The new (American) states have never received such civilities from Europe, as they experience at this moment, for, on the one hand, Great-Britain is courting their friendship, while Spain is making pressing overtures for an alliance on the other. A great number of merchant ships, laden with stores, for Jamaica, are on the point of sailing from the river without any kind of convoy.

The negotiation with Spain, too dubious from its commencement to the present hour, is now, if we may trust to appearances, nearly at a close. Every symptom is such as to indicate an approaching rupture. Those who yet indulge a lingering hope of peace say, that the return of the messenger, who was dispatched on the 3d inst. is still to be expected; but to this the reply is, that an armed negotiation, such as the present, has been on the part of Spain, as well as England, is seldom fertile of concession, and the late fall of stock, has sufficiently shewn the declining hope of the public on this subject.

BOSTON, *November* 27.

Latest intelligence from Spain.

The following intelligence may be depended on—it coming from one of the most respectable and well informed houses in Spain—to a gentleman in this town.

" *Cadiz, September* 28, 1790.

" Negotiation still continues between this court and that of Great-Britain—of the success of which people think and talk variously. If we are to judge from the actions of both parties, an immediate war seems inevitable: In each they are arming with the utmost vigour and activity; particularly since the national assembly of France hath ordered, that 45 sail of the line, besides frigates, be immediately got ready to assist Spain, in case of a war. The squadron which returned into this port the 8th instant, is getting ready with all expedition, to proceed to sea—AND EVERY SHIP IN THE SPANISH NAVY IS ORDERED INTO COMMISSION—and we working on them without intermission even of Sunday.

" Hostilities have taken place between us and the emperor of Morocco.—Two cruisers of the latter have been brought into this port within these few days—and two or three others have been carried into neighbouring ports. The Moors are preparing to attack Ceuta, where there is a garrison of 12,000 men. Indeed it is expected they will assail all the cities belonging to Spain on the African coast."

There are accounts in town, said to have been received via Halifax, that the duke of Clarence, third son of his Britannick majesty, had lately been killed in a duel, with a captain of a 74, in the British navy. The prince commanded a 74 gun ship.

Governor Robinson and colonel Bradley are talked of as senators from Vermont, in the congress of the United States.

BENNINGTON, *November* 22.

On Tuesday last the following melancholy and very distressing accident, happened in Shaftsbury, at the house of Mr. John Fenning: Mr. Fenning being employed in building a new back to his chimney, and having raised it about eight feet, two of his children, boys, one of eleven, the other about seven or eight years of age, were busily engaged in building a fire, to warm them, when the top of the chimney fell, and buried the eldest in the ruins, which put an immediate period to his life—the youngest had his right leg broken, and the ancle of his left leg dislocated; his left ear cut partly off, and his head considerably bruised; but is likely to recover. Mrs. Fenning hearing the noise, and observing the back of the chimney give way, started one step back, but not soon enough wholly to avoid danger; one of the stones struck her left hand and bruised it considerably.

PHILADELPHIA, *December* 6.

A letter from London, dated the 16th of October, mentions; That the appearances of war had rapidly increased the preceding week, and that things became more serious and approached nearer to a crisis—nothing, however, had been finally determined on. Spain, it was said, had yielded a little, and England, in proportion, increased her demands. The best informed could only conjecture what might be the result. Strong detachments were to be sent to the West-Indies in case of war, and offensive operations to take place there. That in consequence of the large contracts for rum, the price had risen from 3s. 6d. to 4s. 6d.—The harvest in England was very plentiful, and in consequence of the fall in the price of grain, considerable exports were to be made to the West-Indies.

Extract of a letter from Pittsburg, dated November 18.

" We have this day had intelligence by a half-blooded Indian, who is come in from the Indian country, that general Harmer has taken the Miami town without resistance.

" The person who brings this account left Detroit the 23d of October. He says the Indians attacked the army two or three times on their march, but were always repulsed with some loss.

Copy of a letter from Lewes-town, in the state of Delaware, to a gentleman in this city, (written by Mr. Burke, of South-Carolina) dated November 27, 1790.

