draughts where they were, as they could not understand each other; but on the boat's going on board, the chief mate and a passenger, who talked a little English, came on board, and insisted on captain Brown's keeping company with them to Porto Rico, which he finally agreed to for the sum of eight hundred dollars, they paying all his charges. The boat went on board to see if it was agreeable to captain Molos—and in about half an hour returned with the second mate and the above passenger, bringing a paper wrote in Spanish, which, they said, was agreeable to what captain Brown had proposed, and signed by the captain, supercargo and both mates. Captain Brown took her in tow, and arrived at Porto-Rico safe the fifth instant, in the afternoon; but when out of danger, they were not willing to make any satisfaction—but in an insulting manner captain Molos told captain Brown, after detaining him two days, that he had got a sooty cargo of molasses on board, not worth two thousand dollars, and wanted to make a voyage out of him—which obliged captain Brown to make application to the governor, who is much of a gentleman, and he immediately ordered this ungrateful man to pay the eight hundred dollars; but nothing being mentioned in the writing about charges, capt. Brown was obliged to pay them, amounting to one hundred and seventeen dollars and three eighths.

Captain Brown wishes this made public that his brother skippers may know how to deal with the Spanish flag in distress.

N. B. The ship's cargo was estimated at half a million of dollars.

A correspondent in Amesbury has been so obliging as to furnish the following account of the shower which happened there on Thursday the 14th instant.

"AFTER the cloud mace its first appearance, at about two o'clock, it arose and moved on with unusual quickness, from the westward. As it approached, it was remarkably black and angry. In about half an hour after its first appearance, it poured forth its contents in a tremendous manner. The most violent gales of wind came first, which, on account of the dryness of the ground carried along dirt and gravel-stones, which made a perfect tempest of wind and sand. This was soon followed with rain, which served to lay the dusty shower. The raging of the wind still continued; and the water poured from the clouds, to appearance more like a flood than a shower. In a few minutes the rain was mixed with hail of an uncommon size. The violence of the wind, water and hail, thus united; or at least of the wind and hail, was attended with injurious consequences. The wind took off part of the roofs from several dwelling houses; and levelled some other buildings with the ground. The apple-trees, which in this place have flattered the farmers with hopes of more cyder than for many years past, were very much shaken of their apples, some were torn up by the roots: others rent and split to pieces. and even many sturdy oaks were overturned or broken and shattered to pieces: board fences in some places are carried off to a distance: and a stone wall, for several rods together, was blown almost down to the ground. And fences in general, were more out of repair than they usually are in the spring of the year. The enormous size and injurious effects of the hail added to the horror of the scene. Some of it was found of the bigness of an ounce ball: others were of a flat cragged form. Some persons of veracity have asserted, that, an hour after the shower was over, when their bulk must be much lessened, they measured some pieces of ice that came down, and found them to be three inches in circumference, each; and the effects of the hail give credit to what they say. The impressions made on the sides of buildings and fences may be seen several rods. In some houses, most of the glass in the windows is broken, and scarcely any houses escaped having some of the glass cracked. Grain that was not reaped was much shattered out or beaten into the ground. Fields of corn were greatly stripped of its leaves and broken down, so that it is feared the crops will be much injured.

"The rain, though it came with so much violence, was very greatful, as the earth was exceedingly parched with drought. The injury done by the wind and hail was not very extensive. It reached about two miles wide; and about three or four miles long. The middle of it was near the line that divides the two parishes."

DANBURY, *July* 25.

The season here for several days past, has been extremely hot and dry, which, though very favourable to farmers for the ingathering of the fruits of the earth already brought to perfection, may, however, beyond what we could wish, carry something of a threatening aspect relative to the latter growth. On Sunday last at noon, the mercury in the thermometer stood at 92 degrees; importing the weather then to be three degrees hotter than it had been at any time this year, at that time of the day. On Monday noon it was still one degree hotter, the mercury then standing at 93. On Tuesday noon it stood at 92—on Wednesday noon at 92½. From which it appears that Monday was the hottest day that has been this year. On the whole, since last Saturday, there has been a continued series of extremely hot weather, the like to which has not been known here for several years past.

N. B. The thermomer was placed in a shade.

HUDSON, *July* 21.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman at Frankford, on the Kentucky river, to his brother in this city, dated May 16, 1791.

