

the French general earnestly solicits the speedy assembling of the marshals and chiefs of the diet of 1791, at Milan: the exiled Poles, driven from their country on account of the last insurrection in Poland, and who have lately resided in Paris, have left the latter place, by invitation, for Italy.

The king of Prussia is stated to be on his death-bed. Prince Adolphus is to be married to the princess Louisa of Prussia, a widow.

Some disputes have arisen between the Ligurian republic and the grand duke of Tuscany, on account of some encroachments complained of by the former: troops have advanced on both sides to maintain their respective pretensions.

The French fleet, consisting of 12 sail of the line, and seven frigates, has put to sea four days since. We are on the eve of great events.

By a list made up to the 11th of August last, from the 1st of January preceding, it appears that 119 privateers, mounting 860 guns, have been taken by his majesty's cruisers.

Lieutenant Dent arrived at the admiralty yesterday evening with dispatches from earl St. Vincent, whose fleet remained off the harbour of Cadiz when the lieutenant left it.

The commissioners from America are arrived at Paris, though it is not expected that their mission will prevent an open rupture between the two countries.

October 4.

The French minister, M. Declue, who arrived yesterday morning at the house of Mr. Canning with dispatches for lord Malmesbury, we find came express from Udina, the seat of the negotiation between the French republic and the emperor to Paris. He continued there but 12 hours, when he was dispatched to Lisle, from which place he proceeded to England. On his arrival at the house of Mr. Canning, a special messenger was sent for lord Malmesbury, who arrived in town about noon, and the French courier delivered his packet into his own hands. Lord Malmesbury prudently recommended the Frenchman to reside in the house of one of the messengers of state until his answer should be prepared for him, which he said would be very soon. What the nature of the dispatch is we leave to our political readers to divine; it is only certain, that, be it what it may, it produced no sensation on the funds. They rose in the morning indeed to 49 five-eighths, but they suddenly fell back to 49, and finally closed at 49 one-fourth, a three eight. Those persons who draw conclusions, as to the nature of unexplained reports, from the impression they made on the stocks, can form no judgment therefore from the appearances of yesterday.

It is said indeed that the dispatch has no reference to the late negotiation at Lisle;—and a supposition has been formed which is not improbable. It is, that lord Malmesbury was in correspondence with either a British agent at Udina, or with the Imperial commissioners, as we know that he was in the habit of sending and receiving couriers directly from Lisle to Vienna and elsewhere—and it is probable that this dispatch forwarded to him from Italy in the idea of his being still in France, and which the Directory sent after him to England. We mention this as a probable conjecture; and it is likely that by this means ministers have received an account of the precise state of the important negotiation at Lisle.

The latest advices from admiral Duncan's fleet off the Texel, give the following information. By a Danish ship which left the Texel yesterday (Sept. 26,) we have obtained information, that in consequence of some serious misunderstanding between the Dutch and French, the Dutch sailors had refused to go to sea, when the admiral made the signal to weigh; upon which, most of the officers had their baggage sent on shore; and very soon after they followed it themselves: their transports have been removed from the outward to the inner road, and the troops are disembarked.

October 6.

M. Declue, the French courier, accompanied by Mr. Shaw, the king's messenger, set out yesterday evening for France, with the answer of the British cabinet to dispatches received from the Executive Directory on Tuesday morning last. Nothing has yet officially transpired relative to the nature of this reply, but the reports in the ministerial circles are in some degree favourable to the wishes of the friends of peace.

A council of all the cabinet ministers was held yesterday morning at lord Grenville's office, when the answer to the dispatches from the French Directory was fully determined upon.

October 7.

Paris journals up to the 4th inst. were received in town yesterday morning, and we have selected from them the most interesting extracts. The most important intelligence they contain is an order of the Executive Directory, dated the 11th of September, which fully confirms the opinions we have so frequently delivered of the unreasonable and exorbitant pretensions of our ambitious rival. Nothing short of a complete restitution of all the possessions taken by England from France and her allies during the course of the war, will now satisfy the avidity of the French faction—and these concessions they call upon us to establish as the basis of the negotiation. On lord Malmesbury's refusal to accede to this proposition, he was ordered to leave France in 24 hours, and return to his court in order to obtain the requisite powers to treat on the grounds alluded to. Hence the sudden rupture of the negotiation, and unless the French Directory from cooler considerations be induced to relax the rigour of this principle, there are but faint hopes left that the negotiation will soon be renewed with any effect. To such humiliating conditions the pride of England can never bow; we have therefore only to prepare with

spirit and with vigour, to meet an alternative which our earnest endeavours for a peace have been unable to avert.

