clusive privilege for trading to Suez, by way of the Red Sea, in consequence of which a vessel sailed very lately from port L'Orient for Bengal, to carry a cargo thither. The same channel of information suggests the propriety and indeed necessity of considering, whether this may not eventually interfere with that very lucrative branch of trade carried on for coffee, along the coast of Arabia, by the English East-India Company, who have found it answer their purpose to send a ship every year to Gedi with these intentions. The navigation of the Red Sea is so precarious as to afford frequent occasion to touch at the different ports from the Straits of Babelmandel to Suez, of which our industrious rivals will not fail to avail themselves.

VICAR VERSUS FISHMONGER.

The vicar ordered home a lobster, as red and as plump as his own gills. The order was complied with, and served up to table, where one of the large claws was discovered to have been wanting. An inquisition was immediately set on foot amongst the servants, to find out who was the depredator. The link of evidence turning out favourable to all the servants, it was evident that the animal was sent home in that maimed condition by the fishmonger. The vicar, unable to digest the imposition, arose from table and walked almost the whole length of Grosvenor-street agitated by a furious tornado of passions. When he came up to the shop, the fishmonger was employed there.—"Sir," says the rosy churchman, "you have imposed upon me."—"How?"—"You sent me a lobster home that wanted a claw."—"That may be, and I have not imposed upon you, for I sent it as I got it, and in the same condition in which you bought it; but you have often imposed upon me, and thousands besides, though I never complained till now."—"I! impose on you! how?"—"I have frequently gone to the church in the square, to hear you preach a good sermon, when not only I, but every person present, found ourselves most egregiously imposed upon, for there never dropped one word from your lips, that belonged to a good sermon, or any thing like it."—The loss of the claw, added to this insult, was too great an aggravation to the parson's incensed feelings; he hurried away out of the shop, in order to regulate his passions already too much irritated with ridicule, and calmly rushed into Mount's coffee-house, as an asylum. There he met general Burgoyne and a few other gentlemen, to whom he related the indignity offered to his rank and character. The general smiled, and all the gentlemen laughed, the waiters sneered and the bar maid tittered. What was to be done now?——The story was too good a one to be dropped instantaneously, and the laugh was so general that the keeper of the coffee-house lost his reverence's custom for the space of some months.

Dec. 11. The present calamitous situation of his majesty's health has contributed more than any other public event to shew the character and principles of the men who compose the opposition in this country, *as their eagerness to get into power* has induced them to try all possible artifices, in order to represent his recovery *as impossible*, notwithstanding the medical opinions which have been given on this interesting circumstance, and the favourable symptoms derived from other sources, which sanction a contrary expectation. The indecency with which the sovereign has been treated in this respect will, however, tend to bring them into still greater contempt than has hitherto been attached to them, and even if the circumstances of his majesty's health were as they represent, the great character whom they doubtless attempt to please by it, must behold the scandalous freedom they adopt with proper indignation and abhorrence, nor consent to patronize men, who in their zeal for their own advantage, trample upon humanity, and every sentiment of loyal respect.

NEW-YORK, *February* 19.

The 9th inst. arrived at B ston, the schooner ——, captain Coleman, in three days from Halifax. It is said that captain Coleman brings intelligence, that two vessels belonging to Halifax, having contraband goods on board, have been seized, and that several small boats are upon the look out, which are commissioned to search every vessel that enters the harbour of Halifax.

Abstract of a letter from Robert Montgomery, to his excellency John Jay, Esq; dated Alicant, November 4, 1788.

"I have this day received advice from Algiers, that the DEY is dead, since the middle of last month—and our friend the MIKELNARGE, and afterwards minister of state, has the fairest prospect to succeed to that dignity—of which I shall advise you immediately, as I can get further information of that important change, which, if congress thinks proper to improve, there is the greatest probability of getting peace with that regency on moderate terms."

Extract of a letter from Edenton, in North-Carolina, January 22, 1788.

"Our state on all occasions has shewn the utmost attention to the settlers in the Western Country. They have lately caused a road to be cut at the public expence, from the borders of the old settlement to Nashville on Cumberland river, and have ordered a guard for the protection of emigrants. The good effects of those measures will appear from the official notification of col. Robertson, which is annexed in his own words, viz.

"THE public are informed, that the new road from Campbell's station, at the lower end of Clinch mountain, to Nashville, was opened on the 25th of September (as advertised) and the guard attended at that time to escort such persons as were there ready to proceed to Nashville: That about sixty families appeared and went on, among whom was the widow and family of the late brigadier general Davidson, and the judge of the superior court for the counties of Davidson and Sumner, and that on the first day of October next the guard will attend at the same place for the same purpose. This road is much better, and nearer by 150 miles, than that by the way of Kentucky, the distance being only 182 miles from Campbell's station to Nashville.

