the capture of Mehadia having rendered the Turks supine, they were surprised by general Wartensleben on one side, and by the emperor on the other, and paid dearly for their inattention and temerity. But this account as yet wants confirmation; it is also defective in time and place.

Another private letter from the emperor's army, dated August 28, says expressly, that the Turks were beaten, and lost between 13 and 14,000 men.

Extract of a letter from St. Omers, September 25.

"I can now from good authority inform you, that the designs and machinations are such as to render it necessary to watch them with the closest attention. M. Neckar finding that the spirit of the people is become superior to the will of the crown, looks forward to the support of the country gentlemen to keep him in office. For this end a general assembly of the states will certainly take place in January, when the public revenues and expenditures will be candidly laid before them. He has, on the credit of this measure, already borrowed five millions sterling for the present exigencies; and this sum was subscribed at Paris in a few hours without difficulty. The commercial treaty with England will certainly fall to the ground, and with it, I fear, the tranquillity of Europe; and in that case the troops now on their march to the Austrian Netherlands, will be ready to pour into Holland, and prevent their affording Great-Britain any material assistance.

"It is a fact that Mr. Neckar has proposed to the king of France to come forward in that assembly, and voluntarily limit his expences to the bounds of a civil list, to save the states the trouble of doing it themselves. The king readily assented—the queen opposed it—in vain—it must be done. The sums of money known to be transmitted to the emperor, are mentioned to her as arguments to her being passive. The last golden heap sent to his imperial majesty amounts to 500,000 louis d'ors. It was stopped on the confines of Alsace by the watchful Vergennes.—This was to him a fatal measure——he died soon after!"

The new settlement of Prince of Wales's Island, near the coast of Malacca, in India, is become a very valuable acquisition to the East-India Company. It is the market for the sale of the Company's opium to the eastern nations, and is resorted to by their shipping. It has a very good harbour, and has now a regular establishment of military from our possessions in Bengal.

Extract of a letter from Vienna, dated Sept. 17, the latest in England.

"The manner in which the Turks have acted since their irruption into the Bannat, proves they have not proceeded without first forming a plan, and that they are thoroughly acquainted with military tactics, but the Austrian troops, and their chief, will thereby acquire more glory if they triumph.

"However, the fatal hour, contrary to all expectation, is still deferred, and it is very difficult to say for what reason, as we see the Turks advancing further into our provinces every day, and successively making themselves masters of the different posts they attack. It is pretended the Austrians mean to draw them as far in as possible, in order the bettet to cut off their retreat, as well as to defer a general action, until their troops in Croatia, and the reserve at Semlin, have joined to cut off their communication with the Danube. The position of the Turks will then be critical, and will decide the whole war; but this has not happened.

"The emperor has changed the design he had of fixing his head-quarters at Caransebes, and has established them at Nugos, this latter place being further in his own country, and nearer Temeswar. He has taken this position professedly to secure a retreat for the army in case of unforeseen accidents, and preparations have already been made in the fortress for that purpose. It is perceived thereby he does not place a false confidence, but calculates equally on defeat and victory. The precautions are carried to the point of providing for the defence of the fortress d'Arad, which garrison is augmented with two divisions.

"We learn, by our private letters, that the army in Croatia has undertaken the siege of Novi; and the troops in Esclavonia, that of Turkish Gradiska, both which it is the general hope here, will not require so much pain and loss as Dubicza; after these enterprises the troops are to unite in undertaking the more important conquest of Banjaluka.

"Notwithstanding the long chain of mountains (many of whose tops are hid by the clouds) the large forests and steep rocks which naturally defend Transylvania, the Turks surmount all those obstacles—these Turks who are reported to be without strength, energy or courage, and incapable of fatigue!

"Even our court has been obliged to publish this bad news, and to confirm their forcing the defiles of d'Oitos, which inevitably renders a decisive action necessary in the Bannat.

"Our advices of the 12th mention, the armies still remained near each other; but they express a doubt of the grand vizier passing the Danube with the rest of his army, which step we consider very impolitic on his part.

"As to the conquest of Jassy, it is of little importance, being open on all sides, and without any defence whatever, besides having no inhabitants.

"However, if Choczim surrenders in consequence, it is expected, the good will follow of having part of our armies, either Russian or Austrian, at liberty to succour Transylvania."

BASSATERRE, *October 29.*

Extract of a letter from St. Eustatius, to a gentleman here, October 22.

