

by an interpreter, that he was neither at peace or war with England and that he would detain us till an ambassador came from England to settle a firm peace. The captain then desired that we might not be used as slaves; he answered hastily, We should be taken care of. Then we were directly thrust out of his presence, conveyed to two old ruined houses, and shut up amidst dirt and innumerable vermin of all sorts. Mr. Butler, (being here upon business) came and assisted us with victuals and drink, and procured liberty for the captain to go home with him to his lodging; he likewise sent some blankets for the officers, with which we made a shift to pass the night pretty comfortably, as we were very much tired and fatigued.

Dec. 21. At nine this morning, the emperor sent for the captain and every officer to appear before him. We immediately repaired to his palace, where we remained waiting in an outer yard two hours; in the mean time, he diverted himself with seeing a clumsy Dutch boat rowed about a pond by four of our petty officers. About noon we were called before him, and placed in a line about 50 yards from him. He was sitting in a chair by the side of the pond, with only two of his chief aides by him. After viewing us some time, he ordered the captain to come forward; and, after asking him a good many questions concerning our navy, and where our squadron was going, we were also called forward by two and three at a time, as we stood according to our rank; then asking most of us some very insignificant questions, and taking some to be Portuguese because they had black hair, and others to be Spaniards because they had white hair, he judged none of us to be right English except the captain, the second lieutenant, and myself, and the ensign of the soldiers; but assuring him we were all English, he cry'd Benno, and gave a nod for our departure; to which we returned a very low bow, and were very glad to get to our old ruined house again. Our number, at this time was 30, from highest to lowest.

Dec. 25. Being Christmas day, read prayers to the people, as usual in the church of England. The captain received a present of some tea and loaves of sugar from one of the queens, whose grandfather had been an English renegade.

Dec. 26. This afternoon we heard the disagreeable news, that the emperor would oblige all the English here to work the same as the other christian slaves, excepting the officers that were before him on the 21st instant.

Dec. 27. At seven this morning an alcalde came and ordered the people all out to work, except those who were sick; and, by intercession, 8 were allowed to stay every day as cooks for the rest, which they took by turns throughout the whole number. At four in the afternoon the people returned, some having been employed in carrying wood, some in turning up the ground with hoes, and others in picking weeds in the emperor's gardens. Their victuals was got ready by the time they came home.

Dec. 28. All the people went to work as soon as they could see, and at four in the afternoon, the people returned; two of the soldiers had 100 bastinadoes each, for behaving in a disrespectful manner, while the emperor was looking at their work.

Dec. 30. Capt. Barton received a kind message from the emperor, with his leave to ride out, or take a walk in his gardens, with any of his officers.

From this time the men continued in the same state of slavery till April, when their ransom having been settled, they set out for Saltes, attended by a bashaw, and two soldiers on horseback. They had a skirmish the fourth day of their march, with some of the country Moors. It began by some of the men in the rear stopping to buy some milk at a village, for which the Moors wanted to make them pay an exorbitant price after they had drank it, which the men would not comply with; upon this the Moors began to beat them, which the men returned, and more coming to assist, they maintained a smart battle, till they grew too numerous; in the mean time some rode off to call the guard, who instantly came up with their drawn scimitars, and dealt round them pretty briskly; in the interim we were not idle, and had the pleasure to see the blood trickling down a good many of their faces. The guards seized the chief man of the village, and carried him with us to the bashaw, who was our conductor; who, having heard the cause, dismissed him without farther punishment, in consideration of his having been well drubb'd by us.

The 22d of April they got to Saltes, and pitched their tents in an old castle, whence they soon afterwards embarked on board the Gibraltar, which landed them at Gibraltar on the 27th of June, and on the 29th, they sailed for England in the Marlborough storeship, and arrived safe on the 7th of August. Capt. Barton, with his officers, were tried for the loss of the ship and honorably acquitted.

LONDON, October 1.

IT is reported that an express has been dispatched to the Earl of Bristol, our Minister at Madrid, to demand of the Spanish court, a copy of a treaty, signed the 25th of August, between the Spanish and French courts, and on refusal thereof, to leave that court.

The rumour that prevails abroad, and indeed at home, of a Spanish war, is to the judicious part of mankind very surprising. We have had no difference since the last peace with that crown, have shewn on all occasions a singular regard for her flag, and have beheld her prosperity with an eye of complacence. On the other hand, it is not easy to discern what interest this nation can have in quarrelling with us; we form no claims upon them, we have traversed none of their schemes, we have entered into no negotiations that can be prejudicial to them, and therefore it is very difficult to comprehend why a people so justly esteemed for their prudence and policy, should grow weary of a peace which has had so favourable an influence upon all their affairs, or be disposed wantonly to enter into a war with those who are in so good a condition as we are to defend ourselves.

It is said the expedition fleet will consist of twenty men of war, four bombs, four fireships, besides frigates and some armed ships, with upwards of one hundred sail of transports.

October 3. Several fire ships are fitting out in the river, and ordered to be completed as soon as possible.