JAMES ROBERTSON,
Lt. Col. Comm. Davidson county.

Fayetteville, November 22, 1788.

Captain Edmund Howes, of Boston, lately received the following intelligence, which he was requested to communicate to the public.

SIR,

YOU are desired to publish in the papers, that the schooner Nancy, said to be taken from Mr. Solomon Ashley, in a piratical manner, on the coast of Virginia, as mentioned in the papers the beginning of last month, is stopped, and the vessel and cargo (at least that part which has not been disposed of) is taken care of, and the men committed to gaol. The vessel and cargo answers the descriptions which have been given, except some matters relating to the cargo, which the men have sold.—The persons taken in the vessel, call their names James Brown and William Davis. The vessel is now in the old harbour of Chatham, in the county of Barnstable.

We, the subscribers, have examined the above mentioned men, and committed them as aforesaid.

JOSEPH DOANE,
JOSEPH SNOW.

N. B. The vessel and cargo are in the care of the said Joseph Doane, at Chatham.

Feb. 23. Letters received by the last Albany post communicate the happy and long expected account of the two houses having agreed to appoint senators to represent the state in congress; and that a committee was appointed for that purpose.

Extract of a letter from Pittsburgh, to a gentleman in this city, February 4, 1789.

"I am much in doubt whether the treaty will answer any good purpose, as the principal Indians have not attended, as it is said. The non-attendance of Brant, is suspected to have no good appearance. The bad weather has prevented the commissioners from coming up the river. A few days ago, about thirty miles from this place, a party of Indians robbed the contractors of a quantity of goods and provision on their way to Fort Franklin. It is also reported that some men have been killed on their way to Muskingum."

PITTSBURGH, *January* 31.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in this country, to his friend in Lancaster county.

"Hearing you had an intention to remove from Lancaster county, I would offer you my opinion respecting the new settlements that are at present forming on the Western waters, but we are such a strange medley of beings, that it is very rarely two of us are of the same opinion; however, be that as it may, I conceive your curiosity must be awakened, and shall therefore give you an account of them, which I think I am enabled to do with accuracy, having travelled through the greater part, and observing with great attention the qualities of the soil.—The Muskingum river and its dependencies, where the New-England people are about to establish their settlement, is a well watered country, but the lands have the same fault with those on the Monongahela river, being much broken. That tract of country, between the two Miami rivers, which judge Symmes is about to settle, is delightfully situated, the lands in general are as level as you would wish, and well watered, I think it is as well calculated for farming as any land in the United States. The Illinois and Wabash countries are, by far the handsomest I ever saw, but every thing considered, I would prefer the Kentucky and Cumberland settlements, to any I have yet seen on the Western waters; though perhaps I may be somewhat prejudiced in favour of them, as my interest is there, and indeed I don't know but it may be the case, for I have been often called upon to give my opinion which was the best country, the Miami, Kentucky, Wabash or Illinois, and found myself at a loss to determine.

"Land may be purchased in Kentucky from twenty to one hundred pounds per hundred acres, on Cumberland river from ten to fifty pounds per hundred acres, and on the Miamias at seven pounds ten shillings per hundred acres; the price of land at Illinois and Wabash I cannot tell, as no rights have yet been granted, but from a resolution of congress which I saw in a news-paper the other day, I think the next summer will be an excellent time to speculate on these lands."

PHILADELPHIA, *February* 16.

The board of commerce at Stockholm, having communicated to me his Swedish majesty's order, to discontinue the difference, which has been usual, in the imposts on goods, in Swedish and in foreign vessels, I have to give notice, that all neutral nations, in consequence of said ordinance, enjoy the same privileges in commercial concerns in Sweden, as the natives.

CHARLES HELLSTEDT,
Swedish Consul.

Extract of a letter from London, dated December 3.

"I hope you are not concerned in any of the voyages from your country to Asia; you may rest assured that very pointed orders have been sent by the board of control to the different presidencies, to prevent the American ships from trading at the settlements belonging to the British East-India Company."

Extract of a letter from a gentleman at Marietta, near the confluence of the Ohio and Muskingum rivers, to his correspondent in Newport, Rhode-Island, dated 14*th December*, 1788.