The proscribed deputies, among whom are Barthelmy and Pichegru, sailed from Rochefort on the 23d ult. The fate of Carnot is still uncertain; some say he has escaped into Switzerland with Boissy d'Anglais, Pastoret, and several other deputies; by others he is said to be in England.

The two Hamburg mails which were received, one yesterday morning, and the other last night: their contents are very unimportant, and contain scarcely any thing but confused and unauthenticated accounts of the negotiation at Udina, and which now seem to wear the aspect rather of war than of peace.

Letters from Udina of the 10th ult. state, a conference took place the preceding day, between the Austrian and French plenipotentiaries, and that the French troops had orders to send back to Ferrara their sick, all their women and children: the whole army was to be ready to march on the 23d ult.

From Milan and Genoa we learn, that an attempt has been made to overturn the new Ligurian republic; but the patriots, assisted by the French, soon succeeded in crushing the insurrection.

The latest letters from Vienna, which reached Hamburg on the 28th ult. inform us, that general Maerfeldt was arrived from Udina, not with the treaty of peace, but with the ultimatum of the French Directory.

The Hamburg mail which became due on Wednesday, arrived yesterday evening; it brings intelligence of the most gloomy nature from Vienna, Udina, and other parts of Italy, from which it may be inferred, that the war will be prosecuted by the emperor with increased fury. [Sun.]

BOSTON, November 28.

A CONFLAGRATION.

During the lapse of a very considerable time, Boston has not experienced those calamities from the fiery element, which it has too often witnessed, and to which, from its construction, it appears devoted. The felicity produced by the long suspension of these distressing accidents, is superseded by the most poignant grief, by the event of yesterday morning.

Fifteen minutes before two o'clock, the building occupied by Mrs. Broaders and Mrs. Western, was observed in a flame. So completely had the fire attained the mastery when discovered, that it was with extreme difficulty the tenants of the building escaped with their lives. The alarm was first given by a person in the street, when the blaze was pouring out of the windows, and two people just rushing from the doors. The always alert inhabitants were soon summoned to the scene which required their exertions; but notwithstanding the most spirited labour directed by the nicest judgment, the voracious flames made more greedy by the high wind which prevailed, consumed the building occupied by Mrs. Broaders and Western, and the houses improved by Mr. Haggar, Mr. Evans, Mrs. Moncrief, Mr. Jarret, and Mr. Farmer; when the course of the conflagration was stopped. The house of Mr. Hoffman, on the windward side of the fire, was much injured.

Mrs. Broaders had a well furnished house, with accommodations for a large number of boarders, and a handsome stock of seamen's cloathing, which were mostly consumed.

Mrs. Western lost all her furniture, and most of the articles in a small huckster's shop.

Mr. Haggar, the owner of the places tenanted by himself, Messrs. Farmer, Evans, Moncrief and Jarret, have been the principal sufferers in this melancholy occurrence. The estate might be valued at 3000l. purchased with the earnings of industry, and the savings of economy.

Mr. Farmer preserved most of the stock of a large grocery store, but owing to the hurry of removal has to regret the loss of 100l. worth of property. He desires his most grateful thanks may be tendered to the numerous friends who assisted him. The rest of the persons mentioned experienced loss in the removal of their property, as did also the occupiers of houses and stores to which the flames did not extend.

FROM FRANCE.

On Sunday arrived at Plymouth, captain Spooner, in 46 days from Bourdeaux. Several of our obliging friends favoured us with Paris papers to October 3, received by this captain.

The prospect of the renewal of hostilities between France and Germany is undiminished. Every preparation on each side is persevered in. The last official news from the army of Italy was to the 23d of September, at which period the emperor had not acceded to the last propositions made by the Directory; but the Paris papers say, the Directors were forming a new ultimatum, which they intended to submit to the emperor, as their last overtures for a pacification.

The Cis-Rhodian republic is organizing. It is stated, that the British have asked to send a new plenipotentiary to Lisle.

