

"Mr. Flood, in the course of his speech, on Tuesday night, did assert, that before the commencement of this session, he sent a friend to Mr. Grattan to request that all animosities might cease, and not to bring in any manner before the house, their difference of opinion of the transactions of a former session. To this Mr. Grattan made an evasive reply—and the very first time he opened his lips in the new parliament, made a direct and violent attack upon Mr. Flood's character."

An agent has negotiated for the transportation of a party of Genevans to America, some of those industrious people having expressed a desire rather to settle on the continent, than to follow their countrymen to Ireland.

Nov. 23. There never was a greater necessity, in any period of English history, for maintaining our navigation laws than at present—Laws which we have lately seemed almost to have forgot, though to them we owe our confidence, our power, and almost every great national advantage.

The navigation act, the basis of our great power at sea, gave us the commerce of the universe; and if we alter that (which is said to be at present intended) by permitting the Americans, or any other state, to trade with our islands in the West-Indies, or by suffering any state to bring into this country any produce but its own, we shall desert the navigation act, and sacrifice the marine of Great-Britain.

When Sir Joshua Child wrote his celebrated discourse on trade, the act of navigation had only passed 17 or 18 years; speaking of that commercial palladium, he says, "I am of opinion, that in relation to trade, shipping, profit, and power, it is one of the choicest and most prudent acts that ever was made in England, and without which we had not been owners of one half of our present shipping or trade; nor employed one half of the seamen which we do at present."

#### BOSTON, January 29.

On the night of the 18th instant, put into Marblehead in a gale of wind, a schooner from New-York, bound to Port Roseway. She made the Cape twice and was blown off. The captain was knocked overboard and lost.

Captain Canady, in a snow from Tobago, bound here, is cast away on the back of Nantucket. People saved. Snow and cargo lost.

#### WORCESTER, January 29.

The state of New-York having lately passed an act to prevent the inhabitants of Vermont from commencing any suit or action at law within that state, unless the said inhabitants acknowledge the jurisdiction of New-York, so far as to take an oath of allegiance to the same, the general assembly of Vermont lately made a similar act respecting the inhabitants of New-York, to be in force until the legislature of New-York shall allow the inhabitants of Vermont full liberty to commence suits, &c. within their jurisdiction, without any lets or hindrances.

#### HARTFORD, February 10.

The following melancholly accident happened at Salisbury on Friday evening the 23d ult. As Dr. Walton of that town, with two of his daughters, were returning home in a sleigh from a visit to their friends a few miles distant, in attempting to cross a bridge, where the descent was about 20 feet, and very steep, the horses took fright, and went off one side of the bridge into the water, by which the eldest daughter, a young lady of about 16 years of age, was killed or drowned; her body being found in the water the next day near the bridge; the doctor, with the other daughter of about 9 years old, were dangerously wounded; but it is hoped they will recover. One of the horses was killed.

Last Tuesday morning three persons were drowned in attempting to cross Woods river, in this town; they, with two others, were in a horse cart, and passing the stream, which was high and rapid on the east side of the bridge, were swept away and driven under the ice. Two of the men got on the ice and were saved.

The same morning a negro, belonging to Mr. Hills, was found dead in the street in East-Hartford. By a bottle of rum that was found with him, and from other circumstances, it is supposed he was drunk, and fell with his face in the water, in which manner he expired.

#### NEW-YORK, February 5.

Yesterday the packet Le Courier de l'Amerique, captain le chevalier de Abboville, with the foreign mail, for Port l'Orient, in beating out through the passage between Governor's Island and the battery, missing stays, went ashore on the island. It is expected that she will get off the next flood tide.

Feb. 6. By the coroner of the city, we are informed of an instance of the most inhuman treatment that depravity could produce, committed by one Barbary Stillwell, a resident in the west ward of this city, in ill-treating and murdering William Carpenter, a child between two and three years old, who was left by his parents, previous to the evacuation of this city (and who are gone to Halifax) with the said Barbary Stillwell, to be taken care of by her, as a nurse. On information to the coroner, a jury was summoned, who brought in their verdict wilful murder. The woman was immediately detected, and is safely secured.

