

a title more equally expressive. Again, when seriously considered, it recommends to us the practice of the four following virtues, viz. *Nobleness* in our thoughts, *Equity* in our dealings, *Wisdom* in our conduct, and *Sobriety* in our lives.

Travellers lately returned from the continent, agree that in France the people are well satisfied with the peace, though they ascribe it to the magnanimity of their prince, in being content with procuring liberty to America, for which the grand monarch began the war. In Spain they stroke their whiskers, and stalk quietly away whenever the war is mentioned; but in Holland they splutter and frown, and are ready to devour every Englishman they meet. In that country, it is evident prevalence for the French still prevails, which is not likely to be changed during the remembrance of the late hostilities.

Many of the Dutch merchants are deeply interested in the new bank formed at Philadelphia, which seems likely to be a capital institution; and we hear they are going to lend congress a sum of money for the use of the states, which is to be sent in specie from Holland.

Nov. 17. The commercial treaty with America is said to be still as far from being settled as it was the first day the negotiation began: it was, indeed, an unlucky circumstance, that the different parties thought themselves obliged to carry it on at Paris, as whenever the treaty appeared to be in a fair way of being concluded, the French ministry constantly interfered, and overturned all that had been done, so that Mr. Hartley found it impossible to conclude upon any terms in France, and therefore, gave up the matter till an opportunity shall offer for renewing the negotiation, either in London or Philadelphia.

Nov. 18. The parliament is now met. No set of ministers ever had so much indulgence from the public. There is not as yet the shadow of opposition in either house. Every thing is left to the management of those whose possessions have long been handed to the people in every vicine.

The speech was cautiously worded, but affords no great specimen of ministerial openness; for that subject, which seems of all others to engross the attention of all men, viz. Ireland, is not so much as hinted at.

Extract of a letter from Shields, November 12.

"I am extremely happy to inform you of the arrival, last night, of his majesty's sloop Kite, commanded by lieutenant Gunter, which we had given up for lost, some time back. She is greatly damaged, and her ship's company has experienced every hardship that is possible to imagine, having been out in one of the most severe, and at the same time longest gales of wind that ever was remembered by the oldest seaman on this coast. She is without masts, bowprit, sails, and anchors, and had not even a boat on board (they being rove to pieces by the violence of the sea) to send on shore for refreshment; and in this distressed situation she was lying at the mercy of the waves for fifteen days, and when she arrived she had but one day's provision on board. Just before the gale came on, she took, off the Isle of May, a large Dutch smuggler, after an hour's obstinate resistance, which, I am sorry to add, foundered in the gale, and every soul on board perished. They also saw two sloops go down, one of which was close to the Kite, but it was impossible for her to afford them the least assistance, she being, except foundering, in as bad a condition. I am fearful one of these is the Hopewell, commanded by our friend captain Brown; I am also fearful that we shall have but bad accounts of our shipping. The Kite put into three different bays, but was always drove out to sea again by the violence of the wind. The wind for these seven weeks past has blown terribly hard from the westward, sometimes to the southward of west, but generally W. S. W."

Extract of a letter from Dublin, November 13.

"A difference of opinion on the most serious subjects is held by the delegates of the volunteers, and the representatives of the people; but what is most extraordinary, the Roman Catholics and dissenters have formed a junction, and in their writings and speeches insinuate a necessity of resorting to the first principle of government. Be assured of this that a general alarm pervades the whole country."

By the resolutions proposed at the meetings of the Irish delegates, it appears that their military representatives think differently from the civil representatives, and the business of reform they are determined to carry at all events.

The delegates of the province of Munster, previous to their going off for Dublin, came to the following resolution: "Resolved, That all our former resolutions be put into immediate execution."

Nov. 20. A woman who had left her husband went and cohabited with another man: after some time the husband claimed her; she returned home on Monday, when the man she had lived with went to her apartments in Dunning's-ale, Bishop's-gate-street, to take his leave of her: on going away he desired her to give him a kiss at parting, to which she consented; when having a razor concealed in his hand, he cut her throat in a terrible manner, but the knot of a ribband round her neck prevented her windpipe being cut through. The man was secured and lodged in the Poultry-compter and yesterday was carried before the lord mayor, who remanded him back again for further examination, till it is known whether the woman is out of danger.

The new method of execution shortly to be put in practice, is briefly as follows: a scaffolding, eight feet from the pavement, is to be erected in the centre of the Old Bailey, opposite the door of Newgate, with which it is to have a communication, in manner of a platform: after the duties of religion have been performed in the chapel of the prison, the convicts are to be brought out, haltered and bound, attended by the executioner, &c. They will then be tied up; and, on a signal given by the sheriff, the place on which they stand is to be contrived as to fall down, and leave them suspended. Without the platform will be a railing, within which no persons whatever are to be admitted, except the constables, and other officers attending the execution. Only six will be executed at one time; and the hour to be seven in the morning in summer and nine in winter.

