

pointed, not only for every county, but for every district and parish, who should have the power of rejecting men ballotted, whose characters, on fair evidence, shall appear to be suspicious, such men to be obliged to find a substitute of sound principles, or pay a sum sufficient for the purpose of finding one. If men are taken without this necessary discrimination, the country, in place of deriving strength from the projected measure, will only be placing additional means for her own destruction in the hands of her worst and most dangerous enemies.

Nov. 14. It is with sincere affliction that we feel ourselves but too well authorized to inform the public, that the illness of Mr. Burke has recurred with such violence as to fill his friends with the most melancholy apprehensions.

Dr. Brockleby fears that Mr. Burke is scarce equal to the fatigue of a journey to Bath for the recovery of his health.

Nov. 21. According to letters from Vienna, it was the universal topic of conversation at that place, that a match between the emperor's brother, the archduke Charles, and the princess of France, the only surviving issue of the unfortunate Louis the XVIth, will take place at the close of the war.

On the 4th a council was held at Dublin Castle, at which no less than 23 persons were present, and a proclamation was issued, announcing, that treasonable associations exist in the counties of Antrim, Downe, Tyrone, Londonderry, and Armah, for the purpose of subverting the established government of the kingdom; and putting those counties under martial law.

Nov. 22. A more extraordinary correspondence than the whole of that which has taken place between our ambassador and the French directory, certainly never was made public. All the secrecy which used to be so studiously observed in negotiations, has been here destroyed, and it certainly does not appear that the interests of the French have suffered by the exposure.

It is now probable that a short and speedy end will be put to the theatrical scene. His excellency will be instructed to make his appearance once more, with a declaration that will announce his final exit; and that it may be capable of any, and of every possible interpretation, belligerent and pacific, it will be a compound of all the discordant opinions of the cabinet, nicely arranged in an unintelligible paper, written by the masterly hand of Mr. Pitt himself.

THE AFFAIRS OF IRELAND.

We are extremely sorry to notice the very serious disturbances which have manifested themselves in Ireland, which have arisen to such an alarming height as to call for the following Proclamation, issued by the Lord Lieutenant and 28 Privy Counsellors:

"Whereas, we have received information, that divers ill-affected persons have entered into illegal and treasonable associations, in several parts of the counties of Antrim, Downe, Tyrone, Londonderry, and Armah, to subvert the established government of this kingdom; and for effecting such their treasonable purposes, having assassinated divers of his Majesty's faithful and loyal subjects, who have endeavoured, and threaten to assassinate all others who shall endeavour to detect or suppress their treason; and in further prosecution of their designs, have endeavoured to deter his Majesty's loyal subjects from enrolling themselves under Officers commissioned by his Majesty for the defence of this kingdom, during the present war, by maiming and destroying their cattle, and by assaulting and wantonly wounding one person, avowedly because he enrolled himself, and by threatening assassination against all persons who should so enrol themselves; and in further prosecution of such their purposes, have by felonious and other illegal means, endeavoured secretly to procure ammunition and other warlike stores, and particularly that several evil disposed persons lately broke into one of his Majesty's stores in the town of Belfast, in the county of Antrim, and thereout took and carried away ten barrels of gun powder.

"And whereas we have also received information, that on Teufday the 1st of November instant, a considerable number of armed men associated in the aforesaid treasonable conspiracies, entered the town of Stewartstown, in the county of Tyrone, and cut and maimed several of the peaceable inhabitants of the said town, who had refused to join in their associations, and who had agreed to enroll themselves in corps under officers to be commissioned by his Majesty for the preservation of the public peace, and for the protection of the kingdom against foreign invasion.

"And whereas we have also received information, that in further prosecution of the said treasonable purposes, many large bodies of men have assembled and arrayed themselves, and marched in military order, and with military music, through several parts of the said districts, under the pretence of sowing corn and digging potatoes, (though they far exceeded the numbers necessary to be employed in such services) to the very great terror of the loyal and faithful subjects of his Majesty.

"And whereas such treasonable outrages have caused well grounded alarms in the minds of his Majesty's faithful subjects, and are of the most dangerous and pernicious tendency.

