down the Operator just in Time to perform his Office.

The following odd Incident lately happened at Glentanner in Scotland: A large Eagle had seized upon a Cat, which he carried up in the Air, in Sight of several Persons, when after a Conflict of some Minutes, they both fell down dead, having torn each other in a terrible Manner.

Nov. 20. Special Commissions have passed the Great Seal for the Trial of the late Rioters in Norfolk, Norwich, Berks, Wilts, the City and County of Gloucester.

On Tuesday Evening died, in St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Cotton, the Excise-Officer, who was burnt on Monday Night at Mr. Wright's, Distiller, in White-Friars; and we are authorized to say, the following is the Fact relative to that terrible Accident:—On Monday Night, about 11 o'Clock, the above Officer came to relieve one Brindell Higby, another Excise-Officer then on Duty, when they agreed together to go down into a Vat that the Spirits Work into every Day from the Still, and which is every Night pumped up into the Store Vats, and had been done so that Night, that nothing remained but what the Pump would not draw up, and some Dirt which there generally is at the Bottom, of such Vats, which are in constant Use; however, the little Spirit that did remain, and which was not fit for a Christian to drink, they agreed to get out to mix with some Water; but when the Man, who is since dead, was getting into the Vat with a Candle in his Hand, the Ladder by which he was getting down slipped, and he tumbled into the Vat, which was above five Feet deep, and the Candle immediately set Fire to it, he being in the Midst of the Flames; however, the other Exciseman got him out alive, and Cotton told the whole Affair, with this Expression, that as a dying Man, what is above related is the Fact; upon which Mr. Wright immediately sent him to the Hospital, and the other Officer to the Compter.—If Officers of Excise are allowed to commit such wicked Practices, and not taken proper Notice of by their Superiors, Tradesmen subject to have such People come about their Houses (especially in the Night Time, and where there is such a Quantity of Spirits as there was on the Premises when this was done) are and will be in a most horrid Situation.

Private Letters from Warsaw advise, that the Affair of the Protestants in Poland is not likely to be soon adjusted, his Polish Majesty being entirely averse to grant them any more Privileges and Immunities than what they already enjoy.

Dec. 8. At Reading one of the Rioters was found Guilty, and condemned to die, as were 8 at Norwich, one other was found Guilty, and 5 to remain in Goal till next Assizes, or find Bail.

Many Pieces appear in the English Papers, urging the Expediency of Proceeding with great Lenity towards the unhappy People who have in the late Riots incurred the Penalties of the Law—since they seem to have been reduced to the single Alternative, *of dying by Famine*, or *of exposing themselves to the Hazard of Death by the Law.*—And, since their severest Censurers must allow—that it is at least very uncertain, whether any less violent Measures would have been effectual to procure a Redress of Grievances.—

Thursday Morning a Servant Wench in the Minories, was to be married to a Journeyman Shoemaker in the Neighbourhood, when, O dire Mischance! just as the happy Couple were setting out for Church, the Bride fell in Labour, and was delivered of two chopping Boys, in less than an Hour; a Circumstance which occasioned an unavoidable Suspension of the Ceremony.

Dec. 11. In Gloucester there are 120 Rioters to be tried, and 42 in Salisbury.

They write from Lisbon, that certain Advice was received, of the Naval Preparations of the Algerines being designed to cruise against the Trade of Portugal, both within and without the Streights of Gibraltar.

Among other Ornaments erected to grace the Entry of the Queen of Denmark into Copenhagen, was a triumphal Arch, 43 Cubits high, supported by fourteen Pillars of the Corinthian Order; and near the Town-House was a Frontispiece thirty-five Cubits high, by fifty-three long, and fifteen deep. This last represented a Portico of the Corinthian Order, resting on ten Columns.

By Letters from Paris of the 4th Instant, we have an Account that no less than three British Ambassadors, who had been successively appointed, were then present at the French Court, viz. the Earl of Hertford, the Duke of Richmond, and the Earl of Rochford.