BOSTON, January 19.

The severity of the cold has been such, that, within these three weeks past, it has froze our harbour to a

great degree, that carriages of every description pass and repass, on the ice, so that we have a free, easy access with the towns of Charles-town, Cambridge, Brooklyne, Dorchester, &c.

We are told that the demand, from this country, for British goods, is so great, that the manufacturers in England, many of whom were lately out of employ, now cry out—"Blessed are the peace makers."

The following are the particulars concerning the national bankruptcy that lately happened at Paris—taken from a British publication of October, 1783.

In the year 1776, thirteen banks, the most eminent in France, funded five and twenty millions for the establishment of a *caisse d'escompte*, literally a chest of discount, that is, a discounting bank; the purport of which was to discount bills of exchange, part in cash, and part in notes, in imitation of our bank notes, for the purpose of facilitating trade, and at the same time of supplying the occasional wants of government. This scheme had the desired effect, and answered the public expectation till the 25th of last month, when an extraordinary and unexpected run of creditors put the directors under the necessity of stopping payment. The deficiency is not yet ascertained, but it must be very considerable, since they were hardly able to pay 700,000 livres. The event being soon spread abroad, occasioned an universal alarm; upon which the ministry made use of every political measure to prevent any bad consequence, as in the time of the famous *Scottish Law*. Soon after appeared four edicts of the king, which they had the precaution of antedating of five days. The first forbidding all notaries to protest the notes issued from the *caisse d'escompte*, under the penalty of a mulct, besides corporal punishment. The second stopping all the demands on the aforesaid bank till the first of January, 1784. The third, enjoining all persons to receive the above notes in payment, without any sort of difficulty. The fourth, laying a very heavy duty on all the specie exported—in the mean time orders were dispatched to all the mints throughout the kingdom, to enable the bank to continue its payment.

HARTFORD, February 2.

In our last we intimated a dissatisfaction having arisen between the government of the state of Vermont, and a number of persons in the lower part of the county of Windham, relative to the jurisdiction of said state: since which, a gentleman directly from that state, gives us the following particulars, viz. that on the 18th ult. the party who call themselves *Yorkers*, headed by a certain captain Carpenter, of Guilford, attacked the inn of Mr. Josiah Arms, of Brattleborough, the quarters of J. Farnsworth, Esq; commissary-general, major Boyden, captain Waters, and lieutenant Fisk, of the state troops, and demanded the immediate delivery of captain Waters; on which Mr. Farnsworth expostulated with them for some time, to no effect; when being exasperated, they fired about thirty balls through the house, wounded major Boyden in the leg, and shot a traveller through the thigh. The gentlemen before mentioned finding themselves unable to resist numbers (the troops being quartered about a mile distant) captain Waters voluntarily resigned himself up to the party, who immediately carried him into the state of Massachusetts: but being pursued the next day, by six Vermonters, they were overtaken at Northampton, and captain Waters released. On the 22d lieutenant Fisk, with a party of about forty men, having patrolled to Guilford, were fired upon by a number of the *Yorkers*, and lieutenant Fisk, with several others, wounded; lieutenant Fisk was wounded in the groin, supposed mortal. On this intelligence about fifty Green Mountain boys appeared, when the whole body of *Yorkers* (who before held their head-quarters at Guilford) dispersed; some of whom to the state of New-York, and others to different parts of the United States.

NEW-YORK, February 11.

Mr. Fox, one of the British king's principal secretaries of state, pursuant to his majesty's recommendations to parliament, the 11th of November, soon after laid before the house of commons, a bill for an entire new system of government in the East-Indies, in which it was proposed, in future, to have the entire rule of the British possessions in that country, committed to seven commissioners, to be appointed by parliament, who were to reside in England, subject to the control of the British legislature. The bill was said to be one of the completest efforts of human policy ever devised, and would transmit the name of the minister to posterity, with the brightest character of ancient political wisdom. The bill had been read but once in the house of commons; and a day was assigned for a second reading, and it was generally thought, would pass into a law. It was, however, opposed by a number of gentlemen; among others, by Mr. Smith, who said, "he rose to deliver his ideas on the business of the day, and he meant to do it freely. The bill, which then waited their discussion, was one whose importance was as great as the interests of thousands were dear to them. It was moreover a bill so very doubtful in its effects that he did not know how to pronounce upon it. We had seen America torn by violence from the mother country, merely because the extent and the great distance of that empire from Britain, required a degree of attention and speedy exertion, which the difficulty of governing at home sometimes prevented ministers from bestowing on it. And why should we desire to see the only valuable possession we can now boast of lost, also, to the British dominions. There was another objection struck him more forcibly, that was the fatal consequences that were likely to result from the direction of India being in the hands of ministers, for he considered parliament and ministry, in the instance before them, as synonymous. Such an addition of influence, he observed would render them formidable, and if political vice were superadded, what dismal effects were not to be apprehended."