"We, the Lord Lieutenant and Privy Council,

do forewarn all such persons of the danger they incur by such acts," &c. &c. &c.

The Earl of Carhampton, the commander in chief, is gone into the interior of the country upon business of importance.

BOSTON, January 14.

We are informed, and from an authority which we rely on, that Mr. Jefferson has written to Mr. Madison on the subject of the late election; and given it as his opinion, that Mr. Adams was the only person who ought to have been elected President; and further, that he is the only person under whom he would accept the Vice-Presidency. If our information is accurate, the acceptance of Mr. J. will be unquestionable.—The event, we hope will—

"Unite the roses, red and white together,
That on one kind and friendly stalk,
They both may flourish."

January 17.

Important, though Melancholy News, from Cape Francois, Dec. 11.

On Saturday last arrived in town via New-York, from Cape Francois, Capt. Atwood, late of the schooner, of this place. He went to the Cape, on a common trading voyage, on his arrival there, a guard of soldiers was immediately placed on board his vessel, and soon after lighters sent along side, and the whole of his cargo forcibly taken out, not even excepting his own and the poor seamen's adventures—the most ruffian fury marking the plunderers during the whole operation. On enquiring the reasons for such conduct of the officers of the government, he was told that they were authorized by the French Directory; that they were distressed, starving, and would help themselves as they could; that orders were issued for the capture of all American vessels, bound to British ports; and, that they should soon be at open war with America. Petitions to the administration were treated with the most illiberal contempt and indifference. Twelve other American vessels were there which had been treated in the same way.

Among the vessels that had suffered under these unexampled atrocities, was a brig —, Hilman, of Portland; brig Abigail, Scot, of New-York; and brig —, Reynolds, of Savannah.

The people of colour, were averse to those measures, and appeared much attached to the Americans; the persecution originated in the commissioners, among whom is numbered the notorious Sonthonax.

The American Consul had written to the Secretary of State on the subject, enclosing the orders which had been published, and placarded.

An embargo had continued there during the whole of Capt. Atwood's stay—a temporary suspension alone enabled him to leave the Cape, in a vessel employed by the administration.

Capt. Atwood has entered his protest against the treatment he received.

S A L E M, January 20.

By the schooner Raven, Capt. Ambrose Martin, which arrived at Marblehead on Monday evening last, in 38 days from St. Eustatia, we have the following intelligence.—On the 4th of December, 3 ships of the line, and a frigate under British colours, came down Statia road, and commenced an attack upon the town and the Medea French frigate and a sloop of war, and after firing two hours, (in which time they were well answered from the fort and the two French ships) they returned, without doing the least damage to the town or the French ships, excepting lodging about 60 shot in the empty stores. But in their progress, they committed an action, which will stand recorded an eternal disgrace in their naval history. Capt. Benjamin Diamond, in a sloop belonging to Salem, that very morning carried in by a French privateer, being bound to Antigua from Charleston, then lying in the road, was wantonly run down by one of the British ships of war; and his mate, a sailor, and a black and a white boy were drowned, and the vessel and cargo were entirely lost.

Another ship endeavoured to run down Captain Martin's schooner. The mate only was on board, (the crew having all died) and perceiving their intention, endeavoured to cut the cable, but not being able to effect this, he loosened it, and the schooner fell off, the ship just passing her.

One of the crew as she passed, threw a billet of wood at the mate, from the fore-castle—and an officer, looked over the quarter, ordered the "dam'd Yankee rascal to haul down his colours"—which was immediately complied with. But not content with this, veering his ship, he fired a broadside into the schooner—and there were 19 shot holes in her main-mast, four shot in the main-mast, two of which remained there, and a 22lb. shot passed through the schooner's quarter, and lodged in the lower hole in a barrel of sweet oil—which shot Capt. Martin has preserved and brought home as a lasting memorial of the Amity of Great-Britain to this country.

NB. Capt. Martin's schooner is exactly "seventy tons" burden.

NEW-YORK, January 15.

