, there is none better that I can go to." Required of grammarians how a thing being bad, and there being none better, it is made worse? It seems to us to be only still bad,

Extract of a letter from St. Thomas, dated the 15th February, 1820.

"We have had no news from the Spanish Main by the last arrivals, which silence portends events of a very awful nature, namely, the fatal blow which awaits the Royalists. It appears that Morales has been defeated, and that in consequence therefore a few families are now emigrating to Caracas from the interior.

"A vessel from Gibraltar arrived here, 8 days ago, brings the intelligence of a revolution in Spain; the cry for a new liberal government, the downfall of Ferdinand, and no expedition of any kind to America.

"The envoy from Morillo, colonel Escuti, arrived here from Spain, by way of Bordeaux, but without either expedition or hope of any. Having heard the above report, he addressed the governor of Porto Rico on the subject, from whom he received a perfect confirmation of the event.

"It is added, that Andalusia, Catalonia and other provinces have revolted; and that the Infante, Don Carlos, at the head of the troops, offered to re-establish the Cortes and swear to the constitution, provided they proclaim him King of the Nation.

"Bolivar left Angostura on the 24th December, towards the Apure, and will soon, at the head of all his troops, open the campaign of Venezuela."

Extract of a letter from Trinidad, dated 22d January, 1820.

"We have received information of the arrival of General Soublette at Angostura, from the kingdom of St. Fé, with a very large army, having orders to proceed to Maturin to join Bolivar, who we understand is already arrived at that place, in order to bring General Morillo, who is in San Carlos, to a general engagement, and it is believed that in the course of two months the city of Careless will be in possession of the Independents. The Patriot army, it is said by those who have seen it, consists of 12000 men, rather over than under that number."

Mistake.—A citizen accustomed to the signature of the firm in which he was partner, having to sign the baptismal register of one of his children, entered it as the son of Matthew —, S — n, C — k and Co. .

Theatrical anecdote.—At Edinburg, a performer, who was ever studying to take an audience by surprise with introducing some new stroke of acting, had taken the part of Hamlet, for the benefit of a public charity, when the stage was crowded by all ranks and descriptions. On the appearance of the ghost, he made his tragedy start, struck off his hat in a most pantomimical manner, and began in the usual way:

'Angels and ministers of grace defend us.'

A Scotch pedlar, standing just behind him, took up his hat saying—"Hoot awa man! dinna fash your doddle!—but keep your bonnet on your head; for gin ha be your father's spirit, he wou'd na wish you to get cold, sir!"

This so disconcerted the poor actor, that instead of addressing the ghost, as he should have done, he turned about and fixed his eyes upon the pedlar, and continued "Be thou a spirit of health or goblin, &c."

"D—n your goblins!" said Sawney; "to the right about, man, and mind your business; for gin ye make a goblin or a d'el a me, I'll crack your croon!"

Hard times in England.—A London paper, of Nov. 7, says that a new Palace is to be begun for the Prince Regent in the spring, on the same spot where Buckingham House now stands. It is to be a superb palace of three fronts, to overlook all Pimlico; and the moderate sum of seven millions is the estimate of its cost! But, "as the Prince Regent is reluctant to apply to Parliament," the ground of St. James' Palace, the King's Mews, and Werwick House are to be sold, and then but 1,700,000 will be wanted to complete the new structure.—The Duke of York is to have Carlton House for a valuable consideration.—The Triumphal Arch is to be the grand entrance to London from the new palace.

Washington, Jan. 20, 1820.—Colonel King has been found guilty of a charge preferred against him for issuing an order to shoot deserters in Florida. He was also found guilty of other charges, and has been sentenced by a court martial to be suspended from his pay and command for the period of five years.—The sentence has been transmitted by general Jackson to the president. It is not known whether it has been yet confirmed.

De Curaçaoche Courant.

ST. THOMAS.

