This day at a quarter past two o'clock, Mr. Blanchard returned in a post-chaise and four, from Dartford, in Kent, where he landed from his balloon yesterday about dusk.

CHARLESTON, *(S. C.) December* 28.

Yesterday put in here in distress, the brig Friendship, captain Murray, from Halifax, bound to Virginia.

Piracy under American colours.

The schooner Free-Mason, formerly called the Nancy, the property of the subscriber, was piratically taken away from him by the captain and his crew, having just gone ashore for information previous to entry, on the 3d instant, within sight of Cape-François, in the island of Hispaniola. A reward of one hundred Spanish milled dollars is hereby offered to any person or persons, who can give any information whereby the proprietor may recover his vessel and cargo. The schooner is remarkably long, Philadelphia built, 25 tons burthen, 55 feet keel, and from 13 to 14 feet beam; painted on her sides white, yellow, red, and green, and on her stern are emblems of masonry; on the deck is fixed a large false cable, at the end of which is the binnacle, and an iron stove for baking; the entrance to the cabin is by two steps, and through a double door painted green, the inside is papered, white and yellow; a small distance from the steps is a contrivance for depositing provisions, &c. that locks with a French padlock; in the cabin are four sleeping places, two of which serve as presses, and contain sundry merchandises, silks, Flanders linen and lace, and paper hangings.

Description of the crew.

Francis Hughes, the captain, a native of Port Louis, in Britany; about 25 years old, 5 feet 4 inches high, yellow complexion, with black hair and eye brows.

Theobald Bush, an Irishman, about 30 years old, 5 feet 2 inches high, chesnut-coloured hair and eye-brows, full face, and very much marked with the small-pox.

John Pilot, a native of the environs of Bourdeaux; about 28 years old, 5 feet 3 inches high, very meagre, black hair and eye-brows, and remarkable small eyes.

Marson Bese, a native of Britany, about 28 years old, 5 feet 1 inch high, full faced, and very large eyes.

Peter Pauger, a native of Berne, about 35 years old, 5 feet 1 inch high, very lean, and black complexion.

Thomas Carwin, a native of Pumage, in Normandy, cabin boy, a likely youth, about 15 years old, and 5 feet high.

CHARLES TRAVERS,

Kingston, Jamaica, November 19, 1784.

As the subscriber returns to Hispaniola, he requests if any who can give information of the above atrocious act of piracy, to declare the same to Mr. A. Lindo, merchant of this town.

BOSTON, *January* 24.

Last Thursday evening, as a young Hibernian Phaeton, was driving a pair of Scotch grays towards Jamaica Plain, he unfortunately fell out of the sley; the horses finding themselves at liberty, ran with great swittness about a mile; during which time, one of the company (a female whose situation called aloud for every kind attention and relief) exercised the strength of her lungs, until she became faint. When an amorous hero, who sat along side tete a tete with his Dulcinea, encompassed in his blue mantle, awoke, as it were, from his deep amour, was greatly surprised to find the lady on the one side of him lifeless, and his friend the driver gone. Threw aside for a moment the pleasure of amorous dalliance, and with great agility, and unusual intrepidity, caught hold of the reins, and at a moment when the most imminent danger awaited them. This fortunate circumstance, had two good tendencies. The one in preserving the lives of the two ladies. The other, in raising his courage (which was before in no great repute with his heroine) to a degree that will, in all probability, be instrumental in producing an immediate union, as she has repeatedly since pronounced him a beau garçon.

The following lusus naturæ actually happened at Bruges: The wife of a tradesman of that city was brought to bed of a girl, acknowledged as such by the father, mother, and midwife, and was baptized accordingly; but in a few months after, the mother, to her great astonishment, perceived the child had changed its sex, and become a boy perfectly formed. This extraordinary circumstance was confirmed on oath before the magistrate of the town by the parents, and an order given to alter the form of the first baptism.

NEW-YORK, *February* 10.

Arrived, and came up to the city since our last, the brig Eliza, captain Cranston, from Antigua, and the brig Sally, captain Reymond, from Bourdeaux.

The British packet, mentioned to have arrived last week, did not get up till Tuesday last, occasioned by the ice, and the severity of the weather.

PHILADELPHIA, *February* 5.

"We learn with admiration," says a late London paper, "that the queen of Portugal has destroyed all the Portuguese settlements on the coast of Angola, where the negro trade was carried on, having declared all the blacks to be free, and they are all to be *made* christians. It is well known that all the kings of Congo and Angola are feudatory to Portugal, and are masters of all the coast from the river Dundas to that of Coauza. Upon this resolution, so much to the honour of this age, the queen of Portugal has received a most obliging letter from the quakers in America.

