

they were, besides, taken in a bay which belonged exclusively to the Spanish nation. The ambassador, nevertheless, consented to the reparation required by M. Montmorin, but proposed, at the same time, in the name of the king of Spain, to add some explanations that probably would not be satisfactory to Great Britain.

The examination of this very important affair was referred to the diplomatic committee, as was a letter from M. Vauguyon, on the same subject.

**AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE.**

NEW-YORK, OCTOBER 13.

By a gentleman from Port St. Vincennes, we are informed, that an army of 1500 militia with all the continental troops on the frontiers in that neighbourhood, under the command of General Harmar, were to set off the first of September, on an expedition into the Indian country.

Accounts from Canada say, that Lord Dorchester is preparing to embark for Europe, having an inclination to pass the remainder of his days in Europe.—It is said General Clark, late lieutenant-governor of Jamaica, is to succeed him in the government of the province of Quebec.

PHILADELPHIA, OCTOBER 19.

“Notwithstanding the preliminary declaration signed at — the 24th of July, great doubts are still entertained of the continuance of peace, as both the Spanish fleet and ours are at sea, and the French have resolved to arm 45 ships of the line, and a proportionate number of frigates, with the avowed intention of assisting Spain, if attacked; but on the other hand, as they profess to maintain only the defensive and commercial articles of the family compact, it is hoped that their resolution to arm will not interrupt the progress of the negotiation for peace already commenced.

“An idea prevails, that the free importation of tobacco will be allowed in France; but on the other hand the culture of that plant will be encouraged throughout that kingdom.”

RICHMOND, OCTOBER 30.

A private account by the last packet from England says, “You may rely upon it as a certainty, that the British fleet now at sea, have orders to fight the Spaniards, should they happen to fall in

with them.” The same account mentions, that “Great-Britain had set a negotiation on foot with Spain, proffering an exchange of Gibraltar, for the island of Porto Rico in the West-Indies. It is thought that should the Spanish fleet receive a sound drubbing, the Dons will be more ready to make this sacrifice, as our possession of Gibraltar galls them exceedingly, and hurts their national pride more than any other circumstance whatever.

*Extract of a letter from a gentleman on the Ohio, dated August 4.*

“Since my last, the gentlemen I mentioned to you, are now forming themselves into a company for the purpose of building three vessels of force, mounting from 24 to 40 twenty-four pounders, completely manned and equipped; they propose to load the same with tobacco, flour, &c. and proceed to sea by the Gulf of Mexico, with the full determination to punish severely every insult which is violation of treaties may be offered to the American flag sailing down the Mississippi—It is generally supposed they will embark between 12 or 1500 men, in order to assert America’s undoubted right to the navigation of the Mississippi.”

*Extract of a letter from Pittsburgh, September 4.*

“During the course of the week past, Messrs Elliot and Williams, contractors, have forwarded a number of Kentucky boats to Wheeling, to convey the militia draughted to go on some special service, to their general place of rendezvous.”

**FAYETTEVILLE.**

On the night of the 4th instant, the gaol at Hillsborough was broken open and a number of notorious villains made their escape, among which were Hickson, Abbot, and Colter, who have since been stealing horses and robbing waggons on the road from that place to Fayetteville. They have with them two negroes; and have armed themselves, and keep in a gang, and boldly attack and rob travellers on the road. They went to a house near Hawe river, in the day time, and notwithstanding the family being present, they robbed the house of every thing in it they wanted, and took away the man’s horse.

The following gentlemen are re-elected representatives in Congress from their respective districts in the State of Virginia,

*viz.* James Madison, Richard Maud Lee, Alexander White, John Page, Josiah Parker, and Samuel Griffin. — Venable is elected in the room of Isaac Coles, who declined offering.

*The following is inserted by the particular desire of a member of the general assembly:—* It is to be lamented, that among the several matters of a public nature, recommended by his excellency to the consideration of the general assembly, he had entirely forgot, or neglected, the ordinance of convention for the seat of government!

On Wednesday last was started for at the race course, a purse of one hundred and thirty pounds, by General Eaton’s mare Eclipse and Mr. Paul Jeffers’s horse Nonpariel.—First and second heats taken by Eclipse.

Thursday.—A purse of seventy pounds. Major Ashe’s horse Mercury, (started by Col. Lutterloh) and Mr. Gerard’s mare. First and Second heats taken by Mercury.

Friday.—The sweep-stakes was started for by Mr. Watters’s famous horse Roe-Buck and Mr. Branton’s horse Negro—Roe-Buck took the stakes.

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.**

**HOUSE OF COMMONS,**

Thursday, November 4.

MR. A. Mebane presented the petition of sundry of the inhabitants of Orange county, setting forth that they did before the revolution purchase sundry tracts of land of Henry Eustace McCulloch, late of North-Carolina, and that for part of the purchase money, they gave their obligations payable to the said McCulloch, since which the said McCulloch removed himself from this state, by which means they have not had it in their power to discharge and take up their obligations, and praying that the general assembly would direct the payments to be made to some person whom they may think proper to appoint for that purpose.

Ordered, that this petition be referred to Messrs. Polk, Mebane, Jones, Stone, and Franklin on the part of this house, and sent to the senate.

Mr. Polk presented the petition of sundry inhabitants of Mecklinburgh county, which being read, was referred to the committee appointed on the petition of the inhabitants of Orange county, and sent to the senate.