#### Extract of a letter from Hartford, January 27th.

"You'll be surprised, I make no doubt, to hear that five of the principal gentlemen of New Haven, in consequence of the unanimous desire of the inhabitants, have obtained from our legislature a charter, to incorporate this town into a city. The corporation is to consist of a mayor, aldermen and common council, officers hitherto unknown in the eastern states; nothing can be more wise and more liberal, than the principles on which this charter is founded; the corporation will enjoy a greater degree of power than in any governments, suffice it to say that the recovery of any debt whatever, can never exceed three months. This charter which will soon be printed, offers to every man, of whatever religion or political principles, the right of citizenship, legal peace, and a participation of all immunities. The power of this corporation extends to the embellishment of their city; they purpose to have all their

streets, which you know are spacious, planted with trees, their houses uniform, and all their roads leading to it first, and adorned on both sides with a double plantation of elms, as far as their jurisdiction extends. Early in the spring they intend carrying their pier more than a quarter of a mile further out, and to add to it, whatever can render the harbour safe and convenient. They likewise purpose cutting a canal of three miles, to unite part of the river of Farmington with the waters of their own; this will open an easy communication into the heart of a country full of timber, masts and spars. Determined to depend no longer on other states for the exportation of their staples, they have exported this year all their flax-seed, in five vessels of their own. In short, they will strain every nerve, and exert every laudable industry, to render their new city happy, free, and commercial. They have also in view some literary establishments—Thus, the enlightened patriotism of a few, will cause the prosperity of this new city; may it become rich and flourishing, as it is already the most salubrious and elegant on the continent."

#### PHILADELPHIA, February 14.

A London paper of the 6th of October last has the following paragraph:

"The state of the atmosphere all over Europe, during three months of the preceding summer, united with those dreadful earthquakes which half destroyed Calabria, Sicily, and Formosa, also with the new island in the North Seas, and that fiery meteor which was seen at the same moment both at Rome and Edinburgh, and consequently must be as high almost as the moon—a1 together prove, that this globe is undergoing very great internal convulsion, it not change, and ought to have made philologists in every part of the world extremely attentive to the changes of the air and weather, and likewise to every other circumstance that could be affected by, or have any relation to these tremendous events. It is very singular that the present year has been the most remarkable for great crops of every sort, of any one for many years, and that all over Europe; which may be accounted for on the principles of Dr. Priestly, viz. that phlogiston is the food of plants, and consequently that a highly inflammable atmosphere, vomited out by earthquakes, must give them the right pulbulum for their support. A phlogisticated atmosphere, however, is by no means salutary to the human body; but we do not hear that the season has been remarkably unhealthy any where."

The following is a list of the vessels lying in Delaware bay on Tuesday last:

Ship Andrew, Robinson, from London; Anna Maria, Bunk, Amsterdam; Mineva, Cole, Cadiz; Maria, Kelly, Amsterdam; Dauphin, Earle, Hispaniola; snow Industry, Honywell, Bristol; brig Havana, Nuttle, Aux-Cayes; Franklin, McComb, Jamaica; Alexander, Gilpin, Cape Francis; —, Basse, Dunkirk; schooner Gerard, Burrows, Port au-Prince; John, Carlon, Jamaica; sloop —, Parks, Bermuda.

The ship Prince of Leige, captain Ad, is arrived at London, and the brig Elie Catharina, Kratz, is arrived at Amsterdam, both from this port.

#### ANNAPOLIS, February 26.

On Thursday morning last his excellency the minister of France set out from this city on his return to Philadelphia.

#### Extracts from the journal of congress.

Jan. 2. On the report of a committee to whom was referred a memorial of Philip Moore:

Resolved That the following form of sea letters be granted for the ship United States, belonging to the memorialist and others.

Most serene, serene, most puissant, puissant, high; illustrious, noble, honourable, venerable, wise and prudent lords, emperors, kings, republics, princes, dukes, earls, barons, lords, burgomasters, schepens, counsellors, as also judges, officers, justiciaries and regents of all good cities and places, whether ecclesiastical or secular, who shall see these patents or hear them read:

WE the United States of America in Congress assembled, make known, That Mr. James Moore, supercargo of the ship called "The United States," of the burthen of three hundred tons, or thereabouts, at present navigated by captain Thomas Bell, is of the United States of America; and as we wish to see the said James Moore, supercargo, prosper in his lawful affairs, our prayer is to all the before mentioned, and to each of them separately, where the said James Moore shall arrive with his vessel and cargo, that they may please to receive the said supercargo with goodness, and to treat him in a becoming manner, permitting him, upon the usual toils, and expences in passing and repassing, to pass, navigate and frequent the ports, passes and territories, to the end, to transact his business where, and in what manner he shall judge proper.

Jan. 3. A letter of the 17th December last, from Mr. F. Dana was read, informing Congress of his arrival at Boston, after a passage of 95 days, from Petesburgh; and desiring to know whether it is the expectation of Congress, that he should come on to the place of their sessions, and without loss of time to render a more particular account of his late mission. Whereupon,

Resolved, That the president inform Mr. Dana, it is the desire of Congress to receive his communication; relative to his mission to the court of Russia; and to the disposition of that court towards the United States, as soon as the circumstances of his affairs, and the season shall admit of his attending Congress.