TRENTON, February 24.

A writer in the Connecticut gazette, speaking of the manufactures of this country, says, "All the danger to a country lies in not having exports equal to imports, which will inevitably drain it of its cash, and throw the landed interest into the hands of foreigners. He that uses in his family one shilling per day more than he raises for market, will soon find himself growing poor, while he that sells one shilling worth per day

(free of debt otherwise) will find himself enriched eighteen pounds five shillings at the year's end. Raw materials then, on which we can spend our labour, and the gross manufactures, if I may so call ship-building, wherein we may have good wages, is the true road for a young country, until the inhabitants become too numerous for the demands of agriculture, then lesser manufactures become necessary for the support of the surplus labourers. But here we ought to remember, that we should not neglect our flax and our wool in our household manufactures, for though you may buy cloth at half the price, yet all that is manufactured in our families is so much gain. It is better to work for a penny per day, than play for nothing. In a word, working iron into anchors, ship-bolts and spikes, sawing your timber, and working it into vessels, raising hemp and manufacturing it into cordage and duck, raising provisions, wool and flax, and manufacturing them into a coarser kind, taking fish and oil, seems the language of Providence to America, especially to the New-England states at this period, while the very ashes of the wood we burn, converted into pot and pearl ash, is a considerable branch of export."

ANNAPOLIS, March 4.

Robert Goldborough, jun. Esq; is appointed a judge of the general court, in the room of Nicholas Thomas, Esq; deceased.

Extracts from the journal of congress.

The committee to whom was referred a letter of the 6th November, from the legislature of New-Hampshire, respecting the proceedings and sentence of the court of appeals in cases of capture, on the case of the ship *Lufannah*, having delivered in a report, the same was called for: whereupon,

A motion was made, That the report be postponed till the state of New-Hampshire, whose interests are thereby materially affected, shall be represented in Congress.

The report being as follows.

Your committee find, that by a resolution of Congress of November 25th, 1775, it is recommended to the legislatures of the several states, to erect courts for determining the cases of captures from the enemy on the high seas; and it was declared, that in all cases, an appeal should be allowed to Congress, or such persons as they should appoint for the trial of appeals.

That this resolution was complied with by the several states, some of them ceding appeals to Congress on a larger, and some on a more contracted scale; and New-Hampshire particularly, by their act of assembly of 1776, allowing them only in cases of captures by armed vessels fitted out at the charge of the United States, and reserving the appeal in all other cases to the supreme court of their own state. That the course of Congress was, to appoint a committee for the trial of every special appeal, till the 30th day of January 1777, when a standing committee was appointed to hear and determine appeals, from the courts of admiralty in the respective states. That the brigantine *McClay*, a private armed vessel, owned by John Penhallow and other citizens of New-Hampshire, captured on the high seas, in the month of November 1777, the brigantine *Lufannah*, the subject of the present question, carried her into Piscataqua, in the state of New-Hampshire, and libelled her before the maritime court of the said state, whereon the said vessel and cargo were by the said court condemned.

That the claimants *Elisha Doane* and others, praying an appeal to Congress, which being refused, they appealed to the superior court of New-Hampshire, where the sentence being confirmed they again prayed an appeal to Congress, which was refused, and the sentence carried into effect, by a sale and distribution of the vessel and cargo.

That on the 9th day of October 1778, the said *Elisha Doane*, petitioned Congress for a revision of the said sentence, which petition being referred to the committee of appeals, they, in May 1779, summoned the libellants to appear before them in defence of their right.

That on the 22d of the same month, Congress resolved, that certain resolutions of theirs, of March 6th, 1779, relative to their control over all jurisdictions in cases of capture on the high seas, should be transmitted to the several states, and they be respectfully requested to take effectual measures for conforming therewith. That they were accordingly transmitted to the state of New Hampshire, the legislature whereof, by their act of November 1779, extended the licence of appeal to Congress, to every case wherein any subject of any foreign nation in amity with the United States, should be interested in the dispute, and allowed it no further. That in May 1780, a court of appeals was established by Congress, with jurisdiction over all matters respecting appeals in cases of capture, then depending before Congress, or the commissioners of appeals consisting of members of Congress. That all these transactions were prior to the completion of the confederation, which took place on the 11th day of March 1781. That on the 17th of September 1783, the court of appeals proceeding to consider the case of the said *Elisha Doane*, and others against the brigantine *Lufannah*, John Penhallow, libellant, and to reverse the said sentence passed by the inferior and superior courts of New-Hampshire;—whereupon your committee have come to the following resolution.

Resolved, That the said capture having been made by citizens of New-Hampshire, carried in and submitted to the jurisdiction of that state, before the completion of the confederation, while appeals to Con-