

settlement at Sierra Leona, is an aged black man, whose life has been a continued scene of adventures, hair-breadth 'scapes, &c. He was originally brought from Cape Coast by a Liverpool trader, and sold to the West-Indies, from whence he got on board one of his majesty's ships, and served a number of years. He was so remarkable for his activity, that he jumped into the sea, and with a long knife dispatched a large shark, that was so formidable in a harbour of the West-Indies, that few of the seamen could bathe without imminent danger, and for which, as it prevented a number of desertions, he got a mercileis flogging. He afterwards belonged to a Jamaica merchantman, where he was the means of saving the lives of the crew, consisting of 30 persons, as, through being becalmed near a month at sea, the stock of provisions was expended; the ship abounding with rats, he was the only person on board who took the hazardous method of catching them, by anointing his hands with oil; he then lay on his back with his eyes shut, and his arms extended in the hold, where impelled by hunger, these vermin would lick his hands, when he was sure by a method peculiar to himself to grapple with them. These the exigency of the situation compelled the crew to eat till they got a better wind. He has been several times shipwrecked, and once escaped when all the crew, except the captain and himself, perished. He succeeded unhurt another time in fixing a flag at the main-top, during an engagement in one of his majesty's ships, where three other men had been killed in the attempt. He was afterwards a drummer in a regiment of horse in Germany, and had his drum shot through in an action without receiving any personal damage. He was a slave in Pennsylvania, and afterwards an overseer of them. This servile situation (though he had been in England several years a bricklayer's labourer, &c. previous to his late embarkation for Sierra Leona) from the kind treatment of his owner, a Quaker near Philadelphia, he declares to have been the happiest part of his life. His means of obtaining a livelihood at present, are as singular as the rest of his adventures, viz. by selling fish that he procures by grouping with his hands, procuring worms, paste, &c. for angling, catching moles, and picking up wool in the fields.

Oct. 12. We learn by authentic letters from Petersburg, dated the 8th, that the Russian court is not only induced through the medium of the king of Prussia, to agree to a suspension of arms with Sweden, but also, out of respect to the said mediation, to forget all that has passed, on condition that Sweden does not accept of the mediation between Russia and the Porte; that she disarms her fleet; and that the king of Prussia takes upon him to guarantee the execution of these conditions. Both the Russian and Prussian ministers here do not scruple to say that peace will soon be re-established in the north under these conditions.

France is negotiating with Sweden, at a time when she appears as if she would take no part in the present contest between that power and Russia. Prince Charles de Rohan Rochfort has a private commission to treat personally with his Swedish majesty, upon business which is of too delicate a nature to be communicated even to the French ambassador in ordinary. The prince is assisted in this business by the baron de Ferre.

In Germany there is not the least prospect of peace; on the contrary, the emperor is actually negotiating with the different princes of the empire for hiring large bodies of their troops.

Oct. 14. Advice is this instant received of a general and bloody engagement between the imperialists and the grand vizier's army; the conflict was dreadful—the palm of victory was very obstinately contended for, and the event was long doubtful. It terminated, however, in the defeat of the Ottoman army. The emperor was the whole time in the hottest part of the battle, had two horses shot under him, and received a wound in the shoulder, but it is not thought to be dangerous. It is probable this decisive engagement will put a period to the campaign.

The carnage was uncommonly great on both sides; the number of Turks killed and wounded is prodigious.

Letters were yesterday received in the city from Mr. Fenwick, his majesty's consul at Elsinour, which state, that 6000 Danish auxiliary troops, on their march to Udevala from Frederickshall, had fallen in with 600 Swedes, who, disputing their passage, a skirmish ensued, when ten Swedes were killed, and the remainder taken prisoners.

The emperor has strengthened the house of Austria by another alliance, which will secure the tranquillity of his Italian dominions, and of the great dukedom of Tuscany, belonging to his brother. A treaty of marriage has been concluded between his royal highness the duke d'Aoste, second son to the king of Sardinia, and her royal highness the arch-duchess Teresa, eldest daughter to his royal highness arch-duke Ferdinand, of Austria. This prince, who is governor of Austrian Lombardy, for his brother the emperor of Germany, is the same who was on a visit to this country the summer before last; and because he was governor of Milan and the Milanese, was generally, though improperly, called duke of Milan.

Oct. 15. By a gentleman who arrived on Friday from Copenhagen, we are informed that the court of Denmark has hitherto been stopped in joining vigorously with Russia against Sweden, by the sole mediation of his Britannic majesty, who is much respected by his nephew the prince royal. The empress, however, has been pretty liberal in her presents to the leading men of that kingdom, besides promising an addition of territory to the Dane, should he step boldly forward. "What is singular," adds this gentleman, "is, that the king, though accounted pusillanimous, is eager for the war, while the prince, although brave, active and wise, is only for keeping strictly to the treaty between that nation and Russia, although he is at the same time

zealous in recruiting the army, and enlarging the navy."

