

awfully breaking in upon the solitude, destroy the ideas of that safety they endeavoured to find by travelling at that season.

They did not always take stages of the same length; for while under the apprehension of danger, they travelled through all the bye-paths known to their conductors, sometimes for twelve or fifteen miles together, without resting; but an ordinary day's journey, exclusive of the time taken up in making observations, seldom exceeded eight or nine hours. They constantly rose at break of day, and setting forward with the sun, travelled till the middle of the afternoon, when they began to look out for the encampments of the Arabs, who, to prevent such parties coming to live upon them, choose such places as are least conspicuous: and, indeed, unless they discovered the smoke of their tents, and the barking of their dogs, or observed some of their flocks, it was with difficulty they were able to find them, and all their labour was frequently ineffectual. When they came up with them, they were accommodated as hath been already mentioned, for one night; and if in travelling the next day,

— They chanc'd to find
A new repast, or an untasted spring,
They blest their stars, and thought it luxury.

ADDISON.

The best method to prevent falling into their hands, is for a traveller to be always dressed in the habit of the country; for the Arabs are jealous and inquisitive, suspecting every stranger to be a spy sent to take a survey of those lands, which they are taught to fear will one time or other be restored to the Christians.

S E C T. XXXIII.

Of the Bombardment of the City of Tripoli by the French; the Peace to which the Tripolitans were obliged to consent; and an Abstract of the Treaty which that Nation concluded with England.

THE bombardment of Tripoli being one of the latest and principal events in the history of that state, we shall here give it our readers, and shall add an abstract of the treaty of peace concluded between the Tripolitans and English; which will enable the reader to form a just idea of the footing on which the Tripolitans stand with the European and Christian powers, particularly England and France.

The dreadful execution we are going to mention was caused by a capture made by a Tripolitan corsair of a ship under French colours, and those people detaining a great number of French subjects in a state of slavery, upon the restitution of both which the French consul had in vain insisted. Lewis XV. who was no less severe in punishing the breach of faith in others, than famous for his disregard to it himself, highly resented this treatment, and ordered all his captains who cruised in those seas to make reprisals.

Accordingly the marquis D'Anseville, who was sent by commodore Du Quesne to convoy two prizes he had taken at the island of Hiero, on the north coast of Sicily, meeting with six vessels belonging to Tripoli, immediately attacked them; three of them, however, making all the sail they could, were so happy as to get out of the reach of his guns; while the other three venturing to stand the engagement, were at length much shattered, and glad to escape to the island of Chios, in order to rest.

Commodore Du Quesne, being informed of what had passed, followed them thither with a squadron of seven ships; but, before he began any hostilities, sent to acquaint the aga who commanded in that place, "that he came as a friend, and had express orders to come in quest of some Tripolitan pirates, who, by the tenor of the treaties then in force, were styled rebellious subjects, and given up to the just vengeance of the emperor of France." The Tripolitans, however, being at that time masters of the port and city, this specious

declaration did not meet with the favourable answer he expected; upon which drawing nearer to the place, he began to cannonade it with great fury. The Tripolitans, who were then employed in refitting their shattered vessels, swam with all possible haste to the two forts belonging to the town. Du Quesne tried in vain to enter the port, he being prevented by a strong floccado, which they had laid in his way. A furious combat ensued, which lasted three hours and a half, the castle all the while discharging their artillery at his squadron, which in their turn threw seven thousand bombs, few of which failed of making some execution, either on the Tripolitan ships or the city, where a great number of houses were either thrown down or much shattered, and many of the inhabitants killed or wounded. The next day the city sent to demand a parley, and promised either to oblige the Tripolitans to accept of a peace, or to drive them out of the port: but Du Quesne, instead of giving any answer to their proposals, removed farther off, in order to block up the corsairs more effectually.

This affair soon reached the Ottoman court, and the complaints made of it both to the Grand Seignior and Divan, so greatly exasperated them against the French, that their ambassador at that court, who had express orders not to recede in the least from his master's pretensions, found it difficult to maintain his honour and interest, and was forced to make use of all his politics, bribes, and cabals, to prevent a rupture between the two crowns. But at length, after a long and strenuous contest, it was agreed,

That all the French slaves who had sailed from Constantinople, since the year 1681, either in Tripolitan corsairs, or other vessels, should be set at liberty.

That the flag of captain Cruvilier, which they had taken under the French flag, and carried to Chios, should be restored, with all its artillery, arms, rigging, &c.

That no Tripolitan ship should pretend to visit any trading vessels under French colours, in case they were provided with passports from the French admiral.

That all strangers on board any French vessel should pass free and unmolested; and likewise all Frenchmen who should be found on board any other vessels, even those of an enemy.

That no French prizes, or prisoners, should be sold in any port belonging to Tripoli; and that no corsair belonging to that kingdom should take any prize within a less distance than ten leagues of the French coast.

The Tripolitans, however, rejected these articles with the utmost indignation. This Lewis expected, and the next year, on the 15th of June, 1685, the marshal d'Etrees, vice-admiral of France, appeared before their capital at the head of his fleet, where being joined by the marquis of Anseville and captain Neimond, they anchored within a league of the walls of the city, where they formed their line of battle. On the 22d the bombardiers got all the mortars ready while the shallops belonging to the men of war anchored within gun-shot of the town, and about eight at night began the attack. Mr. Tourville, who had the command, ordered three armed galleys before the port, to prevent any obstruction from the enemy. At about ten o'clock they began to throw some bombs into the place with great success, without any molestation from the Tripolitan sloops all that night, though they had kept a constant firing of their musquetry, the two foregoing nights, on the bombardiers, when they were at a farther distance. By six the next morning the French had thrown five hundred bombs into the place. They resumed the fire on the night following about midnight, and made such terrible execution, that they could see the spreading flames in several parts of the town, without receiving one shot from it; and the next day the marshal d'Etrees caused the port every where to be sounded, in spite of all their fire, in order to discover a proper place for raising a fresh battery, which might destroy both the town and its fortifications. In the mean while some of the bombs falling on a place where the people were assembled, killed about thirty or forty of them, and threw the whole city into the utmost consternation, the people filling the air with the most dreadful cries. At length,

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