

THE machinations of France in the North are counterbalanced by the vigilance of Russia; this last finding herself threatened by almost every neighbouring power, has taken care to cement her alliances with the court of Vienna: Accordingly, by the last mails we are assured, that a new treaty is on foot between their Imperial majesties, whereby all preceding ones will be confirm'd, and wherein it will be stipulated, that the contracting powers shall not enter into any alliance but with the approbation of each other; a clause the more necessary, as several unnatural alliances are daily forming, which seems to threaten the general system of Europe; to illustrate this, I need only instance the close connection of the kings of Prussia, Denmark, and Sardinia, with the house of Bourbon. But while the empress of Russia is busied in strengthening herself upon the continent, she is far from neglecting to cultivate the friendship of his Britannic majesty; this appears by her behaviour to the E. of Hyndford, his majesty's ambassador to the Russian court; to whom, when he returned his credentials on the 4th past, besides the usual present of 8000 rubles to himself, and 600 to his secretary, she gave a diamond ring of great value, and two of the richest habits of sable and ermine in the Imperial wardrobe, as a mark of her particular favour. M. Guy Dickens succeeds lord Hyndford at the Russian court.

The last accounts from Sweden run in the pacific strain, and assure, that an express from France has brought dispatches wherein his most christian majesty absolutely desires that all differences in the North may be terminated by a solemn peace. Thus the will of the French king is to pass now, according to these advices, as an absolute law at the court of Stockholm.

The affairs of Italy are next to be consider'd: These will require much time to adjust; the marriage of the heir apparent of Sardinia to a princess of Spain, is not the only incident that forebodes the approaching diminution of the power of the house of Austria in that part of the world; the settlement of don Philip, the ser vice submission of the Genoese to the direction of France, and the dependence of Corsica upon the same counsels; all conspire to clip the wings of the German eagle, and contract her bounds. But this cannot be accomplished at once; and the congress at Pisa, which is now forming, will, probably, enable us to speak of these matters with more certainty.

The accounts both from Madrid and Paris agree, that the differences between Great-Britain and Spain are at last happily terminated by a convention.

France, whose ambition is boundless, and whose avarice is equal to her ambition, having, since the peace, clogg'd the English traffic with duties unheard of in former times, and representations on that head having been made by the British ambassador without effect; the trade between the two nations is said to be entirely disannul'd.

The Dutch are at present wholly taken up with intestine divisions, and the regulation of their finances, which they find difficultly enough to establish upon a good foundation. The reduction of their army, tho' it may give some ease to the people, yet it gives distaste to the officers and soldiers; and no scheme has hitherto been propos'd that has met with the general approbation of all the provinces. Having thus given a general account of public affairs, we shall proceed to the

Remarkable Occurrences Abroad.

THREE Algerine pirates, and one of Tunis, pass'd on the 10th of October the Straits into the main Ocean, in order to convoy home three ships of their own nation, richly laden with plunder, who were afraid to appear in the Straits, upon advice that a considerable armament was there waiting for them. The king of Portugal has sent a squadron of men of war to disperse those robbers, and to protect his fleet from Brandy.

A large banditti of robbers, who for a long time have infested the mountainous part of the island of Sardinia, begin now to rob and plunder the open country; so that an armed force seems necessary to protect the inhabitants.

The young Pretender has lately left Padua, where he had resided some months incognito, on being informed that the English ambassador at Venice had discover'd him.

A resolution has pass'd in council at Vienna, to repair the justifications of all the frontier places in her Imperial majesty's dominions, and to begin with Hungary and Moravia.

The 1st of the E. of Bath is arriv'd at Paris, and was lately introduced to the French king by the British ambassador, who

The inhabitants of the island of Corsica are said to be in a perfect state of inaction, impatient to know their fate, and in hopes of soon having a new Master.

They are recruiting briskly in the landgrave of Hesse and other provinces in the neighbourhood of Hanover, probably to put a body of Hessians into the pay of Sweden or Prussia.

A project is on foot for making a commodious harbour on the coast of Normandy, with a design perhaps, to smuggle wool from England.

News is come of the safe arrival at the Havannah of the Spanish fleet from Carthagena, under the convoy of A. Spinola.

On the 15th past a fire happened at Aplingu, in Sweden, which reduced near half that city to ashes.

The crews of some Algerine pyrates made a descent the other day upon the island of Pianola, without effect.

The Portuguese minister at Rome has presented to the pope, in the name of his master, a chalice of gold, and several other vessels used at mass, of silver gilt, as a recompence for the trouble his holiness had in blessing the new Altar sent to Lisbon for the royal chapel.

An academy has been lately establish'd by royal authority at Amiens in France, of which the intendant of the generality, and the abbe Chauvelin, have been elected their first professors.

The house of Oldenbourg having now been possess'd of the throne of Denmark 300 years, a jubilee was celebrated at Copenhagen on that account, which began with divine service on the 28th past, and ended the 30th with a grand ball. All the princes of this house, who remained in the Danish service, and most of the nobility of Denmark and Holstein, assist'd at this ceremony, which was amazingly magnificent.

M. Desalleurs, the French minister at Constantinople, in some dispatches to his court, wherein he mentions the disgrace of the Musti, speaks of him in the following terms: 'Caia Zandi, whom all the inhabitants of this capital have long hated, was a man of very low extraction, and of a savage and untractable disposition; but so far insinuated himself into the favour of the preceding Vizir, that he obtained the first place in the Divan, and the general superintendance of the Mosques, or Mahometan temples. Like a roaring lion he fought for his prey, and persecuted unmercifully whomever the misfortune to displease him. Worse than a double edged sword was it to fall under his displeasure, for he not only oppos'd the advancement of such, but took all opportunities of depressing and abusing them. He had, moreover a heart so injured and obdurate to the miseries of others, that no person in the world was ever capable of softening it either by prayers or tears: So that the joy and applause of the people was general, when they saw him put on board a vessel, in order to be conducted to the place of his exile, there to receive the just recompence of his enormous cruelties.'

Letters from Spain mention, that amongst other artificers brought into that kingdom, there was a small number of Dutchmen employed in the skirts of Madrid, in weaving a slight sort of woollen stuffs, much worn in that country, and of which large quantities are annually sent to America; which manufacture being managed by three very intelligent persons who contracted with, and brought over the rest, they were all killed in one night; which has occasioned a strange consternation, and the utmost diligence to detect and bring the murderers to justice.

L O N D O N.

Oct. 23. 'Tis reported at the Hague that something of very great importance is upon the carpet, between the empress queen and the republic, by reason of count Bentinck's being sent to Vienna, and M. Van Haaren to Brussels, where both are very busy in their negotiations.

They tell us from Paris, that the politicians continue to find out every day some new secret in the king's journey; but that the wisest people still think the true design of them is to keep up a spirit of diligence in the docks and yards where ships of war are building, by instilling a notion, that his most Christian majesty will visit them all in their turns.

Oct. 24. We hear that a certain Ad———, lately arriv'd from the E———, hearing that some reports had been spread to his disadvantage, has petition'd to have his conduct examin'd before a council of war, which will be done accordingly. *Query*, Whether this be not only a new Name for a Council; or whether it be a new Sort of Institution, from which something more is to be expected than arose from the famous Model at Deptford?

It is affirm'd, that a resolution has been taken not to