BOSTON, December 6.

Extract of a letter to the consul of France, in this town, dated Croific (France) September 18, 1788.

"This sea-port is situated at the northern part of the mouth of the Loire, in the province of Britany: It is famous for its salt manufactories.—Salt is sold here now at 26 livres tournois, by the muid (equal in weight to 12 hogheads) free of all charges. The quality of this salt is, in the opinion of American fishermen, far superior to any other. England, Norway and the Baltic, also give preference to Croific salt.—Our wharf is very easy of access. Ships of any construction may enter it, provided they do not draw more than 14 or 15 feet; for then they must be loaded in the road, or in the river Vilaine; the expence would then be from 4 to 8 livres a hoghead, more than if they were loaded in the harbour, which is of little consideration, when compared to the delays the ships must undergo, which for want of information go to P'Orient, there to receive Croific salt, at 20 livres per muid freight, more than what it may be had here for, by applying to Messrs Francis de la Marque, and Co. who will be happy to sell their salt of the best quality, at this reasonable rate, to such *federal*-Americans who will honour them with their commands."

PROVIDENCE, November 20.

It must give pleasure to every friend to the arts and manufactures of our country to be informed, that the SLITTING-MILL erected in the neighbourhood of this town, upon an improved plan, will be completed in a few weeks—That the CARDING and SPINNING MACHINES used in Great-Britain, &c. are introduced into this town by some public-spirited gentlemen—and the domestic manufacturing increases daily, as there are few families in town but that are making cloth of different kinds—all the weaving-ooms in town (of which there are a great number) are of consequence fully employed. While we with great satisfaction take notice of these matters, we cannot help mentioning the spirit of enterprise which appears to actuate our merchants, who (under the very great disadvantage of not being able to command their property which they have credited out) are now, (in addition to the ship General Washington, which sailed from here in December last for Canton) fitting out two large ships for the Indian ocean, and a number of other vessels to different parts of the world.

NEW-YORK, December 9.

On the 27th of October, about 11 o'clock at night, the brig Phoenix, captain Wallace, being out from Vannes, in France, 44 days, struck on the Hardings, a ledge of rocks situated near the entrance of Boston harbour; between one and two o'clock the next morning she got off, and came to anchor about one mile from the place where she struck, and at six o'clock, every exertion of the crew to keep her free of water proving abortive, she sunk in about 14 fathom water. This unfortunate accident, it is supposed, was occasioned by the compass's not traversing freely, or being otherwise out of order.

Dec. 12. The exportation of rum and spirits from the British West-India islands to the United States of North-America is prohibited by a late order of the British government; a vessel that was loaded with rum about the latter end of September last, bound to this port, was obliged to reland it.

PHILADELPHIA, December 13.

So imperfect was geographical knowledge in the 14th century, that it was only conjectured that such a place as Muscovy, now Russia, was on the map of the globe; nor was it perfectly known until Archangel had been discovered by some English vessels, which were sent out to make discoveries in the northern ocean. That empire is now the largest in the world, though the greater part is nothing but wilds and uncultivated regions. Future periods will, no doubt, afford them the advantage of forming settlements on the western side of North-America, and perhaps of finding (that if at all practicable) the north-east or north-west passage to China and the Indian Ocean, as no other country is so well adapted for making attempts of that nature, from its vast and extended situation, from the Baltic to the Ocean, and separates the eastern from the western hemisphere.

A gentleman arrived at New-York from the Mississippi says, that Oliver Pollock, Esq; was safe arrived, in the month of October, in the river; and that marks of distinction were shewn him from the Spanish governor of New-Orleans, by an order lodged with the commander of the Balize (the mouth of the river) to supply him with the king's barge, men, &c. to take him to town.

While the justly-acquired laurels, the disinterested patriotism and unfulfilled character of our late illustrious commander in chief, have for ever endeared his name to Americans, and have disarmed even envy itself; while even Britons, struck with astonishment and admiration, pay a just tribute of respect to the name of Washington, in whom the character of an heroic soldier and useful citizen, no less wise in council than brave in the field, are happily united; and while the grateful voice of his country cries aloud, "our beloved General shall be the first president of our rising empire"—while all these facts, says a correspondent, conspire to prove him highly worthy of the most exalted honours his fellow-citizens can bestow, how must every generous bosom glow with indignation, how must the tried patriots of America, who know his worth, be struck with the ingratitude, the baseness, and the dark machinations of a party, who would sacrifice, at the accursed shrine of faction and political intrigue, the merits of this great and good man? For this purpose, continues our correspondent, the anti-federal party in

