

# THE STAR, AND CONCEPTION BAY JOURNAL.

Vol. II.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1835.

No. 72.

Conception Bay, Newfoundland:—Printed and Published by JOHN T. BURTON, at his Office, CARBONEAR.

(From London Papers, September 29,  
October 2.)

## SPAIN.

BILBOA, Sept. 22.

The difficulty which, in my letter from Portugalette, I anticipated the British troops would have to contend with, but which in my last I omitted to refer to, they had not to encounter. The passage was clear by land and water, and the arrival of all was quite secure. While the steam ship conveying General Evans and his staff was passing, his Majesty's ship Castor fired a salute of 15 guns, whether in honour of the cause he espoused or of the flag under which his vessel sailed I know not. The spirit of unanimity and harmony that pervaded the people of San Sebastian and the British soldiers continues without interruption here, and so completely have all become amalgamated, that their dresses and their language are the sole distinctions to be observed amongst them. General Evans, in his regimentals, unites the character of an English General and Spanish Grande, and he has expressed a wish that all commanding officers of the Legion should assume those insignia which are the indications of the same rank in the Spanish which they hold in the British service.

This town and vicinity are now totally rid of Carlists: while here they gave as much annoyance as possible, and were often the occasion of making the men a little more than half displeased that they were not permitted to meet their enemy at once, but left to be harassed and tormented at their whim and caprice. At present neither in Portugalette; and in four days subsequently it was considered safe enough to leave that important town in the protection of three regiments of Spanish troops until the arrival of the then expected French reinforcement.

The Artillery and Lancers have arrived in Spain, no delay will take place in the progress of the objects of the expedition. It is expected that Vittoria will be the winter quarters of the Queen's army in the North. Preparations in progress here would almost justify that supposition. The fortress of St. Mawes is undergoing repair. Several of the most commanding eminences are being fortified, which with the works of defence that still remain since the defeat and death of Zumalacarre here, will render the place inaccessible to any foe. Four regiments of the Spanish troops marched from this to Vittoria on Thursday last, and were escorted by the British troops for nearly six miles on their way. The latter, at least a part of them, are in hourly expectation of being ordered to follow them.

I sent you a few days ago the official bulletin of Bisay, published here. I send you to-day fresh from the press, the bulletin of this day, as it contains some details of information respecting the state of the Queen's troops, and the prospect of her cause in the northern provinces, which it is out of my power to procure, and if procured to verify.

The troops are in readiness to march for Vittoria when ordered. The distance is about 11 Spanish or 15 English leagues from this, and the country intermediate is well known to a great many of the officers and soldiers who served in the Peninsular war.

I have just been informed by a gentleman from San Sebastian that the money

of Don Carlos was employed with success amongst some of the Spanish officers in the service of the Queen at that place. On the night of the 16th, I believe the guns on that part of the fortress towards the Glacis were filled with stones, and but for the merest accident the town might have been in the possession of the Carlists. The lighthouse which is almost a fortress, on the west side of the harbour, is occupied by them but they cannot do the slightest harm at present. The officers accused are now under arrest, and it is said their ladies were active in the defection of the guards.

The following extracts are taken from the official bulletin of Bisay:—

BILBOA, Sept. 16.

The faction, which for some days past has been in considerable in the vicinity of this town, retired at day-break yesterday. It is doubtless convinced that the chimerical projects it had formed in the delirium of its insolent folly are incapable of being realized. By the arrangements which are adopted it is to be hoped that the mouth of the river will be free and secure from any aggression which the factions might attempt there. The positions of San Mames being occupied, and together with the Convent of Capuchins fortified for better defence, a measure which has already commenced it is certain that the factions will abstain from making any attempt upon the river and consequently by that channel may be conveyed such munitions of war and assistance as the English and Spanish divisions may stand in need of, an object which must never be lost sight of.

The artillery of the English division appears to have arrived at San Sebastian from whence, we are assured, it will be transferred to this town, thus uniting here the whole of the legion with the exception of the cavalry.

SEPTEMBER 18.

To day the division of the three provinces with General Espeleta left this town, and a battalion of the British legion with General Chichester, arrived. We now have the greater part of the legion in the town and in its immediate neighbourhood, and with it and the Spanish troops which still remain we are convinced that we can take the upper hand of the Biscayan faction, which will not fail to fly from our presence and abandon its fatal soil. It is therefore more than probable that the extermination of faction in these provinces may be effected by our own exertions and those of our allies, which they so liberally afford in accordance with the alliance and the interest with which they regard the consolidation of the legitimate throne of Donna Isabella II. and of legal liberty unless we suffer ourselves incautiously to be impeded by the vile means and artifices by which the artful partisans of the Pretender seek to introduce disorder, dissension and distrust among those, who united would be invincible. It is indispensable, therefore, that we conduct ourselves with much caution, and completely on our guard against the crafty snares of our implacable enemies, designed to provoke discontent between the government and the nation, which may disturb the former in the incessant persecution of the rebel bands which exist and increase in proportion to the inattention with which they are regarded. Nothing can at the present day be more worthy of all good Spaniards, friends of the legitimate throne of Donna Isabella the Se-

cond, and of liberty, than that of the annihilation of the rebel herds, who insolent beyond measure, and unfortunately too dangerous, threaten the destruction of objects so dear, so idolized, and who possibly might succeed if by a fatal blindness, division were fomented among the loyal, and should debilitate our common strength, necessary for the overpowering of enemies to whom every day of existence gives new force, vigour and importance. Recent events must have afforded Spaniards much information on this important subject; and it would be a most lamentable and unprecedented fatality, if, imbued with this, they should suffer themselves to be ensnared in the nets spread for them by the supporters of tyranny, at the stern command of which they pertinaciously contend, to entrap their victims.