January 18.—A gentleman just arrived from Madeira, states that a few days previous to his departure, accounts had reached that place of a British fleet of 40 sail having passed Cape Ortigal. This account is partly corroborated by a report which we have heard (said to have been received here through the medium of private letters), of the arrival at Barbados of an expedition consisting of 8000 troops, &c. It is supposed that Cuba is the destination of the above expedition.

Feb. 11.—His Majesty's frigate Diana, Captain Swenson, having on board His Excellency Colonel and Chamberlain v. Holten, commandant of the islands of St. Thomas and St. John's &c. &c. &c. arrived here on Thursday afternoon last, from St. Croix, where he had recently arrived from Europe. On the Diana's entering the harbour His Excellency was saluted by H. B. M.'s ship Salisbury. On landing at the King's Wharf a salute was fired from Fort Christian, and was received by His Honor Commandant v. Scholten, all the regular and militia officers of the island, and a numerous concourse of the inhabitants. Next morning at six o'clock a salute was fired from Fort Christian, in return to the compliment paid by H. B. M. ship Salisbury; and same day His Excellency re-assumed the government of the islands of St. Thomas and St. John.

Feb. 15.—The following address was presented by the merchants and other respectable inhabitants of this island, to his honor Kammerjunker v. Scholten, previous to his resignation of the command of this island and St. John's:—

Sir,—As the period is approaching, at which your honour is going to resign the command of this island into the hands of Chamberlain and Commandant von Holten, whose return we momently expect, we avail ourselves of an early opportunity of testifying to you the high sense we entertain of your meritorious and exemplary administration of your government during the time, in which that distinguished place has been conferred on you by our gracious sovereign.

Many important improvements, which had been auspiciously begun by your honour's predecessor and now again successor in office, such as the amelioration of the streets and roads, the better regulation of the militia, and the night guards, for the preservation and protection of our lives and property, and of the police in general, have been followed up and partly completed, by a perseverance and assiduity, which reflect the greatest credit upon you: our flag has been respected, and our relations abroad cemented and strengthened by your impartial firmness, and the good understanding which you have preserved with the neighbouring governments—for these advantages, you are entitled to our respect and consideration as a Commander.

In your private character, we feel ourselves called upon to offer you our grateful acknowledgments, for the friendly reception which strangers and inhabitants have uniformly received in your hospitable mansion, for the conviviality and cheerfulness, which you have promoted by your liberal exertions for our comfort and amusement. Whenever opportunities have occurred to call upon your aid and assistance for the promotion of the public good, and for the alleviation of individual distress, the appeal to your benevolence has not been in vain. In the conviction that by your numerous acts of charity, openly and secretly bestowed, much misery has been relieved, many gloomy prospects brightened, your feeling heart will find its best reward.

Our fervent wishes for every prosperity, and every desirable good to yourself and your family, will attend you as long as there will remain a sense of affection and gratitude for services rendered, and kindness evinced so cheerfully and disinterestedly.

We request that your honour will allow us to present you with the sum of five thousand dollars, which you will be pleased to invest in the purchase of a piece or pieces of plate, in token of our acknowledgment of the advantages, which this island has derived from your administration, and as a mark of our respectful attachment to your person.

With the expression of our full confidence in the approbation, which his majesty our king will bestow upon you, for your conduct in the situation which you are going shortly to quit, and of our highest sentiments of regard and consideration, we have the honor to be Sir,

Your honour's most obedient and most humble servants,

(Here follows a long list of signatures.)

St. Thomas, 9th February, 1820.

To the Honourable Kammerjunker P. v. Scholten, Major of Infantry, Stadshauptmann, and Commandant ad interim of St. Thomas, and St. John's &c. &c. &c.

(HIS HONOR'S REPLY.)

Gentlemen.—The flattering address which was presented to me yesterday, has been the more grateful to my feelings, as I see the signatures of all the men in this community attached to it, whose good opinion and esteem I value and cherish.

I am flattered by the approbation conveyed in it of my public conduct, and it has given me most heartfelt satisfaction to receive now the

assurance of affection and attachment from a community, which has shewn me so much kindness, when at an early period of my life I first came amongst you.