Commerce is at such a height at this time, that at the Custom-House, the Bank, and other Public Offices, they are obliged to do business extra hours, and employ supernumeraries.

We hear that Gen. Lally, lately arrived from the East-Indies, has leave to depart this kingdom, and that the sooner he goes, it will be the more agreeable.

Oct. 6. Yesterday M. Lally set out for France, on his parole of honour.

It is said that the same sum will be raised for carrying on the war next year, as was the last, viz. twelve millions; and that a scheme has been proposed for raising it at 4 per cent. for 40 years, and a lottery ticket of 10 l. The 4 per cent. for 40 years, they reckon will be worth 19 l. and the lottery ticket 11 l. which will be 30 l. to every subscriber of 100 l. which makes it equal to the present 3 per cents. if they should fall to 70.

October 8. Yesterday the Right Hon. William Pitt, Esq; late Secretary of State, was some hours with the King at St. James's.

The last letters received at the Hague from Paris were filled with the preparations for war.

A letter from Torgau, by the last mail, runs thus: "The separation of the Austrian and Russian armies has already enabled the King of Prussia to open his communications for the better subsistence of his troops; altho' it may, with great truth, be said, that no inhabitants, during this war, have been more barbarously ravaged and plundered than the Silesians have been for these two months past; so that provisions and forage are become extremely scarce throughout all that part of the country. Such barbarous scenes of savage brutality were committed by the Russians in their retreat to Pargwitz, as were quite shocking to humanity, and cannot be mentioned without the utmost horror; not content with debauching the innocent wives and daughters of the best inhabitants of the different villages they passed through, they even stripped them of their very clothes, and afterwards turned many hundreds of them naked into the streets; all the clothes, provisions, and the best of their furniture, were carried away; and what they could not carry off, they either burnt or broke to pieces; to endeavour to prevent these outrages was certain death, as numbers too fatally experienced."

October 10. Yesterday the Right Hon. Mr. Pitt was at Court, and went to Hayes's to dinner.

Extra of a Letter from Paris, October 2.

"The consequences of the present war so far merited the attention of Spain, that we have all along flattered ourselves that, for her own Interest, she would at length embrace ours, and make a common cause with us against the English. This hope now seems to be very near reality; at least we are fond of persuading ourselves that the report of a treaty lately concluded between our Court and that of Madrid, is not void of foundation; and though the public know not the nature nor conditions of this treaty, that it exists may be quite sufficient for drawing a favourable omen in relation to the future treaty of peace. If, as some presume, Spain will furnish 40 ships of the line, and 20 frigates, to join all those that we still have at Brest, Rochfort, Toulon, and other ports, they will certainly form a very formidable fleet, and dread and apprehension may succeed the contempt that has been expressed for our marine."

The letters from Hamburg of the 29th ult. give an account of Gen. Platen's arrival with his corps before Colberg, which continued to make a brave defence.

The five thousand waggons which Gen. Platen destroyed, were laden with provisions enough to serve the whole Russian army for 3 Weeks at least.

It has been computed, with tolerable certainty, that the demand for almost every species of goods manufactured in Great-Britain, and exported to our American Colonies, has been, to the amount of 250,000 l. sterling, more this year than was ever known before; and as, by our late acquisitions on that continent, various sources of trade are opened, not only with respect to England, but also to the American islands and provinces themselves, and the number of their inhabitants are continually increasing, it must afford matter of exceeding joy and consolation to every true Briton to reflect, how greatly the nerves and sinews of war are braced up and strengthened, by the flourishing situation of trade and commerce in these happy king-

doms, while that of our enemies languishes in proportion.

A late resignation has given occasion for many considerable wagers among the sporting geny, that a reinstatement will soon take place.

If the terms of peace had been agreed to, Mr. Bussy was to be vested with the character of Minister Plenipotentiary: And he was so confident of succeeding, that he had ordered a card from a copper-plate to be worked with this title, which was finished and delivered.

It is said that the French had agreed to every preliminary demanded for a peace, and a day was fixed; but the Spaniards, in the interim, offered, on certain terms, to lend them ships and money.

Extra of a Letter from Cologne, Oct. 2.

"Since the negotiation with England was suspended, they are preparing for war in France with the greatest earnestness. New vigour hath already been given to the operations of the French armies in Germany; and measures are taking by the Admiralty Office to give life to the marine. Some useful and economical regulations have been made in the sea ports; there are still 36 ships of war left, which will be fitted for sea. Some rich merchants have offered the King their purses. But at Paris they talk of much higher projects or events. It is asserted, that an offensive and defensive treaty is actually concluded between France and Spain; that the latter gives the former thirty millions, and 47 ships of war and frigates, in case England should refuse to listen to just and equitable conditions of peace. It is asserted, that this treaty was signed on the feast of St. Lewis: It is further added, that the King of Spain is to marry Madame Victoire. This Princess is not young, it is true, being born in 1733; but as the Catholic King hath heirs already, her age will be no objection."