Nothing new is mentioned of the conspiracy. The most rigorous measures were persevered in to prevent the denounced party from gaining an ascendancy again. It was proposed in the legislative body that all passports anterior to that date, October 1, should be annulled.

It seems that Carnot, Boissy d'Anglais, Portalis, Pastoret, Dumolard, Duplantier, Imbert Colombes, and some others, condemned to transportation, had been so fortunate as to escape, and had reached Switzerland.

The American consul at Dunkirk, incalculated, as is said, by some papers found at Calais, has been arrested by order of the Directory.

The interior of France was considerably agitated in parts remote from the government. Rebellion excited, and assassinations were frequent.

Extract of a letter from Paris, October 4.

Two of our commissioners have arrived at Paris, we hope they may be able to re-establish the good understanding that once existed between the two countries, and set our political and commercial relations upon the footing they ought to stand. Certainly it is of importance to both that amity should be restored to them.

Captain Spooner says, little information is to be obtained at Bourdeaux, as freedom of discourse is dangerous; and on account of the frequent destruction of the post-riders, papers are not regularly received from Paris.

NEW-YORK, December 4.

The following interesting though melancholy circumstance is lately given as a fact in the London Oracle.

By letters from Mill-street, in the county of Derry, received yesterday, the following particulars have reached town:—

Mr. O—ze, a respectable gentleman in the neighbourhood, received an anonymous letter that his only daughter carried on an intrigue with the son of an eminent lawyer, then in the country.

The father listened to the tale—the innocent levities of his child he construed into an unbecoming forwardness—he conceived her guilty—and the tenderness of the father was overcast with gloom and grief. Distrust took place of confidence, and he meditated a deep revenge against the man whom he looked upon as the despoiler of a child's honour.

Pensive, gloomy, and distrustful, every effort of the daughter to cheer her fond parent only served to rivet those opinions which he too hastily formed. The daughter apprehended a derangement of his mental faculties, and watched all his motions with evident marks of fear and trembling. Thus were the pious affiduities of the child imputed to a consciousness of her own guilt.

About a fortnight ago, the fatal evening arrived when death drops the curtain on the shocking catastrophe.

The father repaired to a copse adjoining his own garden, where he surprised the youthful lovers in amorous dalliance. Rage had stopped the power of utterance—he was about to present the fatal pistol at the fond pair.

Just at the instant his purpose was shaken by a piercing shriek.

It was the shriek of the daughter who had watched her father, whom the feared had long resolved upon suicide.

She seized his arm—the parties made their escape. The offending female, it appeared, was her own waiting woman, who dressed herself in her mistress's cloaths to meet her lover.

The truth rushed on the father's mind, he had debased his darling child by suspicion. He was in the act of committing murder—reflection kept not between him and death—he clapt the pistol to his own head and expired in the daughter's arms.

The young lady has fallen a victim to melancholy, and the return of her senses is hopeless.

PHILADELPHIA, December 4.

There is now exhibiting at New-York an American dwarf, named Calvin Phillips, who was born in Bridge-water, Massachusetts. He is seven years of age, though he is only twenty-six inches high, and weighs only twelve pounds! It is said he is well proportioned and active. Persons beholding this wonder of Nature, are apt to imagine that *Swiss* must have had him in vision, when he described the intrepid general of the armies of Lilleput.

The Last Night.

At the Ball-Room,

This Evening, THURSDAY, Dec. 14, 1797,
Messrs. CHALMERS & WILLIAMSON will present the Ladies and Gentlemen of Annapolis, with a new species of Entertainment, called,

THE TABLET:

Or, Just in Time.

CONSISTING OF READINGS, RECITATIONS, AND SONGS.

Particulars in the Bills of this Day.

Price of Admission One Dollar.—Tickets to be had at Mr. Wharf's Bar.—No money will be received at the door.

In consequence of a large and respectable party (by particular desire) the performance will begin at half past five o'clock precisely.

Particular attention will be paid to keep the room warm.

FOR S A L E,

A FEW families of NEGROES, consisting of two women and four children, all boys, two fit for service; one ditto, four ditto, one girl, three boys, two fit for service, one ditto, two ditto, both boys; one man, his wife and child, as likely negroes as any in America, they have all had the small-pox except a few small ones.

GEORGE SMITH,

Calvert county, Lyon's creek, Dec. 2, 1797.