From the moment of my taking the command of this island, my endeavours have been invariably directed to the rigid performance of the duties of my office and to the promotion of as much good, in my sphere of activity, as it was in my power to effect. To accomplish this object, nothing appeared to me better calculated, than the adoption of the example set before me, and an adherence to the line of conduct pursued by my superior, the Governor General, and by my predecessor in the command of this Island, to whom I shall again in a very short time return it, with a confident anticipation of the same sentiments and disposition on his part, which have produced the most beneficial effects during his former administration. The expression has not been disappointed.

In good will I have not been deficient, and if my exertions have been attended with any success, I freely acknowledge the part of it, which is due to the facilities afforded me, by the hearty concurrence and co-operation in measures proposed, and adopted as useful, which you have so generally, and with so laudable a spirit, manifested on occasions, when the aid of them was called forth.

I thankfully accept the valuable present, with which your address was accompanied, in the expectation of the sanction of His Majesty the King, to whom I shall transmit the earliest information on the subject.

While I remain among you, now one of your fellow citizens again, it will be my study and pride to gain and preserve your esteem and friendship, and in whatever situation I may hereafter be placed, here or abroad, may constant endeavours and my sincerest wishes will never cease for your individual happiness, and the prosperity of this colony.

With every sentiment of regard and friendship, I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble servant,

P. v. SCHOLTEN.

St. Thomas, 19th February, 1820.

To the Captains S. C. DEVILLE,

..... STAKEMANN,

..... JOHN KING,

& Colonial Aid, V. BENEDITTI,

As Bearers of an Address
dated the 9th February, 1820, from
the Merchants and other respectable
Inhabitants of St. Thomas.

At the opening of the house of Assembly at Bermuda on the 1st Dec. Sir Wm. Lunley, the newly appointed governor, alluding to the circumstance of Bermuda being made a free port, made the following observations:

"The Prince Regent having been pleased to sanction by a recent act, the still greater freedom of trade and intercourse between this colony and the continent of America, for great national purposes, for the benefit of the empire in general, and the important West India trade in particular, by which, together with the increased establishment of the dock yard and naval arsenal, it is likely to become a great naval entrepot between Great Britain, America and the West Indies; it rests with yourselves and the inhabitants of these Islands, to give full effect to these gracious intentions; and to insure their permanence by a liberal and enlightened policy, in affording and continuing, collectively and individually, every facility to all vessels of every nation entering your ports and harbours, by which we almost hope to render this colony 'the chief mart and emporium of the western world.'

Trade to China.—One of the projects suggested for partially relieving the present commercial distress is, to open to the spirit of private adventure among us a more free trade between China and the Continent of Europe; and to this the East India Company, we understand, have no objection. Our countrymen should, at least, so far as home restrictions extend, be placed on a level with American subjects, and let each turn their respective industry to the best advantage. The following is a speculative account of the probable advantages of the Chinese trade upon the terms desired:—

"The directors must know, as well as all other intelligent men, that Britain cannot long exist unless some vent be obtained for her manufactured produce. Neither can they be supposed to be ignorant of the dangerous shock given to their power by the frequent and continually increasing intercourse between the Chinese and Americans. The deafest ears and dullest capacity must both hear and understand the bitter invectives and supercilious derision with which the trading Americans invariably treat every thing coupled with an English name: yet the Americans carry on a trade between China and the Continent of Europe, the value of which is scarcely to be credited, from which British industry is completely excluded by the operation of the company's charter."

"The value of all branches of trade, imperfectly known, is naturally liable to be much questioned; but, happily, on this before us we have evidence that it is scarcely possible to discredit. By the report made on the state of American currency to the House of Representatives of the United States, it appears, that the exportation of dollars from America to China, in 1817, amounted to twelve million;

and the sale of China goods on the Continent of Europe, cannot be estimated at less. The quantity of China produce consumed in the United States amounts to nearly five millions annually: hence it may be concluded, that the United States acquire a clear gain of five million annually from the China trade.