Dec. 15. It is now confidently reported, that the Parliament have taken into their Consideration the Pay of the Reduced Officers of his Majesty's Navy, and have thought it so very inadequate to the even decent Support of their different Ranks in that Service, that they intend to increase the Half-Pay of the Lieutenants (who rank as Captains) from Two Shillings a Day, to Three Shillings; the Masters and Commanders (who rank as Majors) from Four Shillings, to Five; and the Post-Captains (who rank as Colonels) that are now upon Four Shillings a Day, to Six Shillings.

We hear the Widows of Warrant Officers in the Navy, will have Pensions assigned of 30l. per Ann. Quarterly Payments; and those of deceased Lieutenants and Captains, to enjoy the Allowance of Half-Pay during Life; and that a Fund will speedily be established for that Purpose.

It is said that a certain Nobleman demanded the Dismission of two Noblemen, and another Person eminent in the Law, as a Preliminary to his Friends entering into Power. That most of the Appointments above mention'd were to Places voluntarily resign'd—But it is said the great Statesman was so far from being intimidated by those Resignations, that he was more firm than ever, in prosecuting his Plans of Government.—Many other great Changes were talked of and expected, and it was said Seventeen new Peers were to be created in Ireland, not one of whom had ever set Foot in that Country. *Alas poor Ireland!*

It is confidently asserted, that any considerable Change in the Ministry, is never effected under an Expence to the Public, of Fifty Thousand Pounds. *Poor Old England!*

Extract of a Letter from a Gentleman of the Factory at Lisbon, to his Correspondent in London, Nov. 3.

——"There is a most astonishing Change here within a short Time, with respect to religious Matters: The Pope has lost all his Influence, and the Inquisition dare not exert theirs. A Book has been lately published here, wherein it is plainly set forth, that whenever the Pope deviates from his hierarchical Dignity, the Government of the Church devolves entirely upon the Bishops, as to their respective Dioceses; and there are many Insinuations in this Piece, that his Holiness has been very fallible in this Respect. In a Word, it would not be at all surprising to see a Reformation here in a short Time, and the Portuguese, from a Bigoted, Ignorant, Superstitious People, become an Enlightened, Philosophical Race; for they are not naturally dull, but are lulled to this State of insensibility by mere Priestcraft. This would be a very fortunate Change for the English Nation in general, and the Factory here in particular."

Extract of a Letter from Mountauban, Nov. 19.

"We are in the greatest Consternation here. The River Tarna has overflowed its Banks, in such a Manner, for these three Days past, that three Suburbs of this City are surrounded by it, and the Waters undermining the Foundations of all the Houses in them, have already thrown down thirty. The Ground wherever the Stream spreads is so penetrated by it, that the largest Street of the principal of these Suburbs, which is also the richest Quarter of the City, is hollowed in several Places. More than two hundred Families, who lived in the Houses that are overflown, have been obliged to save themselves with Precipitation, with their most valuable Effects, abandoning the rest, as well as their Houses, to the Mercy of the Waters. The Intendant of the Province has passed nearly two whole Days and two Nights in giving, on the Spot, the necessary Orders either for supporting such Houses as threatned Ruin, and in getting out the People who were Exposing their Lives for the Sake of saving their Goods, or in seeing those Effects removed to a Place of Safety, which they had Time to get out of the Houses. Bread is distributed in the public Places to such of the People as are without Resource or Place of Refuge; and in the Night Time, these unhappy Creatures retire to the Churches. The Loss already occasioned by the Deluge, with the Consequences which there is Reason to fear may attend it, will not be repaired in upwards of thirty Years. This Morning the Water is lowered three Feet, and it is probable its Ravages will be attended with the Fall of several Houses, when it will withdraw entirely. Only one Person, at Present, is said to have perished."—— [*Montauban is a City of France, in the Province of Guienne, on the River Agout, 18 Miles North of Thoulouse.*]

Extract of a Letter from Paris, dated Dec. 1.

The following Answer made by the King of Poland to the Representations of the Empress of Russia in Favour of the Protestants in that Country, was transmitted to Madame Geoffrin.