By the complexion of affairs at present in Europe, it is evident that the rupture between the emperor and the Dutch will be no disadvantage to the trade of America. The communication between the united provinces and the United States, is very extensive; but the war will considerably restrain the commerce of the former: it will be hazardous for a Dutch vessel to sail from any of the ports of the united provinces, as the first step of the emperor will undoubtedly be to purchase or hire a fleet from some of the maritime powers: hence, an American ship will be a valuable article in a Dutch port; she will command either a ready sale, or a quick freight, both of which are undoubtedly the most certain sources of opulence to this country. Besides, as Dutch ships will not be so numerous in our harbours, we will become carriers of our own commodities, which will be a double advantage to America; not need we be under any apprehension of the French or English rivalling us in the carrying trade, for there is every probability of their becoming parties in the dispute, in which case, English and French bottoms will be as hazardous as Dutch.

The following curious advertisement appeared in a late Jamaica paper.

"Wanted to hire upon a make-good lease of five years, twenty able seasoned negro men. Ten pounds per annum, and make-good, will be given for each, and at the expiration of the lease, they will be purchased at valuation."

Humanity revolts, says a correspondent, to reflect seriously on the horrible excess to which the disgraceful traffic of the human species is carried on the coast of Africa. Posterity will shudder at the recital, and be lost in amazement that nations which have made so great a progress in refinement, could perpetrate such barbarities! These reflections, says our correspondent, have been excited by the perusal of a late Kingston paper, in which are advertised for sale, the following number of slaves.

420 Gold Coast.

500 young healthy Ebee.

450 Coromante, Fantee, Ashantee, and Akim negroes.

500 young Widaw, Papaw, and other Gold Coast negroes —

Extract of a letter from Cadiz, November 23.

"On the 12th of last month, the brig Betsey, captain James Erwin, under American colours, was captured by a Saletine Rover, and carried into Tangiers, where the captain and his crew are detained prisoners; but as yet his vessel is not condemned. They were only waiting the emperor of Morocco's orders The vessel was in ballast, going to Teneriffe to load wine."

Feb. 12. We hear from New-York, that congress, a few days since, appointed Mr. Gervais, of South-Carolina, Mr. Olgood, of Massachusetts-Bay, and Mr. Walter Livingston, of New-York. Commissioners to the board of treasury.

By several gentlemen arrived in town from New-York, we learn that the December British packet got up to that city on Saturday last, and we are informed, brings the important news of the emperor of Germany having given up his claim for opening the Scheld, as he found that other European powers, so far from countenancing him, had declared in favour of Holland. This news is confirmed by letters brought by the packet, whose captain also mentioned it to our correspondent.

On Monday last arrived here colonel Francis Johnson, one of the commissioners for holding a treaty with the Indians, by whom we learn, that the treaty was happily concluded with them, about twelve days ago, at Fort M'Intosh, to the general satisfaction of both parties. At this treaty the state hath purchased of the Indians, all the land within the original grant of this state. They also fixed the bounds of the Indian territories with this state, which neither party are to transgress, and any crime committed, is to be punished by the suffering party, agreeable to the laws of their country. They have also opened the trade into the Indian country.

BALTIMORE, *February* 15.

On Friday the 21st ult. at a meeting of the philosophical society, held at Philadelphia, the following gentlemen, among many other eminent and respectable characters, both in Europe and America, were elected members of the same, viz. Mr. Herchel of Bath, in England; the honourable James Madison, and Mann Page, Esquires, of Virginia; the honourable James M'Henry, Esq; a delegate to congress, from the state of Maryland; and Andrew Ellicot, Esq; also from this state.

Extract from Lloyd's list, November 23, 1784.

"The Nautilus, Winter, from Newfoundland, arrived at Barcelona, was boarded off Cape St. Vincent's by an Algerine corsair, cruising for American vessels."

ANNAPOLIS, *February* 24.

"Departed this life, at Cedar-hill, the seat of her affectionate husband, Dr. Benjamin Fendall, in Charles county, Mrs. ANNE FENDALL, aged twenty-six years and nine days. She was a lady adorned with every truly feminine virtue, unaffected piety, filial affection, and conjugal fidelity. As a mortal, undoubtedly she had foibles; but they were so far eclipsed by her excellencies, as not to be remembered long. A few hours after the birth of her little infant, the iron hand of death nipped this lilly. At an early period, death suddenly preyed on the vital flame, and extinguished the bright lamp of life. "I am going to leave you," to her husband she cried, then sinking on her pillow, she breathed her penitent and faithful soul into his hands who gave it. As she was animated by pure religion, (till cheering to her friends to conceive) she enjoys those pleasures, which never satiate—those eternal felicities, over which neither *time*, nor *death*, can prevail."

February 10, 1785.