SEPTEMBER 21.

By various channels, worthy of credit the important information is confirmed that the four Navarrese battalions which went out to excite revolt in faithful Catalonia, were obliged to seek refuge in the French territory, flying from the active pursuit which they experienced from our troops, the auxiliary French Legion, and the Urban Militia, which hastened together from all parts promptly and full of enthusiasm, to exterminate bodies of bandits, who proposed to themselves to cover the soil of Catalonia with blood and horrors like those which the districts which groan under their tyranny and Vandalism have to deplore. This important event proves in an unequivocal manner that the loyal if united, will eventually shatter to pieces all the machinations and combinations of the impotent enemies of the legitimate throne of Donna Isabella II., and of liberty. Let us then not suffer ourselves to be misled by the perfidious suggestions of those who conspire to introduce anarchy and distrust among Spaniards, who will never make terms with a rabble, the disgrace of the enlightened age in which we live. But these iniquitous means now exercised by the Pretender and his sanguinary satellites with so much eagerness, will be rendered as powerless as those they have hitherto employed, by the prudence, the sound judgment, and cordiality of those who love with sincerity and good faith the triumph of the excellent cause of Donna Isabella II. and of liberty.

Letters and papers of the 23d ultimo, have been received this morning by express from Madrid. Their contents are quite contradictory of the statements said to have been forwarded by M. de Reyneval to the French Government, and no allusion is made to the reported illness of M. Mendizabal. The capital was perfectly tranquil. General Alava was expected there on the following morning, and M. Mendizabal only awaited the return of messengers he had sent to the different juntas to announce the complete formation of his ministry.

The Gazette of the 20th contains these appointments, accompanied with an address from the Minister of the Interior to the different provinces, exhorting them to use every means to assist the government in allaying the differences which exist.

The following is an extract from the Revista, the leading opposition journal in the Spanish capital.

"We observe with pleasure that the constitution of 1812, proclaimed in some quarters, has not been treated with

view to its adoption. We its admirers, although so gratuitously accused of working for its re-establishment, now that the time is come for supporting our former declarations, will say, that in our opinion it would be ill-advised to take such a step, and remove that political law from the place where it ought to lie in the pages of history."

A telegraphic despatch of the 24th is said to have been received in Paris from Madrid, corroborative of the above intelligence.

GRAND JURIES.—A case of considerable interest was recently decided by the Court of King's Bench in the Island of Antigua. On calling over the roll of Grand Jurors on the second day of the session, it appears that only nineteen were present although twenty one had been previously impanelled and sworn in for the term. In explanation, the Foreman stated to the court, that one of his brethren was absent from indisposition, and the other had been arrested. Until he was released, the Jury were of opinion that they should not proceed in their labours. An infringement had been committed upon what they considered to be one of their privileges—freedom from arrest pending the session—and they besought the Court to set the absent member at liberty, so that he might join his companions. The Chief Justice, apparently unwilling to hazard an opinion upon a point of so much importance, said, "that he really did not see that any occurrence of this kind should impede the public business; fifteen Grand Jurors would be competent and there were nineteen present." But though fully aware of their competency to proceed with business, the Jury persisted in requesting the opinion of the Court. The question, they said, was one of much importance, not only to them, but to every individual liable to be summoned as a Grand Juror. They had been called to put aside all other engagements, and to abide in the performance of the duties assigned to them, until the Court was formally dissolved. How was this to be done if subject to arrest?—When the Grand Jury sank for a time their private interest to attend to those of the public, it was surely just and reasonable during that time, they should be protected. After listening to the opinion of the King's Counsel, and other barristers who chanced to be present, the Chief Justice stated that he would take a little time to consider the question, which was one of as much novelty as it was undoubtedly of importance. A few days subsequently, the court decided against the discharge of the juror from arrest.

The decision is of such importance to all the Colonies, in which the Criminal Law of England prevails. To us it seems susceptible of discussion, and we trust that some of our legal readers may examine the question, and favour us either with precedents, or argue the point on general principle.

IMPORTANCE OF THE COCOA NUT.—This affords both solid food and drink; a spiritous liquor can be distilled from it, also excellent vinegar made, and a fine but cheap oil procured. The fibres when properly manufactured, can be made into cables so strong, that 74-gun ships have safely rode during the most tremendous gales, when the European ones have parted. The trunk, when split, is made into rafters for houses; the leaves when plaited, make good walls and roofs for