

AMSTERDAM, Oct. 4.

At four o'clock in the morning of the 4th of this month, the Duke of Brunswick attacked this city, and a vigorous contest was maintained until about six. The posts of muiden Diemardam, Duyendrick, Ouderkerk, and that of the Dyke of Haarlem, were assaulted at the same time. The enemy was repelled from the four first mentioned posts with very great loss. The post of the Ouderkerk suffered by different attacks in three different hours. Unable to maintain their ground, they abandoned their three posts, which left them near the point of the Dyke of Haarlem being attacked in two places, and by a superior force was abandoned almost without resistance, and the Prussians, who defended the place, retired without loss. The post of Amsterdam was carried by the Prussians in the afternoon; and it is said it might have been better defended. An armistice of an unlimited time entered; and each party is to give twelve hours notice before the commencement of hostilities. We do not expect that the contention will be renewed, as fresh negotiations are begun. The number of killed and wounded is not known.

D. C. N., October 10.

Advices are said to have been received, that near 6,000 men had been sent to the West-Indies by the French government, and they have contrived to send them in small vessels, in each of which were not more than 60 men, and that some attack was meditated against our West-India Islands. The advice is said to have been received by government from the Governor of Jamaica.

A letter from Londonderry (received per the Sally, Capt. Moore) dated the 11th September, 1787, says, "This day's post from Dublin informs us, that the Prussians, after seven hours attack, were repelled three several times at Amsterdam, and retired in the utmost disorder; but it is thought, notwithstanding, that they are at present masters of the city.—Presgangs are very numerous and busy, and ships fitting out with all possible expedition. The French are at this time in possession of the Cape of Good Hope.

When the great Sir Tho. More was Chancellor, a tutor sent him a couple of large silver flags. The

Chancellor ordered them to be filled with wine, and told the man who brought them that if his master liked the wine, he might send for more.—*Vitium temporis non bonum.*

Poor Dr. Graham met with a whimsical misfortune in one of his earth bathing adventures near Chester—Being up to his chin in earth, with two others, a gardener from a ground adjoining made his appearance with a water-pot in his hand, and observing that plants "springing from the earth shall be well watered," he alternately threw the water on the heads of the fencelets, and so the no small diversion of several spectators.—What pity that genius and talents should be thus subject to the insults of ill-bred rusticity!

The purpose of the Duke of York's journey to England, is to solicit their Majesties consent to his marriage with the Princess Royal of Prussia; an alliance certainly highly advantageous to the interests of Britain, and to which consequently, there can be no objection. This alliance must, at the same time, be favourable to the Stadtholder; and we hope, that out of this marriage may spring a great political connection between England, Prussia, and the United States.

A bet of a very curious nature was made, and determined a few days since. It is an opinion with many, that a person will weigh more before than after dinner, but it seems to be erroneous. A wager to the purpose was made between two citizens, and the man to be weighed was allowed an hour to dine.—He was weighed before and after dinner, but at the latter time weighed no less than six pounds and an half more, than at the former, having taken in ballast to that amount.

The King of Prussia's last memorial, is worded in such a manner as to convince the Patriots that he is in earnest, and that they have now nothing to depend on but the friendship of the French Court.

It is stated, upon a good information, that the Stadtholder has at present a well appointed army of 30,000 men, and the best officered of any in Europe. So that without the assistance of the Prussians, he will be able to give a very good account of the Patriots.

B O S T O N, November 3.

The following letter, on the subject of the American constitution

from the hon Eldridge Gerry, Esq; one of the delegates representing this commonwealth in the late federal convention, to the legislature, was on Wednesday last read in the senate and sent up. As it contains opinions on a subject of the first importance to our country, at this day, we have obtained a copy of it for insertion—and are happy to have it in our power thus early to communicate it to the public.

New-York, October 18, 1787.

I HAVE the honor to inclose, pursuant to my commission, the constitution proposed by the federal convention, and shall submit my objections to the honourable legislature.

It was painful for me, on a subject of such national importance, to differ from the respectable members who signed the constitution; but conceiving as I did, the liberties of America were not secured by the system, it was my duty to oppose it—

My principal objections to the plan, are, that there is no adequate provision for a representation of the people—that they have no security for the right of election—that some of the powers of the legislature are ambiguous, and others insecure and dangerous—that the executive is blended with and will have an undue influence over the legislature—that the judicial department will be oppressive—that the ties of the highest importance may be formed by the president, with the advice of two thirds of a quorum of the senate—and that the system is without the security of a bill of rights. These are objections which are not local but apply equally to all the States.

As the convention was called for the sole express purpose of revising the article of confederation and reporting to congress and the several legislatures such alterations and provisions as shall render the federal constitution an adequate to the exigencies of government, and the preservation of the union, I did not conceive that these powers extended to the formation of the plan proposed, but the convention being of a different opinion, I acquiesced in it, being fully convinced that to preserve the union an efficient government was indispensably necessary; and that it would be difficult to make proper amendments to the articles of confederation.

The constitution proposed has few, if any federal features, but is rather a system of national government; nevertheless many