ABSTRACTS from some of the public acts passed last session of assembly.

An act to impose duties on certain enumerated articles imported into and exported out of this state, and on all other goods, wares, and merchandise, imported into this state.

The following duties shall be imposed on all goods imported into this state, viz. Madeira wine 6 d. port wine and claret 4 d. all other wines 3 d. per gallon; all kinds of distilled spirits 2 d. per gallon; coffee 5 s. loaf sugar 6 s. brown sugar 1 s. per cwt. green tea 9 d. souchon 6 d. bohea 2 d. per lb. salt 8 d. per bushel; all other goods, &c. (except arms and ammunition, and other articles, for the use of the United States, or any of them) two per cent. on the value, to be ascertained as follows: The merchant, &c. shall produce a fair account of all dutiable articles, specifying the quantity and cost thereof (exclusive of packages, &c.) which account shall be proved on oath; and the duties on such cargo shall be calculated by the naval officer according to the rates mentioned on specified articles, and on other goods, which may be charged in sterling money, the same shall be settled at 60⅔ exchange upon every 100l. sterling money; and on all articles charged in other foreign coins, the same shall be settled according to the current value. Provided that no person shall be required to give account of the contents of any pipe or lesser cask, but the same shall be computed at 100 gallons for every pipe or hogshead, and in proportion for smaller vessels.

The following duties shall be imposed on articles exported out of this state, viz. Every barrel of flour 3 d. every bushel of wheat 1 d. every hogshead of tobacco 2 s. to be paid at the time of clearance.

Dutiable articles landed, &c. before entry and payment of the duties, or before bond be given for payment within six months, shall be forfeited and seized.

Any person paying duties in coin of his own importation, and making oath that it was not carried out of the state with his privity or consent, shall have an abatement of 10 per cent.

No goods imported shall be landed or sold until entry made, and an account given on oath before the naval officer, and the duties paid, or secured to be paid within six months; and the naval officer shall take bond, and thereupon grant a permit for disposing of such goods, the landing to be in the day-time, and in an open place; and all articles liable to duty put on shore contrary to this act shall be forfeited and seized; and every owner, &c. guilty of smuggling such articles, shall forfeit 100l. and suffer as in case of perjury.

Any naval officer shall have power to go on board any vessel, and the same examine and search, and seize on shore any goods liable to duty, if such duty be not paid or secured to be paid within ten days after arrival, and to detain such goods until payment be made; and if such payment be not made or secured to be paid within two days from such seizure, the naval officer shall sell the same by auction, or so much as shall be sufficient to pay the duties and ten per cent. thereon for charges; provided that notice of such sale shall be given at least two weeks in some public news-paper nearest the port where the same shall happen.

Naval officer, &c. may remain on board any vessel, until dutiable articles be unladen; and if any master shall prevent such officer from entering on board, or suffer any violence to be done on board, he shall forfeit 100l. and if any person shall forcibly resist or impede such officer in the execution of his duty, or attempt to rescue any vessel or goods, he shall forfeit 300l. or suffer 6 months imprisonment, at the discretion of the court; and if any officer shall receive a bribe, or connive with any person making false entry, he shall forfeit 100l. and be disabled from ever after holding any office relating to duties within the state, and the person offering such bribe shall pay 100l.

Any naval officer, upon warrant granted by a justice of the peace, on information, accompanied by a constable, may break open, in the day-time, any house, &c. to search for any goods for which the duty has not been paid; and if any officer be sued or molested, he may plead the general issue, &c. and if any person shall hinder such officer in the execution of such warrant, or shall offer violence, he shall forfeit 300l. or suffer six months imprisonment, at the discretion of the court.

Value of damaged articles shall be ascertained by oath of two impartial men, one to be chosen by the owner, and the other by the naval officer, and in case of disagreement a third person to be named by them, and the opinion of any two shall be conclusive and the duties settled accordingly.

If any vessel belonging to any state at amity with this state, be compelled by distress or damage to enter into any port to avoid shipwreck or repair damages, the duties shall be paid only on such articles as are landed and sold; and if it should be necessary to land the whole or any part of the cargo, the goods shall be stored, at the cost of the owner, in some convenient warehouse, under lock and key kept by the naval officer; and such goods shall be subject to his inspection and control, until such vessel be repaired, and then the owner, paying the charges, may reship the same.

When any vessel shall enter into port for the purpose of barter or traffic, and doth not find a suitable market, nor break bulk, she shall be subject only to the duty on tonnage, provided she doth not remain more than ten days at one time; and if the importer of any dutiable articles shall choose to export the same out of this state, he shall make oath that the same have been duly entered and the duty paid, and give bond that they shall not be relanded or disposed of within the state, whereupon the