"This place, in good weather, is delightful indeed. How can it be otherwise, situated at the confluence of such grand and beautiful rivers, in a mild and prolific climate, and blessed with a soil capable of such variety of productions.—The ancient remains, of which you have heard so much, are truly astonishing—when I first entered the forest where they are situated, I felt emotions similar to those on first walking the rounds of Westminster-Abbey—where kings, philosophers and heroes rest: I seemed to be treading on sacred ground; and a peculiar kind of awe was excited in contemplating works erected so many ages ago, over which such lofty trees now wave their majestic heads. Mr. Webster's conjectures respecting them are generally exploded, and they are supposed, not without reason, to be much more ancient than he makes them.—For what purpose the great mound was erected is uncertain, whether as an altar, or place of religious ceremony, or else a tower, it being surrounded by a circular ditch or wall of earth.—By what people, capable of such regular works, this excellent region has been heretofore inhabited, is as uncertain—perhaps by a colony of Mexicans.

"Yesterday near 200 of our tawny brethren arrived at Fort Harmar, to hold a treaty with the governor, &c. They are of various tribes,—Senecas, Chippewas, Wyandots, Delawares, Shawanese, Tattawas, Potowatamas, &c. &c. They proceeded down the banks of Muskingum (many on horseback) and as they approached the garrison with the American flag displayed, fired their rifles up into the air. The salute was returned from the garrison by a constant fire of cannon and musketry, much resembling a real action, and caused the old officers at Campus Martius to stand on tip-toe at the sound.—After being escorted into the garrison, with music playing, &c. some speeches were made by the chiefs, expressing, in pathetic terms, the high sense they entertained of the cordial reception.—In short, there is every omen of a happy issue to the business: for a report has gone forth among the tribes, as far as Detroit, &c. that we are quite a different kind of people from any they have been accustomed to deal with.

"The friendly and steady conduct of the settlers here towards the Indians, has secured them their opinion and regard—Nor let me pass in silence the kind offices of the benevolent J. Heckenwalder, a Moravian missionary whose influence among the Delawares is very great—I have the pleasure of an acquaintance with this worthy character, who is held in such high esteem by all who know his virtues.

"There were some men here last week from Virginia, who came to reconnoitre the ground, with a view of laying out a road, direct as may be from Alexandria to the Ohio;—and they find it will be the best to have it come out opposite the Muskingum. A sum is already voted for the above purpose, more than sufficient, in the opinion of those men to make a good road—the practicability far exceeding their expectations. This, when effected, will undoubtedly prove a great advantage to this settlement—the distance being but a little more than 300 miles to Alexandria, and much shorter to the navigable waters of Patowmack."

WILMINGTON, *February* 21.

In Chester county, near Birmingham meeting-house, is now living, Mrs. Mary Newlin, born near the same place, who completed her hundredth year the 10th inst. She rose that morning, eat a piece of bread and butter, (which has been her custom these many years) made her bed, put her room in order, sat down to her wheel, and spun four cuts of tow yarn that day. Her faculties appear unimpaired, her hearing and sight as good as many at 60 years old. The day that she was 100, her daughter, with whom she now lives, was precisely 76 years of age—They have never lived one year separate.

GEORGE-TOWN, *February* 19.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Fayetteville, (N. C.) to his friend in Frederick-town, dated January 1, 1789.

"The commonwealth of Franklin is no more.—Typton with his party, in the absence of governor Sevier, surprised the metropolis and carried off all the public offices, records, &c.—By a number of commissions, found amongst those papers, it appears, that most of the officers under Sevier's administration resigned their trust, previous to this fatal catastrophe taking place; whether this will restore peace and good order, on the western side of the mountains, is yet doubtful. Sevier with a corps of 500 riflemen, has taken up his winter quarters in the heart of the Cherokee nation; after burning, killing and destroying, all that came in his way.—Unmindful and unacquainted with the great revolutions that took place at home; his excellency, like Charles the XIIth, king of Sweden, is fond of foreign conquest, while victory crowns his arms in distant parts, he loses his own country, and very probable his life at last in defence of it. Our assembly is now sitting, and a bill has been brought in the house for calling a new convention; its fate is yet unknown."

The following economical law, of the new state of Franklin, found amongst the public papers, serves as a pattern to those states, whose civil lists have become a burden to its inhabitants.

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY, STATE of FRANKLIN, October 15, 1788.

WHEREAS the collecting of taxes in specie, for the want of a circulating medium, has become very oppressive to the good people of this commonwealth: And whereas, it is the duty of the legislature to hear at all times the prayers of their constituents, and apply as speedy a remedy as lays in their power; Be it enacted by the general assembly of the state of Franklin, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, that from the first day of January anno domini 1789, the salaries of the civil officers of this commonwealth be as follow, to wit:

His excellency the governor per annum 1000 deer skins; his honour the cheif justice 500 ditto ditto; the