the States of Pennsylvania, New-York, Virginia, &c. have secretly combined to oppose the election of general Washington, to the president's chair, and to fill it with a man better calculated to serve their purpose: Every whig in America will execrate the men, who would pluck the laurels of our illustrious Fabius from his brow, to adorn that of a man, whose violent opposition to the federal constitution is his only recommendation. The person pitched upon is—PATRICK HENRY! Oh ye Gods, what a worthy competitor with a WASHINGTON!! The same party have also agreed to run governor Clinton, of New-York, for vice-president, instead of a Hancock or an Adams, who have been nominated by the friends of the constitution. Our correspondent assures us, that he has undoubted authority for these assertions, and then continues to remark, that it is highly necessary that the friends of the constitution, in every state, should be active in choosing federal electors only, who will undoubtedly elect *the Man of the People*. The day appointed by congress, for the choice of electors of a president of the United States, is the *first Wednesday* in January, throughout the union; no time, therefore, is to be lost, in counteracting measures, at once so dishonourable to their authors, and inimical to the glory, happiness, and safety of our country. Those printers of news-papers, who are anxious for the welfare of the union, are requested, by our correspondent, to republish this paragraph, that the people at large may be apprised of this last shift of the opposers of the constitution, to destroy it in *embryo*, or, at least, ere it has been suffered to have a fair and impartial trial; and that they may be enabled to baffle a plot, as base as it has been darkly conducted.

Extract of a letter from Washington county, dated November 6, 1788.

"The Indians have been very troublesome in those parts all the summer and fall—They at one time killed 16 men out of a company of 34 rangers that were out on duty,—and at another time, very lately, a body of 4 or 500 attacked a fort on the frontiers, and took it, in which there were between 40 and 50 persons. The Indians destroyed the fort, and agreeable to their usual inhuman disposition, they either burned or barbarously butchered all, without any respect to age or sex—These, with a number of other murders, have rendered our frontiers a scene of horror for some time past."

Extract of a letter from a member of the North-Carolina general assembly to his friend in this city, dated Fayetteville, November 10, 1788.

"Our general assembly is now sitting at this place. A great many of the counties have petitioned for writs of elections for a new convention, to reconsider and ratify the constitution on the part of this state. The anti-federalists are still numerous, and very many of them callous to reason. To-morrow we expect to bring forward the petitions to introduce the matter: the opposition will run high; but I am in hopes we will carry—though I believe it will be by a small majority.—If we cannot have a new convention, anarchy will most probably be the consequence."

EDENTON, (N. C.) Dec. 4.

Extract of a letter from col. Martin, to a gentleman in this town, dated Tugalov, October 22, 1788.

"Since writing his excellency last, I have had a small attack with the Creeks and Cherokees, within three hundred yards of the house I lived at. My overseer is dangerously wounded, and myself plundered of my horses. We killed one Indian, who appears to be a Creek. I am confined here, waiting an answer from the Cherokees, which I expect by the 2d of next month, and then I think all hostilities will cease on their part. As soon as our talks are over, I shall hurry down to the assembly, if I can get a horse able to carry me, they being very scarce in this country, as the Indians have been pillaging ever since spring."

RICHMOND, December 11.

On Monday night 24th ult. a most daring piracy was committed by two villains on the schooner Nancy, Solomon Ashby, master, on her voyage to Baltimore. These men boarded said vessel late in the evening, armed with muskets, which they presented to the master and the hands on board (consisting of two young lads only) with menaces of instant death if any resistance was made. The master very fortunately made his escape in the boat which conveyed these fellows to the schooner. It being extremely dark, no particular description of the men can be given; and, as the vessel has not since been seen or heard of, the master conjectures that on their discovering he had made his escape, they proceeded instantly to sea.—The above schooner is American built; her frame and top timbers all of red cedar, and her burthen about one hundred and twenty barrels; her cargo consisted of turpentine, tar, rosin, flaxseed, bees wax, bear skins, otter skins, fish and shingles. Her bottom is painted with a Spanish brown, her sides yellow, and her quarters and stern green; her cabin is of a lead colour, and has three good births; the names of the two lads belonging to her were Stephen Fletcher and John Corington.—This little vessel was the sole property of captain Ashby, with which he got a living, to support himself and a numerous family, and being a case of humanity, it is hoped the different printers will insert the above, which may be a means of bringing these daring pirates to condign punishment.

BALTIMORE, December 19.

We have authentic advice from North-Carolina, that on the 18th of last month, it was unanimously agreed in the senate, and by a large majority of the commons house of assembly of that state, to choose five members from each county, and one from each borough-town, to meet on the third Monday in November next, at such place as shall be appointed for the meeting of the next general assembly, then and there to deliberate and de-

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