Letters from Paris, by the Way of Holland, say, That to judge from the preparations for war in all parts of France, one would imagine that the Ministry were meditating the conquest of whole kingdoms. Each Minister is doubly diligent in his proper department; and by means of the resources which have been furnished by the credit of Mess. Paris de Montmartel and De la Borde, the people will not be oppressed with new taxes to defray the expences of the next campaign. Those two gentlemen have promised to supply the King with fifteen millions of livres every month; and if this sum should not prove sufficient, to increase it to twenty millions.

These letters further inform us, that the French King, being willing to convince all Europe of his sincere inclination to peace, and that it was not owing to him, that the negotiations of M. Bussy and M. Stanley had not the desired success, hath ordered an account of the whole negotiation to be printed at the Louvre.

The negotiation was broke off (these letters say) because England insisted, before she would consent to the cession of any part of her conquests, that France should renounce her alliance with the Court of Vienna. These letters also mention the intended marriage of the King of Spain with a daughter of France.

NEW-YORK, December 14.
There were at the Havannah, about six Weeks ago, no less than twelve Spanish Men of War of the Line, a Ship of 60 Guns just launched, and another of the same Force on the Stocks.

Dec. 17. On Tuesday last arrived a Sloop, Capt. Geary, in 18 Days from Bermuda, by whom we hear that a dangerous Conspiracy, among the Negroes, was lately discovered there, not two Days before it was to have been executed. The Particulars of this horrid Plot, so far as we have heard, are as follow, viz. That it had been in Agitation above 6 Months, a Number of very sensible Fellows, very much in Credit with all the white People that knew them, and capable of managing most Sorts of Business, having been concerned; by the Means of those, the Plot was communicated, and became general among the Negroes over the whole Island. They collected, by little at a Time, a considerable Quantity of Powder, and found Means to get a Number of Muskets, and other Fire Arms. They had appointed Captains, and other Officers, and allotted them their proper Stations. On Sunday a Captain, and a sufficient Number of his Men, were to surround each of the Churches, and Meeting Houses in the Island, in the Time of Divine Service, who were to shut the Doors, and murder the People; and then also murder all the remaining Men in the Island, except Three; one of whom was to be the Governor, the other two were Seamen, reserved to carry them, after some Time, to such a Place as they should choose.

They had judiciously concerted this Plot; there was not the least suspicion when on the Friday Night before a young Man, an Apprentice, got into the King's House, left the Road, and as being nearer; in his Way I questioned Wood, where hearing he approached so near as to overhear their Design; and he presently principal Actors by his Voice.

He then withdrew undiscovered. Day informed a Magistrate. The known was immediately secured. Kind of Intelligencer, and one of among them. He turned King's Numbers were taken up, and several had been burnt, and the under a general Conspiration. Negroes are thrice as many as the

ANNAPOLIS, Jan

Our Rivers are now almost cleared. Last Month Died here, Mr. H. Carver, who was deem'd by good as ingenious an Artist at his Business. He employed himself in cutting out of the solid Wood, a Number put over a Mantle Piece: In the Britannia, on a Pedestal (to which with the Bust of Mr. Pitt) arms of War, with a Scepter in one of his an Olive Branch in the other; on a prostrate Posture, is a Female Figure France, offering a Scroll at the Feet a little further off lies a Figure representing struck Dead by Jupiter, who sits a Pair of Scales in his Hand; on the Crest with the Cornucopia pouring into Britannia; Fame, with her Trumpet several other curious Figures: On the Fertility; Neptune; Mercury; and Figures; old Time above, with a Scepter and a Pair of Callipers measuring the Globe. It has a no der, and Canopy at Top with Curtains. The Whole executed in so masterly with such Symmetry of Parts, that it is an Ornament even in a Palace. An

Crest had very little Notice taken lived somewhat obscurely, yet it must that HE CUT A GOOD FIGURE IN

We heartily greet our Readers

Compliments of the Season

Annapolis, 6th Janu

WHEREAS it has been reported to the Excellency the Governor, 25th Day of December last, in the Robbery was committed in the House of Commons, by break of the Chest of John Reresby, and taking thereof Eight and Pennsylvania Paper Money of Fifty odd Pounds Currency unknown: His Excellency, for the better, and bringing to Justice, the Lordship's Pardon to any one of them discover his or her Accomplice or Accomplices, the said Fact, so that he, she, or they apprehended and convicted thereof.

Signed per Order,

J. Ross,
AND as a further Encouragement to the Scriber doth promise TWENTY Reward to any one who shall make a discovery of any Person or Persons concerned in the mentioned Robbery, so that he, she, or they brought to Justice, and convicted thereof.

CHARLES C

Part Tobacco, December 20

AS the Subscriber is going to remove to the Colony of Virginia, she hereby Notice to all Persons indebted to the late John Kinsman, deceased, to come and pay off their Accounts immediately, otherwise they may be sure of being sued or warranted in Court next ensuing. And, All Persons who have any Claims against the said Estate, are desired to bring their Accounts duly authenticated, and they shall be paid. THE Subscriber still keeps TAVELAND the Sign of the Ship, in PORT-TOWN where all Persons may depend on the best from.

Their humble Servant,
JANET KINSMAN, Admin

of Job