" I am sorry to inform you, that the vessel in which I took passage from Charleston for New-York, (the sloop Friendship, Thomas Barlow, master,) was, this morning about nine o'clock, cast away in a violent gale of wind, in the bay of Delaware, about two leagues to the northward of the light-house.—We sailed from Charleston the 14th, and after meeting with head winds, and very boisterous weather, we made the land somewhere about Cape Henlopen, on the 25th. Proceeding on our course for New-York, a fierce gale of wind from the north-east obliged us to put back into the bay of Delaware, in hopes to take shelter, if we could, under Cape May. Getting into the bay, and beating in for the cape, we were descryed by a brig, with her main-top-sail handed, and other sails close reefed, standing also in for the cape. The brig made down for us, thinking we were unacquainted in the bay, and informed us, as well as we could understand, (for the roaring of the sea and wind prevented our hearing distinctly, though we were very near them) that they had a pilot on board, and bidding us to follow them, as they would at night conduct us to safe anchorage.——We accordingly kept them company through the day, and about dark they hung out a light for us. But the fury of the tempest increasing about night-fall, and pouring round us the spray of the sea like a torrent of violent rain—this, and the lowering cloudy weather, adding to the darkness of the night, we lost sight of the brig, and endeavouring to regain it, split our jib and main-sail. Our embarrassment was a serious one. Exposed to a furious tempest in Delaware bay, during a long dismal night, surrounded on every side by shoals and breakers. Without a pilot, and without sails, we were forced to put the vessel before the wind, which blew directly in for the light-house, that shone full in view of us remarkably bright. We knew not the place or direction of the shoals a-head of us; but we were convinced that we could not run long before we met some of them; and we well knew that the only chance we had of saving our lives, was, if we should be fortunate enough to beat over the first shoals, to come to anchor under the lee of it, so as to be able to ride out the gale until the morning. While we were resolving on this hazardous expedient, the breakers soon appeared in view, dark as the night was; for they rolled furiously, and white as snow, over a shoal, which we since found to be that called the Shears. The sloop entered and passed through this shoal, striking twice, and suffering no other damage but staving in her dead lights, so as to fill the cabbin about half full of water. Under this shoal we came to, with two anchors a-head. About four o'clock in the morning, the storm increasing, and raising the swell of the sea, one of the cables parted, and the other dragging on a shoal which the morning discovered to leeward of us: we saw now that nothing remained but to slip our cables, and once more to put the vessel at the mercy of the sea and wind right afore it, and try to pass through the breakers, which reached and broke violently near a mile in upon the shore. In trying this last expedient the vessel struck several times, but beat over the breakers at last, and ran aground about nine o'clock this morning. The brig which the day before had offered to conduct us into safe harbour, was herself cast away, high on the sandy beach, about a mile to the northward of us. We hear she is from Cape-François, with sugar and coffee. We were soon visited by a boat from Lewes-town, where we were conducted and treated with great kindness by the inhabitants. The pilots ashore saw our danger the evening before, and look on our escape as extraordinary—they ascribe it to our bringing the vessel to under the shoal; for had we ran in for the light-house, there cannot be a doubt but we must have been inevitably lost.—So much for attending congress *the first Monday in December*, for a southern delegate."

SHEPHERDS-TOWN, *November* 29.

Friday last was executed at Winchester, James Medlicot, for the murder of William Heffron.—Report says—some very extraordinary circumstances took place relative to this execution; but the particulars, for want of authentic information, we shall postpone until our next.——Medlicot, though hanged (it is said) is still living!!!

ANNAPOLIS, *Dec.* 16.

HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES of the UNITED STATES, Wednesday, December 8.

The house met pursuant to adjournment.

In consequence of a message from the senate, that they were ready to receive the house of representatives in their chamber.

Mr. Speaker, attended by the members of the house, about 12 o'clock withdrew to the senate chamber for the purpose expressed in the joint resolution of both houses, passed yesterday—and being returned,

Mr. Speaker laid before the house a copy of the speech delivered by the president of the United States, to both houses of congress, in the senate chamber, as follows—

Fellow Citizens of the Senate,
and House of Representatives,

IN meeting you again I feel much satisfaction in being able to repeat my congratulations on the favourable prospects which continue to distinguish our public affairs.—The abundant fruits of another year have blessed our country with plenty, and with the means of a flourishing commerce—The progress of public credit is witnessed by a considerable rise of American stock abroad as well as at home—and the revenues allotted for this and other national purposes, have been productive beyond the calculations by which they were regulated—This latter circumstance is the more pleasing, as it is not only a proof of the fertility of our resources, but as it assures us of a further increase of the national respectabity and credit; and let me add, as it bears an honourable testimony to the patriotism and integrity of the mercantile and marine part of our citizens—The punctuality of the former in discharging their engagements has been exemplary.