"On the 19th of March we left Fort Pitt with only four men, in company with two boats, to go to Limestone. On the 22d we took in five men at Muskingum. The next morning, our boat being foremost, we were hailed by the Indians, who came up with us in four boats, with about twenty men in each, and killed one of our men and wounded two the first shot; we waited till they were within thirty yards, and then fired, which did great execution; I then received a shot through my arm; one of the boats attempted to board us, but we beat them off; they then attacked a boat in our rear, took her, and in a most inhuman manner placed the women and children in the centre of their boats, and attacked us again; we had only three men and myself able to fight, but we beat them off. During this attack we drifted within thirty yards of the shore, where they attacked us again, and pursued us about a mile and a half along the shore, before we could get out of their reach. Out of nine men two only escaped unhurt. We had on board one woman and eight children; one of the children received a slight wound. We arrived at Limestone at eleven o'clock that evening. The Indians are very troublesome in this country, and do great mischief; but they have not attacked a boat on the river since our action. The loss they sustained from us we could not ascertain, but they suffered severely for their attempt."

POUGHKEEPSIE, *July* 28.

The weather for a fortnight has been uncommonly fine for gathering in the harvests of the country; and we are happy in being able to say the harvests in general have turned out to be equally fine, especially the wheat.

NEW-YORK, *August* 2.

Extract of a letter from Stockbridge, (Massachusetts) July 4.

"A paragraph appeared some time since in a New-York paper, (being an extract of a letter from Virginia) reflecting upon the people of the New-England states, "for exporting coffins to Virginia, where this article is disposed of to the very great prejudice of the Virginia mechanics." In reply, we might ask, why do not the Virginia coffin-makers sell them as cheap as the artists of New-England, who labour too under the additional disadvantage of freight, insurance and commission? Further, if our southern friends would give themselves the trouble to reflect a little, their complaints would appear unreasonable, even to themselves. The northern states annually furnish those to the southward with a considerable number of inhabitants; these undoubtedly retain some affection for the place of their nativity; and as the climate to which they emigrate frequently renders them quick victims to the king of terrors, they perhaps think it best to be prepared in one sense, by a previous purchase of the above-mentioned article, for the event. This may satisfactorily account for the very considerable importation of coffins into Virginia. It may, indeed, be termed a prejudice—but as a New-England man evermore, when living, gives a preference to his own country vessels to transport his person or property over the Atlantic, or any other ocean; who can justly blame him, when dead, for having committed his carcase to his native oak, to make a voyage over the unfathomed ocean of oblivion?"

CARLISLE, *July* 27.

We hear from good authority, that supreme courts will be held this fall at the following places, viz.

In Dauphin county the 26th September,
Northumberland do. 3d October,
Cumberland do. 10th do.

Extract of a letter from a commanding officer at Pittsburgh to a gentleman in this town, dated July 22d, 1791.

"Captain Slough returned here yesterday from Venango, where he has been on command; there is not a syllable respecting hostility of the Indians, nor do we hear any thing respecting them from any quarter."

PETERSBURGH, *July* 28.

Extract of a letter from Newry, Ireland, dated May 15, 1791.

"I before informed you of a class of men, calling themselves Defenders, having been very troublesome. They are getting a large number of arms in their possession, and begin to be very outrageous. A set of the ringleaders of them met in Canal-street, and had come to the resolution of annihilating the Protestants. This information was given by a man sworn before two magistrates, who transmitted the same to government.—There have been a great number of these kind of people detected and executed, particularly in the counties of Louth, Armagh and Downs.

"The most horrid deed perpetrated by these people, I ever heard of, was at Fork hill, on a man, his wife and child, whose tongues they cut out, and the fingers off their hands, with other cruelties too shocking to relate.

"Government offered a reward of fifteen hundred pounds to apprehend the persons who committed the above cruelties.—The largeness of the sum has been a means of three of them being detected, who suffered a most ignomious death at the place where they perpetrated the above cruelties."

PITTSBURGH, *July* 23.

We have the pleasure to inform the public from authority, that on Sunday the 10th inst. captain Shaylor, with a fine company of the 2d U. S. regiment, sailed for the protection of the Muskingum settlements, and on the 12th, a well appointed detachment, under the command of major Gaither, consisting of two battalions of the U. S. levies, a body of cavalry, to be mounted with their equipments complete, forage, military and other stores and provisions, sailed for head quarters; also, a company of major Butler's battalion of levies, under the command of captain Powers, for the protection of the French settlement at Galliopolis, and, from the favourable state of the river, we have reason to hope their voyage will be both pleasant and expeditious. The number of boats employed in this service, and that went under convoy of the troops, amounted to twenty-four.

PHILADELPHIA, *August* 2.

