

parent, to 262 persons, of whom are now living 214, and 48 are dead.

NEW-YORK, December 2.

We hear that the vessel which was said to be on shore, a little to the southward of Cranbury Inlet, proves to be a schooner from Cape François, one part of her is owned here and the other at that port.

A young gentleman who went passenger in the sloop from Baltimore, captain Copeland, which was wrecked on Cohasset rocks, in the severe gale of wind on the 18th ult. has given the following particulars respecting that unfortunate event.

That after a tedious passage of 21 days, during which they suffered much, as well by the stress of the weather as from accidental scantiness of provisions, they arrived at the fatal spot on the 18th instant, in the evening Land was not perceived till within a very small distance: what step would prove most expedient, for a moment they were undetermined; imminent danger pressing a decision, they concluded to bear away; but owing partly to their confusion, and partly to the amazing weight of the boom, inclosed by the main sail, which was lodged in the crutch, this was not effected till too late. Their endeavours to avoid did but hasten destruction; for the main sail being partly raised, instantly filled, and forced them with inexpressible violence, on a ledge of rocks which they had but just discovered to the leeward. The vessel sustained three successive shocks, tremendous as they were, before our informant left her: when, as fate would have it, hanging by the rigging of the bowsprit, he was by this last surge, forced upon the rocks, leaving behind him a young lady from Baltimore (whose name he forgets) and her negro male servant, of 7 years old, both of whom were drowned, together with the mate, Mr. Wright, who, after getting safe upon the rock, was prevailed upon, by the distressed shrieks and entreaties of the young lady, to re-embark, that he might effect her deliverance; but, alas! death intercepted, and even those friendly efforts were rewarded with sudden dissolution; but

That GOD who full well knew all claim to life, Had death decreed.

Our informant immediately proceeded to ascend the rock; with much difficulty he gained the summit, where, though in the midst of impending ruin, he could not but rejoice on being rejoined by the captain and the remainder of the crew consisting of five. Notwithstanding it was now low water, the violence of the sea was such as frequently to reach and sometimes pass over them; and though at first no more than an inconvenience, they feared it would, as the tide rose, ripen to a danger, so it proved—from eleven in the evening till day break the tide increased, and with it their dreadful apprehensions of ruin, the sea incessantly breaking over them, till at length despair was pictured on even the most hardy countenance, death on every side staring them in the face. However, far beyond expectation, their lives were prolonged to see another ebbing tide and approaching morn; hope again seemed to gladden the hearts of all—they with pleasure discovered the land not far distant, and about ten o'clock before noon, by hailing a person on the adjacent beach, made known their situation, when they were not only safely conducted to the shore, but kindly entertained. The sloop, with her cargo, consisting of 500 barrels of flour, were entirely lost.

On the night of the 23d ult. the house of the honourable James Lovel, Esq; in Boston, continental receiver of taxes for the state of Massachusetts, was broke open, and an iron chest, containing a sum in interest certificates of the loan officer of upwards of 25,000 dollars, some specie, a number of notes of hand and other valuable papers, taken therefrom.

Dec. 3. Air-balloon-dress is so much the fashion in this city, and so generally fancied, that some ingenious sempstresses have it in contemplation to establish a balloon petticoat, so constructed, as that every person may go up in it with safety.

A report prevailed in London, at the sailing of the packet, that Tippo Saib having ordered that general Matthews should be brought into his presence (which general, the Indian had detained prisoner, contrary to the faith and laws of nations, and in violation of articles of capitulation) spoke to him in a very haughty tone, which compelled the general to upbraid him with a breach of faith, at which Tippo was so provoked, that he drew his sabre, and cut the general to pieces.

PHILADELPHIA, December 3.

Extract of a letter from Trenion, dated Wednesday, December 1.

"On Monday last the congress of the United States assembled here, and on Tuesday they proceeded to the choice of a president, when the honourable Richard Henry Lee, Esq; of Virginia, was elected.

"This is the gentleman who first made the motion in congress, for declaring the states of America independent, in the year 1776."

By captain Budden, from Amsterdam, we learn that a war between the States General and the emperor of Germany was looked upon as inevitable; that in consequence thereof, the sailing of the East and West-India fleets was postponed till proper convoys were appointed.

We are assured from good authority, that the petition from the inhabitants of the province of Quebec, which was presented to the British house of commons by Mr. Powis, before the prorogation of parliament, contains the three following requests. In the first place, it desires that the Quebec act passed in the year 1774, immediately before the late American war, (of which it

was conjointly with the act, for altering the charter of the Massachusetts Bay, a principal cause) may be immediately and totally repealed.