"By authentic accounts from Martinique, we are informed, that count Damas demanded a free gift of the council, of 2,000,000 livres, for the use of government: that body being composed of planters, laid it entirely on the commercial people, whom they selected in different classes; the first, consisting of four, to pay 25 Joes each; the second (of which there was a large number) 20 Joes each; and the most inconsiderable shopkeeepers, at 10 Joes each. Every store was shut up; but 300 men with fixed bayonets brought them to reason, and the *free gift* was paid at the point of the *bayonet*.—This is law, mais pas justice!"

SHELBURNE, *(N. S.) November 6.*

The accounts brought by the Tankerville packet, are chiefly of the storm in the north, which apppears to thicken very fast, and in all probability will shortly involve not only all the northern powers, but will oblige the southern powers of Europe to take part in it. The disturbances in France seem for the present to subside, the king having given way by a change in his ministry, and by receiving and answering satisfactorily, the last remonstrance from Bretagne, in consequence of which there had been great public rejoicings at Paris.—However, experience proves, that the flame of faction once kindled and sanctified by a gratification of its demands, is not scarcely ever totally extinguished; and history proves, particularly of Charles I. that however a king by giving way for quietness sake, to those he has pronounced seditious, may lull the storm for a while, yet that he never does it, but to his own ruin in the end.

NEW-YORK, *November 25.*

A letter from a gentleman at Newton, dated October 27, 1788, to the Printer of the American Mercury.

"On Friday evening the 17th instant, a meteor or terrestial comet was observed here, with great rapidity, to pass over a large tract of the hemisphere, in a direction (as is commonly said) from north-east to south-west, of which, however, I was not myself a spectator, but plainly heard the report, which seemed like the rumbling of distant thunder, or the crashing noise of a number of cannon discharged at a distance; which crashing continued about the space (as I judged) of 5 seconds. But the most accurate account of this phænomenon I receive from New-Milford, which is about 16 miles north from this town, from an observer of good intelligence, who, during the whole time it was in his view, was under good advantages for making observations, and was very careful to do it; from whose mouth I received the whole, and on which I rely as being the truth. His account is, as to substance, as follows:—That, half after six by his watch, he saw the meteor in a direction about 16 degrees north of east, and about 30 above the horizon; whence it formed its trajectory path so as to cross the meridian about 7 degrees south of the zenith, from which it apparently descended to within about 30 degrees of the western horizon, and disappeared. From this account it must have passed over an arch of the hemisphere of 115 degrees: All which he judged was performed in the space of 5 seconds of time. The report, by a watch strictly observed, was not heard till 4 1-2 minutes after the visible eruption of fire ceased: It drew after it a tail of considerable length; and from its body were constantly exhibited large emications or eruptions of fire, like the appearance of sky-rockets in the air—and he judged that the angle subtended at the eye, by the body or nucleus, was somewhat larger than that subtended by the body of the sun. Thus far as to matters of fact, as known by actual observation.

Remarks. Admitting the above related facts to be true, the following deductions upon mathematical and philosophical principles are clear and obvious, viz.—That the meteor, while under observation, was distant from the observer at New-Milford, 58 miles and 128 rods—that its perpendicular distance from the earth's surface, was 57 miles and 9 tenths—that the real diameter of its body, supposing it to be appearance equal to that of the sun (which, however, may perhaps be somewhat doubtful) was half a mile and eleven rods—that the space passed over while under observation, viz. in 5 seconds, was 144 miles and 4 tenths, which is at the rate of 28 miles and 9 tenths in one second, or 1733 miles, very nearly in one minute. Which velocity is at least 134 times so great as that of sound.

At this rate, had this terrestial comet continued to preserve the same velocity, distance from the earth, and line of direction, over its surface, as when within our view, it would have gone round the whole globe of our earth in the space of every 14 minutes and 21 seconds; and thus it would become to us a fresh visitant four times at least in every hour.

But as 'tis probable that the orbit of this fugitive body is very eliptical, and in its course greatly eccentric, 'tis likely, that, when it comes within observation, it is at or very near its PERIGEE, or that point in its orbit nearest the earth, where its velocity is, by far, the greatest of all. So that since that time, it has been, most probably, making its way out from the earth, and will continue to recede further and further from it, but with a motion constantly retarded, and in a parabolic curve but a little variant from a tangent to the earth's surface, till it wholly stops in that direction, having then arrived at its APOGEE, or most distant part of its orbit. After which it will again, in a smaller curve, begin to make its way slowly towards the earth, but with an accelerated velocity, till it comes again within the regions of our atmosphere, passing through it with rapid velocity as of late it has done.—But at what distance of time, or to what part of the globe it will nextly appear, whether in this or the other opposite hemisphere; and at what lengths it may then have travelled out into the remote and empty regions of boundless space, must as yet remain among the unexplored *arcana* of Him, by whose power and wisdom the whole machinery of the universe is upholden, directed and governed: though it may perhaps, be thought not probable, that, even in its greatest evagation from the earth will ever be carried so remote as to fall within the limits of the orbit of the planet VENUS or even to half that distance."