In conforming to the powers vested in me by the acts of the last session, a loan of three millions of florins, towards which some provisional measures had previously taken place, has been completed in Holland, as well as the celerity with which it has been filled, as the nature of the terms (considering the more than ordinary demand for borrowing created by the situation of Europe) give a reasonable hope, that the further execution of those powers may proceed with advantage and success. The secretary of the treasury has my direction to communicate such further particulars as may be requisite for more precise information.

Since your last sessions, I have received communications, by which it appears, that the district of Kentucky, at present a part of Virginia, has concurred in certain propositions contained in a law of that state; in consequence of which, the district is to become a distinct member of the union, in case the requisite sanction of congress be added.—For this sanction application is now made—I shall cause the papers on this very important transaction to be laid before you.—The liberality and harmony with which it has been conducted will be found to do great honour to both the parties; and the sentiments of warm attachment to the union and its present government, expressed by our fellow-citizens of Kentucky, cannot fail to add an affectionate concern for their particular welfare to the great national impressions under which you will decide on the case submitted to you.

It has been heretofore known to congress, that frequent incursions have been made on our frontier settlements by certain banditti of Indians, from the north-west side of the Ohio—These, with some of the tribes dwelling on and near the Wabash, have of late been particularly active in their depredations; and being emboldened by the impunity of their crimes, and aided by such parts of the neighbouring tribes as could be seduced to join in their hostilities, or afford them a retreat for their prisoners and plunder, they have, instead of listening to the humane invitations and overtures made on the part of the United States, renewed their violences with fresh alacrity and greater effect. The lives of a number of valuable citizens have thus been sacrificed, and some of them under circumstances peculiarly shocking, whilst others have been carried into a deplorable captivity.

These aggravated provocations rendered it essential to the safety of the western settlements, that the aggressors should be made sensible that the government of the union is not less capable of punishing their crimes than it is disposed to respect their rights and reward their attachments. As this object could not be effected by defensive measures, it became necessary to put in force the act which empowers the president to call out the militia for the protection of the frontiers—And I have accordingly authorised an expedition, in which the regular troops in that quarter are combined with such draughts of militia as were deemed sufficient.—The event of the measure is yet unknown to me. The secretary at war is directed to lay before you a statement of the information on which it is founded, as well as an estimate of the expence with which it will be attended.

The disturbed situation of Europe, and particularly the critical posture of the great maritime powers, whilst it ought to make us more thankful for the general peace and security enjoyed by the United States, reminds us at the same time of the circumspection with which it becomes us to preserve these blessings. It requires also that we should not overlook the tendency of war, and even of preparations for a war among the nations most concerned in active commerce with this country, to abridge the means, and thereby at least enhance the price of transporting its valuable productions to their proper markets. I recommend it to your serious reflections how far and in what mode it may be expedient to guard against embarrassments from these contingencies, by such encouragements to our own navigation as will render our commerce and agriculture less dependent on foreign bottoms, which may fail us in the very moment most interesting to both of these great objects. Our fisheries, and the transportation of our own produce, offer us abundant means for guarding ourselves against this evil.

Your attention seems to be not less due to that particular branch of our trade which belongs to the Mediterranean. So many circumstances unite in rendering the present state of it distressful to us, that you will not think any deliberations misemployed which may lead to its relief and protection.

The laws you have already passed for the establishment of a judiciary system, have opened the doors of justice to all descriptions of persons. You will consider in your wisdom whether improvements in that system may yet be made; and particularly whether an uniform process of execution on [illegible] tences issuing from the federal courts, be not de[illegible] through all the states.

The patronage of our commerce, of our merchants and seamen, has called for the appointment of consuls in foreign countries. It seems expedient to regulate by law the exercise of that jurisdiction and those functions which are permitted them, either by express convention, or by a friendly indulgence in the places of their residence. The consular convention too, with his most christian majesty, has stipulated in certain cases, the aid of the national authority to his consuls established here. Some legislative provision is requisite to carry these stipulations into full effect.

The establishment of the militia—of a mint—of standards of weights and measures—of the post-office and post-roads, are subjects, which, I presume, you will resume of course, and which are abundantly urged by their own importance.

Gentlemen of the House of Representatives,

The sufficiency of the revenues you have established for the objects to which they are appropriated, leaves no doubt that the residuary provisions will be commensurate to the other objects, for which the public faith stands now pledged. Allow me moreover to hope that it will be a favourite policy with you, not merely to secure a payment of the interest of the debt funded, but as far and as fast as the growing resources of the country will permit, to exonerate it of the principal itself. The appropriation you have made of the western lands ex-