And secondly, it desires that the province may be governed for the future, by an assembly of the freeholders thereof, in the manner as Nova-Scotia, and the late provinces of North-America, that were governed by virtue of the king's commissions under the great seal of captain general and governor in chief, without a charter, and were therefore called royal governments, were governed before the late troubles; instead of being governed as it has hitherto been, by the governor and legislative council only, consisting of members appointed by, and removable at the pleasure of the crown, and suspendible even at the pleasure of the governor. This request of an assembly they ground upon the king's promise in his proclamation of October 1763, to such of the subjects of his British, and other ancient dominions of the crown, as should resort to, and settle in the four new civil governments thereby erected, viz. Quebec, East Florida, West Florida, and Grenada. "That so soon as the state and circumstances of the said colonies will admit thereof, the king's governors of the said provinces shall with the advice and consent of the members of the council of the said provinces, summon and call general assemblies, within the said governments respectively, in such manner and form as is used and directed in those colonies and provinces in America which are under the king's immediate government."

And in the third place, this petition requests that certain improvements (which are specified in the petition, and are thirteen in number) may be made in the government of the province over and above the repeal of the Quebec act, and the establishment of a house of assembly; and that all these things may be done by the authority of parliament in the most permanent and effectual manner possible. These improvements seem for the most part, to be very judicious, and likely to prove very beneficial to the province, if they should be established. One of them is to transfer the ultimate jurisdiction, or right, of deciding appeals from the highest courts of justice in the province in civil matters, from the king's privy council, or rather the king in council (to which it now lies) to a court consisting of the lord chancellor of England and the twelve judges.

This petition is signed by about two hundred and thirty persons, mostly of the British inhabitants of the province, and is said to contain the sentiments of that whole body, who are now increasing to the number of six thousand. It is also signed by some few of the French, or Canadian inhabitants of the said province; and Mont. Adhemar, and Mont. de Lisle, two Canadian gentlemen of Montreal, who have been deputed by their countrymen to represent their sentiments to his majesty's ministers, and of whom, the former is still in England, have declared that the Canadians, their employers, have no objection to the establishment of government and regulation prayed for in the above mentioned petition by their British fellow subjects; but only desire, that whatever mode of government be established in the province, the Roman catholics may be admitted to all the privileges of it (such as seats in the house of assembly, capacity to hold judicial and other offices, &c.) indifferently with the protestants: so that the above mentioned petition may be justly considered as an expression of the general wishes of the inhabitants of the province of Quebec, Canadians or French, as well as British, with respect to the regulation of their government.

Extract of a letter from Dominica.

"The dissensions between the governor and the inhabitants of this island, have arisen to an unhappy crisis. One assembly is dissolved, and another summoned; yet the same opposition, headed by lieutenant-governor Stewart, constantly maintains its ground. Our ports are thin; the captains complain of the extraordinary charges of them, and the abandoned estates make the island a melancholy spectacle. Most of the troops from hence, are sent up by order of general Matthew, to St. Vincent's to suppress the Caribs, who begin to be a formidable enemy, amounting to 1200, and well supplied by the French, who are very vigilant in each island, straining every nerve to keep an interest, in case of another war, which, in the West-Indies, is the constant discourse."

Extract of a letter from Bermuda, dated November 6.

"A subscription is going to be set on foot immediately, for establishing a whale fishery, in order to obtain a valuable export from these islands."

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Kentucky, to his friend in this city, dated October 20th, 1784.

"I expect you are desirous to be informed of this happy land; happy indeed, if the Indians would not disturb us. A few days ago, they surpris'd a number of emigrants in the wilderness, killed nine men and one woman, and took a number of horses; which is the only mischief of consequence that has happened for some time. I suppose this account would electrify thousands of your timorous citizens; but here, I find it take little effect: The inhabitants of this country, are certainly a brave people, and not easily intimidated; in many parts they are safe from the depredations of the Indians, and not under the least apprehension of danger.

"I must confess I am greatly delighted with this country; nature here displays her ingenuity, and exhibits a scene unparalleled on this globe, the face of this country is so agreeably situated, that any description I can possibly give, would fall infinitely short; but I expect before this reaches you, a complete history and map of this country will be published in your city by a gentleman who went from this place with that intention: to that publication, I refer you for a particular description. The fields of corn here are amazing, I believe about one hundred bushels will be the common produce of every acre of well cultivated land; wheat, rye, and other small grain grow exceeding fine, and far exceed any production I ever saw before. The spirit of emigration continues;

numbers are daily flocking into the country. This great country is rising fast from obscurity, and in a short time will number more inhabitants than some of the states."