Jan. 5. On the report of a committee to whom was referred a memorial from Gustavus Conyugham, praying for the renewal of a commission of captain in the navy of the United States, received from the commissioners in Paris, in 1777, and lost by him, or to be reinstated in his former situation.

Resolved, That the prayer of the said memorialist cannot be granted, such commissions being intended for temporary expeditions only, and not to give rank in the navy.

On the report of a committee to whom was referred a letter from the commander in chief of the 28th August, containing a proposal from the secretary of the Polish order of knights of Divine Providence, that Congress should appoint a number of suitable persons to be created knights of the said order,

Resolved, That the late commander in chief, be requested to inform the chevalier Jean de Heintz, secretary of the order of Divine Providence, that Congress are sensible of the attention of that order, in proposing to them to nominate a number of suitable persons to be created knights of the order of Divine Providence; but that Congress cannot, consistently with the principles of the confederation, accept of their obliging proposal.

Jan. 6. The committee to whom was referred a letter of the 22d November, from the post-master-general, with sundry papers enclosed therein, respecting the robbery of the mail at Princeton, report the following state of facts.

"That about nine o'clock in the evening of the 30th of October last, the mail for the eastward was closed and laid on the counter, in the post-office—that the post-rider came into the office, and passed into a room adjoining, with the postmaster, leaving the mail on the counter, and a lighted candle near it, without any one in the office, the door leading into the street and the room adjoining being open—that under these circumstances some person entered the office at the front door, extinguished the candle and carried off the mail—that some days after the robbery of the mail, it was found in a meadow near Princeton, and returned to the general post-office—that the mail contained a large packet of notes signed by Michael Hillegas, treasurer, and other valuable effects, none of which were missing; but that five or six letters were lost, and several franked by members of Congress were broke open. Upon which state of facts the committee conceive that the interests of individuals, the revenue of the post-office, and the national honour are intimately concerned in the safety and preservation of the public mails, and of the letters, packets and dispatches committed to the post-office." Whereupon,

Resolved, That a copy of the letters and papers referred to the committee, be transmitted to the supreme executive of the state of New-Jersey, who are requested to order a strict enquiry into the conduct of John Harrison, postmaster at Princeton, and James Martin, post-rider, relative to the premises—to ascertain whether, and how far they were culpable in the loss of the mail—to discover if possible the perpetrators of the robbery and to transmit the result of such enquiry to Congress.

Resolved, That the postmaster-general, be directed to inform Congress, to whom the mail was delivered when found, and whose hands it passed through till lodged in the general post-office; that he also be directed to give positive orders to the several postmasters, and post-riders, to take the most effectual care of the letters, packets, dispatches and mails committed to them respectively, as any neglect or misconduct in that department will meet with no indulgence from Congress.

#### Extract of a letter from a gentleman in London to his friend in Maryland, dated October 2, 1783.

"You may naturally suppose, from my firm attachment to the cause of America, which I always estimated as the cause of liberty, that during my short stay in your state, I endeavoured to gain some information respecting your politics. Your constitution and form of government, which I much admire, being the foundation on which you build, led me to enquire how far your practice was conformable thereto. I was sorry to find an indirect violation thereof in several instances; but I now hope, since you are blessed with peace and independence, that all great errors are corrected, and the true spirit of your constitution adhered to in every respect. The most glaring deviation from your bill of rights, that claimed my attention during the short stay I made among you, was, the situation of your judges with respect to their salaries. Your bill of rights (which has been published in most of our public prints) declares, "that the independency and uprightness of justice are essential to the impartial administration of justice, and a great security to the rights and liberties of the people, &c. &c." And "that salaries liberal but not profuse, ought to be secured to the chancellor and the judges during the continuance of their commissions in such manner and at such time as the legislature shall hereafter direct, upon consideration of the circumstances of this state; no chancellor or judge ought to hold any office civil or military, or receive fees or perquisites of any kind." From which I concluded, that your chancellor and judges were liberally provided for; but on enquiry found, that their salaries depended on an annual vote of the legislature, and scarcely a nominal sum had ever been given them; that could be called liberal; and that by the mode of payment, they very often lost one half the nominal sum voted. This, I call, an indirect, if not a direct violation of your bill of rights. And I infer from the above quotation, that your chancellor and judges, are bound to attend solely to the business of their stations without any other fee or reward than the salaries voted them by the legislative body; not having in their power to do any other public business whatever, to enable them to gain a penny towards their support. I was also informed, that all your other civil officers for whose services, fixed salaries are given, and been treated in the same manner, or worse if possible, than the judges; which effectually drove some of them out of your service (though otherwise well qualified) because they could not support the dignity of your state, at their own expence. This hath given your enemies here an