Abstract of a letter from a gentleman in Cape-François to his friend in this city, dated July 9.

"A vessel is just arrived here from Bourdeaux—The captain informs, that four deputies and 10,000 men are to be immediately sent to superintend, and if necessary to enforce the execution of the decree of the national assembly, which gives to negroes and people of colour, the same rights and the same weight in government, as belong to the white colonists. The cities of Paris and Bourdeaux have been foremost in activity to obtain this decree, and have offered extraordinary assistance to enforce the execution of it.

"The colonists, as soon as they heard of the decree, almost unanimously resolved to oppose it. They have taken some steps towards the organization of a government for themselves.—The vessels with negroes from Africa, are to be sent directly to Bourdeaux, where it is supposed the national assembly will treat them with civility, and grant them the rights of citizens, after they have resided there the time required.

"The national cockade has been trampled under foot, and the English generally worn. Some talk of craving the protection of the English. All is in confusion. No laws enforced. The creditor entirely dependent on the will of the debtor.

"The activity of the colonists is conspicuous, in their exertions to put the fortifications in a state of defence, in order effectually to oppose the 10,000 men, who are now daily expected. It is not probable, that calm will be restored, before blood is shed.

"Twenty-four persons are to be sent to Leugane, the middle of the French coast, as a committee, to see that a free communication be kept up from every quarter of the island.

"On the 7th, a great number of volunteers turned out to form a battery and already cannons are fixed.

"On the 8th, we heard that a number of negroes at Goave had mutinied; there were some mulattoes and a few whites killed. Some of the negroes have been taken, and are now confined at Port-au-Prince, and are to be burnt alive; we expect soon to hear the number taken.

"The mulattoes of Grange have had a meeting, determined not to consent to the execution of the decree, and shew a great aversion to be put upon a footing with the negroes. All the mulattoes have not however taken a decided part in the fatal divisions which now torment, and prove hurtful to the colony.

"Flour, 5½ dollars."

Extract of a letter from a merchant in London, to his friend in Jamaica, dated 6th April.

"It is an ill wind that blows nobody good. The Russian merchants have taken up American ships and sailors to go to the Baltic, in consequence of the present uncertainty of affairs, and of the inability of ministers themselves, to say with what degree of safety they may venture to send their own ships into that sea. The Americans have had fine times of late, and if that country acts with its usual prudence, and observes a strict neutrality, a few years will make it as powerful as it is great."

Extract of a letter from an officer at Fort Washington, dated June 15, 1791.

"I have lately made a tour to Post St. Vincennes, and returned the 8th instant, without having noticed an Indian, although they are seen committing depredations in all places. They have killed one man in the rear of Fort Washington, and taken several horses, amongst which were general Harmar's. I am in great hopes they will soon be routed from all quarters of the western territory. There is every exertion made for a vigorous campaign. Troops are arriving daily.—Captains Armstrong and Kirkwood's companies arrived the 13th instant."

NAVIGATION.

An ingenious artist at Augsburg has invented a machine to procure motion to ships of any burthen or dimension, without the assistance of masts, sails, ropes, &c. Its mechanism is simple, lasting, and more economical than masts and rigging.

In a calm or in a storm, in any, and in the most contrary winds, the course of the ship remains uninterrupted; and this not only in high seas, but also in sailing in and out of rivers and harbours.

The considerable utility of this invention will strike those who are acquainted with the art of navigation—it will prevent the frequent losses of ships, and consequently save the lives of many mariners, and loss of merchandises.

It further improves and facilitates navigation; since, by this mechanism, all manœuvres, except those of the helm and rudder, will cease.

The inventor gives the following account of his contrivance—I have the model of my ships mechanism of a sufficient dimension to prove what I advance. It contains about one sixth part of the mechanical arrangement tried before, which, in case of a calm or contrary winds, is requisite for the motion of a man of war of the first rate. Besides this, my mechanism has the property, that a slow as well as a gradually rising strong power in quick or slow gradation, can be given, as necessity or fancy requires, let the wind blow from any point. It is therefore clear if I maintain that in a storm it must be of superior service; because, if wind and waves, with their utmost force, will put the ship off its course, or even drive it towards the shore, it only requires to set the mechanism in its utmost force, and so to say, let it rage with even all its overballancing power, putting the ship off its course, or running ashore, will be prevented.

There will be no occasion for a more numerous ship's crew.

The pumps can be hung to this machine, and by that means they will work quick or slow, and the seamen will therefore be saved from fatigue and labour.