ANNAPOLIS, December 16.

The honourable George Gale, Esq; is elected a member of the senate, in the room of Josias Polk, Esq; deceased. And

The honourable William Hemley, Esq; elected a senator in the room of Robert Gonsborough, Esq; resigned, has declined accepting the appointment.

By the HOUSE OF DELEGATES, December 3, 1784.

ON reading and considering the several letters to his Excellency the Governor from Samuel Chate, Esq; respecting his agency,

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY, That it is the opinion of this House, that the said Samuel Chate, Esq; in conducting and negotiating the affairs of this state, lately entrusted to his care, as agent, hath manifested great zeal, fidelity, diligence, and ability, and a vigilant attention to the honour and interest of this government; and that his said conduct merits, and therefore hath, the approbation of this General Assembly.

By order, W. HARWOOD, clk.

By the Senate, Dec. 14, 1784: Read and assented to, By order, J. DORSEY, clk.

Extracts from late London papers received by the *Wilmington*, Tom, captain Stewart.

BRESEI, September 24.

This day a ship of war called *Les Deux Freres*, was launched here, and another to be called *Le Dauphin Royal*, is to be built on the same rocks. Government has ordered the works in the dock to be continued till fifteen ships of the line shall be completed, for which purpose we have a sufficient number of workmen. We shortly expect a supply of timber for ship building from the Baltic, which together with the stock already in this port will be sufficient for constructing above forty ships of the line.

PARIS, Sept. 30. They write from Bourdeaux, of the 25th of this month, that there is a great stir in our ports; that it is believed as a certainty, among the officers of the marine, that the English took from two frigates on the coast of Comandel, after a very brisk engagement; and that they took a ship from Nantes, on the coast of Ireland. It has been debated in the merchants company, whether an embargo shall not be laid upon all ships which anchor before Poulitac. It is certain, that orders have been given for a great number of carpenters, and seamen, to depart directly for Rochfort, where they are busy in repairing vessels and frigates. Letters from Brest assure us, that the same activity prevails there.

HACWE, Oct. 6. Sunday last a courier arrived with dispatches from the court of France, and from the ministers of the states General at the court of Brussels. The day before yesterday a messenger also arrived with advices from count de Wessenaar-Twickel, envoy extraordinary from this republic, at the court of Vienna. The contents of these expressions are not yet known, but they are supposed to be of the last importance.

Little is wanting now to complete the unanimity of the different provinces for the dismissal of the field marshal; they differ only in the matter of dismissing him from the country. The states of Guelderland wish that matter to be left to the duke, thinking that he himself will be very willing to leave a country where he has been stripped of all his dignities. The majority incline to give him a pension, and to accommodate this by an amicable and respectful conference with him on the subject.

LONDON, October 9.

A letter from Brest by Thursday's French mail says, that a frigate is ordered to be got ready for sea as fast as possible, and to take on board three months provision; and, according to accounts received, it is to carry Dr. Franklin and his domestics to America; and that he was expected there by the 12th of October, to embark, part of his baggage being come to the hotel taken for him in that town.

The ivory bed, chairs, and furniture, which were presented to the queen by Mrs. Hastings, are not so valuable as they are uncommon, being the first of the kind ever brought to England. They were made at Murshedabad, in Bengal, where the artists work in ivory superior to any part of the world, and upon very reasonable terms.

There are at this time upwards of fourscore ships up at the Jamaica coffee house for that island, and as many more at the New-York and Carolina, for different parts of America. No very unpleasant demonstration this, of the revival of the British commerce.

Oct. 11. David Hartley, Esq; arrived on Thursday at his house in Golden-square from Paris, where he has been for some time as the commissioner on the part of the British court, to negotiate a commercial intercourse with America. It has not transpired what progress he has made in the treaty, or whether any treaty at all is likely to take place. He is now confined with the gout.

We hear that the French are at this instant employed in instituting a new East-India company; and that they have communicated the matter formally to our court, in consequence of which, after several interviews between the minister and the court of directors, a merchant of eminence has been sent to France for the purpose of negotiating a commercial intercourse between the British and French companies; as the latter have proposed to purchase from the English company 500,000l. worth of Bengal goods annually in Bengal, to be paid for in Europe. This is not only interesting in regard to the positive advantage of the sale of so much property, but as it serves to demonstrate the pacific system of our political rival.