It has been repeatedly said that the Spanish vessels take American. We do not believe it. Spain is on friendly terms with the United States. The

truth doubtless is, that the French do much as they please in Spanish ports in the West-Indies, as they do in Italy. They take and condemn American vessels. It will be recollected that the treaty between France and Spain, tho' offensive and defensive, is to only in regard to certain powers—it does not require Spain to wage war with every power at war with France. It does not require Spain to be at war with the United States, even though France should engage in hostilities with us. This, as far as our recollection extends, as the fact in regard to that treaty; and it precludes all doubt on the subject of a war with Spain.

Fifty-eight sail of American vessels are seized and carried into Gonaives by French cruisers.—We understand the British ships at Port au-Prince protect the American trade, and often convoy American vessels out of the reach of the French cruisers.

The last sentence of the Presidents message to the house of representatives, accompanying the documents relative to French affairs, is remarkable and deserves notice. After assigning his motives for sending Mr. Pinckney, minister to France, he says, "a government which required only a knowledge of the truth to justify its measures, could not but be anxious to have this fully and frankly displayed."

That cautious officer, the President, would not have let such an expression fall from his pen, without satisfactory evidence, that some persons, hostile to our government, have been attempting to mislead the French Directory.

The merchants in Philadelphia have petitioned the legislature for a law to make notes of hand negotiable. All the banks have also sent in petitions for the same purpose.

Mr. Leib moved in the legislature to introduce a clause into the bill for making notes negotiable, prohibiting the taking more than one half per cent. a month for discounting notes. Referred to a committee of five.

It is astonishing, at this period of the world, that such prohibitions can have advocates. The way, and we assert, the only way to prevent the monstrous premiums now paid for money, and which actually draw all the spare money of the country from regular business into foolish projects, is to repeal all such prohibitions. Annul all restraints on the use of money, and the common rate of interest will not remain eighteen months above 5 per cent. What did all America say of the folly of regulating prices during the war? Fortunately the laws were soon violated, or we should all have perished with cold and hunger. France had recourse to the same silly project in their law of the maximum and that for enforcing the circulation of assignats. The consequence of these laws was, universal want and distress. France was upon the verge of a famine. The cause was discovered—the regulating laws repealed, and France abundantly supplied.

The laws against usury in this country, are the principal cause of high interest. They create the very evil intended to be remedied.

When powder was so scarce, during our war, the states did not fix the price—they bid a bounty. Immediately mills were built, and vessels loaded with powder, entered our ports. Powder was as cheap as ever.

In regard to money, people, who want it, bid the bounty. Legislature have nothing to do, but to let it alone.

We understand the sales of land, by the United States, have produced about 60,000 dollars.

Jan. 27. The brig Enterprize, Fitzpatrick, from this port bound to Martinique, sprung a leak 24 hours after her departure from the Hook, and went down. The crew, after remaining 24 hours in their boats, were taken up by captain Conklin, of the brig Gemina and Fanny, to whose humanity they are indebted for every possible attention during their stay on board his vessel.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 26.

The Aurora thinks it highly probable that Mr. Pinckney will not be received by the terrible republic, and therefore advises sending another Minister: Mr. Madison is suggested: There is no doubt with the Aurora that he would be received with open arms.

The Aurora is requested to inform us what exciting circumstances would render Mr. Madison more acceptable to the Directory than Mr. Pinckney? Mr. Pinckney has been always friendly to the French nation; it is true he is more friendly to the independence of the United States.—Will that facility him for the amicable negotiation?—So seems to say the Aurora.

Melancholy and Distressing.

Jan. 27. This morning about a quarter before 6 o'clock, a fire broke out in the lower part of the dwelling-house of Mr. Andrew Brown, Printer, of this city. The usual spirited exertions of the citizens prevented the flames from extending to the adjoining houses—and Mr. Brown's Printing Office escaped uninjured.—Every humane bosom must be wrung with anguish at the recital of the shocking catastrophe on this event.—Mr. Brown, his apprentices, and some other domestics of the family, escaped with their lives, by rushing through the flames, or jumping from the windows.—Mr. Brown is very much burnt, and is dangerously ill.—A maid servant is also so burnt, that it is thought she cannot recover.—Two of the apprentices were much bruised by