

the 31st of December and the 1st of January, a violent North East wind drove on the breakers of Tunis four French and two Spanish vessels, nearly all the crews of which, together with 1250 African passengers, who were on their return from a pilgrimage to Mecca, perished.

*Geneva, Feb. 19.* The publication issued by the Council on Tuesday last has restored peace and tranquillity. To the prudence and firmness of its language we owe this quick change.

*Petersburgh, Feb. 22.* The approaching arrival of Prince Potemkin is confirmed. The Empress, it is said, meant to receive him in such a manner as to give great proofs of her approbation, and the high estimation in which she holds his services. They talk of a very rich dress which she has destined for him, with diamond buttons, epaulets, and buckles, to the value of two or three hundred thousand roubles; and her Majesty having purchased the palace of Stockhoof for 400,000 roubles, they are preparing it for the reception of Prince Potemkin, who is to take up his abode in that palace, which is furnishing and ornamenting with great care and magnificence.

A fresh convoy has been sent to Livonia, composed of a great number of waggons, carts, and sledges, laden with implements of war, especially pontoons, and every thing necessary to build a bridge of boats. They are also hard at work in forwarding a third transport of the same force, which will follow it immediately, and orders have been sent to the provinces adjoining Poland to send as soon as possible 5000 artillery horses, and 1500 conductors. The army of Livonia is reinforcing daily, so that neither the Prussian troops or those of Poland (should the Republic think proper to take part in the war) will find the Russian frontiers defenceless.

Prince Potemkin has successively detached from his army two regiments of cuirassiers, six of carbiniers, three of dragoons, four of grenadiers (each of which consists of 4075 men), 3 of fusiliers, and two of chasseurs, to reinforce the troops in the Government of Kiovia; White Russia; Pleskow, and of Livonia; but notwithstanding these detachments his army still amounts to 29,787 cavalry, and 109,053 infantry, in all to 138,840 men; independent of a corps of artillery, of bombardiers, and of engineers, together with Cossacks and other irregular troops.

*Constantinople, Feb. 25.* The Sultana Valide, mother to his Highness, having been summoned to the Council, has tried every effort to prevail upon her son to listen to an accommodation with Russia, but in

vain. At the breaking up of the Council, orders were sent throughout the Archipelago to raise 20,000 sailors, and for the equipment of 70 vessels, destined for the Black Sea, whilst another Squadron, reinforced by the vessels demanded of the Regencies of Algiers and Tunis, is to defend the Archipelago against the incursions of the Russian corsairs. Those who are accustomed to calculate the enormous expenses of all these great enterprizes are astonished at this, and think it never will be put into execution.

The continual succession of bad news which daily arrives causes the greatest uneasiness both among the Ministry and among the public, from whom it is impossible to hide all the calamities which have followed the rapid successes of the Russian forces. However, Government are doing all in their power to protect the capital; and a corps of 60,000 men will be gathered together at Adrianople, which army is not to act upon the offensive, but the defensive. Messengers are also sent to Macedonia, Albania, Bosnia, and Rometia, to persuade all the Janissaries and Spahis to assemble as expeditiously as possible; but by all accounts there are few of them to be found, the Porte having lost during the present war, 120,000 of their best troops, besides what have died by sickness, so that it will be difficult for the governors of the provinces to get together 100,000 men.

Orders have been issued for all the public houses to be shut up, not only here, but throughout the empire, as the people, contrary to the precepts of the Great Prophet, are very much given to wine.

Letters from Syria inform us, that that the Pacha of Acra is endeavouring to render himself independent of the Porte, and wishes to assume the sovereignty of his own Government.

*Avignon, March 10.* The Commonalty of this city has declared M. Givio, Archbishop of Avignon, divested of his Bishoprick, for having refused to take the Civic Oath; M. Maliers is elected in his stead.

*Copenhagen, March 19.* Although our Court is fully determined to remain neuter, yet at a time when all the Powers of the North are arming, and the Baltic is menaced with a visit from foreign fleets, with a view to enforce the wishes of their Courts, the Danish Government has judged it necessary to take some precautions on its part, and has in consequence issued orders to arm a number of ships of war as soon as possible; they will not exceed the number of those which we had armed last summer, but will be sufficient to protect the neutrality of our ports. To equip this Squadron