"Were Great Britain allowed a fair competition in this trade, the advantage would not be confined to the increase of her naval power, and the security of the company's possessions in Hindostan, which may now be considered as an integral part of the British dominions. The Bills obtained on the Continent of Europe for the China produce conveyed to it by our shipping, would have a favourable operation on the rate of exchange—a circumstance that is become one of the highest importance to us, since the discounts of the bank will now be regulated by it. But more than all, as our ability to supply China with cotton goods at such prices as render them marketable under all the disadvantages of the existing monopoly, is now beginning to be known, it would open a market for our manufactures greater than we had in the proudest day of our prosperity, and convert the cottons of Lancashire and woollens of Yorkshire into the medium of exchange between China and Europe.

"Considering the proverbial cheapness of labour in China, many may be inclined to doubt the fact, of the combined operation of capital and machinery being able to produce a finished manufacture sufficiently cheap for such a market; but fortunately on this point we have not to rest on speculative theory, and darken our hopes by doubts. We have the fact on record, that while the cotton goods sent to China in 1810 did not exceed the value of 8000L, the shipments last year amounted to £150,000; and these, too, for the greatest part, ordered by Chinese merchants. The fact speaks for itself."—London paper.

Newly invented gun.—A gun, of an entire novel construction, was exhibited a day or two ago in the gardens of York House, before the Duke of York. It weighs less than the ordinary musket, though composed of seven barrels; one is of the common length, and in the same position; around it, at the breach, are the six others, of about three inches in length only. The simple act of cocking places each of the short barrels successively in complete connexion with the long one, and of shutting the pan primes it; so that seven discharges may be effected in thirty seconds. It is perfectly safe and accurate, every part being so guarded, as to prevent the possibility of danger, error, or impediment, with great simplicity. His Royal Highness minutely examined every part of it, and desired the ingenious inventor to make four or five discharges, by which he put the balls in a cluster round the mark.—Ibid.

Extract of a letter from Guayaquil, dated October 30, 1819.

"By the arrival of the schooner Alzante, from Lima, we have received information, that the Spanish vessel of war Santelmo, having lost her rudder, and carried away, her bowsprit, was compelled to bear away it is not known where; this occurred in lat 61, long 90; she was in a most deplorable condition: In this situation, the frigate Marianna fell in with her, and had to take her in tow; but unfortunately the cable for that purpose broke, and the vessels consequently separated."

The Marianna has since arrived at Callao; but nothing has been known of what became of the Santelmo.

Capital prize.—A letter to a gentleman in New-York, dated off the Belize, Dec. 7, states—"The U. S. revenue cutter Louisiana, capt. Loomis, has seized the British ship Frances & Eliza, of London, with two clearances, one from Margarita, and the last from Falmouth, Jamaica. The latter subjected her to seizure under the Navigation Act of April 1810, which prohibits all trade with British West India colonies, in English bottoms, or even touching at or clearing out from them. She is a fine ship of 350 tons, and carries 10 guns.—There is no doubt she will be condemned. She is one of the ships that left England with troops for the Patriots of South America."

A Blow given, and how returned.—A lady of rank at Paris, who was about to be separated from her husband, went to the place appointed for executing the writings with her advocate and attorney. 'Sir,' said she to her husband, who was also there with his lawyers, 'I know nothing of the business, therefore ask me no questions; these gentlemen are here to state my reasons, and to receive your answers. The husband having commenced by setting forth the complaints he had against his wife, among others, attributed to her injuries which she thought so insulting to her honour, that, becoming at last impatient, she rose and interrupted him by a blow, which greatly disordered his wig. The husband, without being at all confused, adjusted his wig; and turning towards his wife's advocate: 'Sir,' said he, 'since it is you who are to receive my answers to this lady, here is the one which I have to make her,' and he gave the advocate such a blow that he knocked him down, and the conference was broken up.