"I have not forgot the Obligations I am under to the Empress of Russia, among the Means which GOD Almighty made use of to raise me to the Throne; but when I came to it I promised the exact Observation of my Religion throughout my Kingdom. If I was weak enough to abandon it, my Life and my Throne would be exposed to the just Resentment of my Subjects. I am threatened with forcible Means to oblige me to do what is asked of me, which would reduce me to an Extremity equally unhappy. I perceive some Danger in whatever Resolution I may take; but I had rather be exposed to such as my Duty and Honour induce me to make Choice of; and from this Time I join with my Country in Defence of our Holy Religion."

Dublin, Nov. 22. We hear from Londonderry, that on the 1st of October last (the Day on which the Act prohibiting the Distilling of Spirits from Corn expired) there was a very numerous Meeting of the Inhabitants of that Place, mostly of a middling and inferior Class, who are the principal Consumers of Corn Spirits, and that they unanimously entered into an Association, and bound themselves under a Penalty, that they would not drink any Whisky, or Spirits distilled from Corn, for one Year from that Day. This Association was signed by above Nine Hundred Persons, who have inviolably adhered to it; and the good Effects of it are such, that there is scarce any Whisky distilled now in this Town.

Dublin, Dec. 2. Many Letters are come to Hand from different Parts, intimating that if there be not a total Stop to the Distilling of Oats, there will be an universal Famine throughout the Kingdom before next May.

The Paragraph in the English Papers of the Convicts on board the ——, Capt. Ford, bound from this Place for East-Florida, having murdered the Crew, &c. and that some of them were apprehended and confined in our Goal, is without Foundation.

BASSETERRE, *(St. Christophers) Jan.* 28.

By Captain Dyer, of the Anna Theresa Packet, who arrived here on Sunday Evening last, we have Advice, that, on the 28th of December last, a Brig bound to Barbadoes, from Newfoundland, run ashore on Needham's Point, off Bridgetown, and was entirely lost. The Captain further informs us, that an Insurrection of the Negroes has happened at the Island of Granada, where a Body of them, to the Number of 6 or 700, who had chiefly deserted from the French Inhabitants, had taken Possession of some inaccessible Mountains, from whence they made frequent Sallies, and committed terrible Devastations upon their Masters, many of whom they had killed. When Captain Dyer came away, General Melvil had sent a Party of 40 Men, with 1 Cohorn, to Endeavour to suppress them, but with what Success, Capt. Dyer had not Time to learn.

NEW-YORK, *February* 19.

The public Prints brought by the Packet, are, in general, very barren of Intelligence of any Importance: Our Advices by private Letters and Reports are; That his Majesty's Ships now on this Station, are to continue here three Years longer:—That his Majesty's most gracious Pardon is come over for the unhappy Pendergast, who was condemned in Dutchess County last Summer for High Treason:——That Mr. Thomas Cumming, who has the King's Patent to be Vendue-Master of New-York, has sent over a Deputation to Mr. John Alsop, Merchant of this City; but whether he will exercise that Office here, or try Titles with those who now exercise it, is not for us to say:—That the Intelligence we had some Time ago of Brigadier General Stanwix, with his Lady and Family, being lost in their Passage from Ireland to England, is fully confirmed; and by whose Loss a considerable Estate falls to a distant Relation:—And that the riotous Spirit so predominant in England, on Account of the Dearness of Provisions, seems to subside.——The Packet had a fine Passage till she came upon our Coast, where she continued beating for near three Weeks before she got in.

PHILADELPHIA, *February* 26.

Extract of a Letter from London, Nov. 25, 1766.

"In an August Assembly, the Opposition (that is, those who are out of Place) headed by G. G---v--le, found much Fault with the great Stretch of the Royal Prerogative, in putting a Stop to the Exportation of Corn, contrary to several express Acts of Parliament, without calling the Parliament together, which they insisted upon might easily have been done, at any Time, upon a Fortnight's Notice, instead of which, at the very Period when the Scarcity of Corn appeared to be certain and inevitable, it was prorogued (September 10,) for an unusual Length of Time,