PHILADELPHIA, *December 4.*

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Bermuda, to his friend in this city, dated 3d November, 1788.

"We have a change of governors, our former one is called home on business so important, that he has taken his passage at this season of the year. Our late one has orders to garrison the island, in the strongest manner possible, not one place is omitted a fortification that is any ways necessary—but for what reason I cannot tell. We have a great quantity of military stores lately arrived, and a greater supply expected, with a number of troops, and three guard-ships of forty guns each."

Senators for the United States already chosen:
New-Hampshire—John Langdon, Dr. Bartlett.
Massachusetts—James Bowdoin, Caleb Strong.
Connecticut—W. S. Johnson, O. Ellsworth.
New-Jersey—William Patterson, J. Elmer.
Pennsylvania—Robert Morris, William Maclay.
Delaware—George Read, Richard Basset.
Virginia—William Greyson, Richard Henry Lee.

CHARLESTON, *November 12.*

The following improved culture of cabbages, according to the Kentish method, described in the abridgement of Young's Six Months' Tour, may prove acceptable to our readers: If the cabbages run too fast, they should be pricked out once before the transplantation, three feet asunder in the rows, and three feet from plant to plant in the rows. If dry weather comes they require watering. In three weeks after planting they should be horse-hoed, and afterwards hand-hoed around the plants; those operations are repeated as the weeds arise, generally from three to five horse-hoeings. In England the cabbages reared by this mode of cultivation are the largest of the cabbage kind.

PETERSBURG, *November 20.*

Extract of a letter from North-Carolina, dated November 15.

"I thank you for the papers which you were pleased to favour me with, and am happy to find the legislature of your state so disposed to call a national convention for the purpose of considering on the proposed amendments to the new government. The positive and determined resolution which still seems to prevail here, of declining to accept it as it now stands, I fear will not prove so favourable to the political character of this state, as I could wish—but however some characters may view our conduct, I am well assured that no man in our convention, had the most distant idea of breaking off from the union—and I trust we shall never be found wanting in raising our supplies, or affording the necessary assistance to promote the interest of the Thirteen United States. I have heard, with concern, the many illiberal reports that have gone forth to our prejudice—but such measures are by no means calculated to preserve peace and harmony among us. If the friends to the new government wish to establish the union upon a firm basis, they will readily join in bringing about another convention to reconsider the subject, in order to render it mutually satisfactory—and if it should then be found defective, I am sure they would prove enemies, instead of friends, to the union, if they did not join heart and hand, in removing such parts as may appear exceptionable."

ANNAPOLIS, *December 11.*

The election of senators to represent this state in the congress of the United States, has for some time engaged the attention of the public. The senate proposed, and the house of delegates agreed, that the two senators to represent this state should be elected by a *joint ballot* of both houses, and that no person should be elected a senator for this state, *unless by a majority of the attending members of both houses.* The senate consists of fifteen members and the house of delegates of seventy-six. Tuesday was appointed for the election, and on that day there attended 13 members in the senate, and seventy in the house of delegates. By a resolution of the general assembly it was declared, that one senator should be a resident of the western, and the other of the eastern shore. The honourable Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, and Uriah Forrest, Esquires, were put in nomination for the western shore, and the honourable John Henry and George Gale, Esquires, for the eastern shore. On striking the ballots the numbers stood thus——

The Honourable	JOHN HENRY	41,
Honourable	GEORGE GALE	41,
Honourable	URIAH FORREST	41,
Honourable	CHARLES CARROLL	40.

There being 83 ballots, and neither of the candidates having a majority of the two houses, a second ballot was taken, and thereupon the numbers were——

Honourable	JOHN HENRY	42,
Honourable	GEORGE GALE	40,
Honourable	CHARLES CARROLL	41,
Honourable	URIAH FORREST	41.

And thereupon the honourable John Henry, Esquire, was declared duly elected one of the senators to represent this state in the congress of the United States.

The two houses adjourned until Wednesday, and a ballot was again taken, and the numbers stood thus—

The Houourable	CHARLES CARROLL	42,
Honourable	URIAH FORREST	39.

And thereupon the honourable Charles Carroll, Esquire, was declared duly elected.

Extract of a letter from George-town, dated December 2, 1788.

"On the 29th November, 1788, came through the Shanandore Falls, a boat sixty feet keel, with ninety-six barrels of flour; the boat belongs to a captain Brady, who came down to Mr. Crawford's or Mrs. Hawkins's landing, above the Great Falls, and this