

London papers to the 16th August (one day later than our previous advices) were received at the office of the *Mercantile Advertiser*, by the ship Gold Hunter. She sailed on the 17th, and had a paper of that date; but being boarded on the Banks of Newfoundland by two British frigates from Greenland, capt. Vose gave it to one of the commanders at his earnest solicitation.

It contained, however, we are informed, no additional intelligence on the subject of the pending negotiations: and it was the general expectation in London that they would be broken off without terminating in peace.

The paper of the 16th is politically uninteresting. The report of the commissioners appointed to investigate the charges against the Princess of Wales has been made to the king, but is not published. It bears date on the 14th July, and was delivered on the 11th of August to the illustrious lady by one of the lord Chancellor's footmen; a mark of disrespect which is treated with becoming severity by some of the London editors. The report, we understand, is a complete exculpation from the charge of having borne a spurious child, and notices only some trifling levities which were deemed unbecoming her exalted situation. [N. Y. M. Adv.]

*An account of a strange Animal killed on the Island of Noirmotier\* by two girls:*

In the month of June, two young girls of the Island of Noirmotier, seeking for shells in the crevices of the rocks, one of them discovered in a kind of a natural grotto an animal of a human form, which, as soon as it saw the girl, erected its head, leaning at the same time on its hands. The girl called to the other, who having a long knife, struck it into the animal, which upon being wounded groaned like a human person. The two girls cut off its hands, which had fingers and nails quite formed, with webs between the fingers. The surgeon of the Island went to see it. The account he gives is, that it was as big as the largest man; that its skin was white, resembling that of a drowned person; that it had the breadth of a full chested woman; a flat nose, a large mouth, the chin adorned with a kind of beard, formed of fine shells; and over the whole body tufts of similar white shells: It had the tail of a fish, and at the extremity of it a kind of feet.

\* Noirmotier, a town of France, and capital of an Isle of the same name, lying in the mouth of the river Loire.

*From a London paper.*

As we had some rain, on St. Swithin's and every day since, so according to an old popular opinion, we may expect a portion every day, till forty days are complete. St. Swithin was a Bishop of Winchester, so early as the year 860; and as tradition states, there was in his time, a period of great scarcity, and from the dryness of the ensuing season, nothing less than absolute famine was apprehended. The good Bishop offered up incessant prayers to Heaven to avert the horror threatened the whole kingdom. Happily, his prayers availed, for on the 15th of July some rain fell, which continued daily, more or less, full forty days, and restored the blessing of plenty to a despairing people. A similar saying applies to St. Paul's day, the 25th of January. We find these instances of superstition thus noticed by GAY, in his *Trivia*:

All superstition from thy breast repel,  
Let credulous boys and prattling nurses tell,  
How, if on Swithin's feast the welkin lowers,  
And ev'ry penthouse streams with halcyon showers,  
Twice twenty days shall clouds their fleeces drain,  
And wash the pavements with incessant rain;  
Let no such vulgar tales delude thy mind,  
Nor Paul nor Swithin, rule the clouds and wind.

**CROPS IN VIRGINIA.**

So great is the apprehended scarcity in several counties of Virginia, that a proposition has been made to stop the proceedings of the courts of justice. According to the Raleigh Minerva it has been actually carried into effect in Brunswick county; for "the Magistrates refused at the time fixed for the last term, to go on the bench and open court; alleging that, to give judgment at this period, against many individuals would be their ruin."—Some of the Southern and Western countries, unwilling thus to suspend the administration of justice, have deliberated upon the expediency of petitioning the legislature to enjoin all executions, and to suspend the collection of taxes during the ensuing year. Such a measure is said to have been adopted within a few years past in regard to some of the counties of this commonwealth.

"Our crops, of every kind (says a gentleman in Brunswick county) are astonishingly short. Nothing less than 5 dollars per barrel is spoken of, for corn from the stack. I am confident that unless our demand can be supplied from abroad, the next Summer will exhibit many distressing scenes of extreme want." Let the Corn-Merchant, therefore, seriously consider, whether it would not be extremely to his interest, to supply the southern parts of Virginia with corn, from the more abundant markets of South-Carolina and New-Orleans. Richmond Enquirer.

We are assured that JOSEPH H. NICHOLSON, esq. has declined accepting the office of collector of the port of Baltimore, to which situation he was appointed, vice R. Purviance, esq. deceased.

[Telegraphic.]

Doctor Erskine, appointed minister plenipotentiary to the congress of the United States, set off on Thursday last, for his destination. The same day Mr. Braham quitted London on a mission to the court of Lisbon.—Lon. pap. of Aug. 21.

**RETURNS—OFFICIAL.**

**DELEGATES TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.**

*For Saint-Mary's county*—William Hebb, William H. Brown, Thomas Gardiner and Thomas Blackfistone, Esquires.

*For Kent county*—Richard Frisby, Gideon Pearce, Benjamin Hanson and Cornelius Comegys, Esquires.

*For Charles county*—Phillip Stuart, Henry H. Chapman, George D. Parnham and William H. M'Pherfon, Esquires.

*For Baltimore county*—Tobias E. Stansbury, Peter Little, Moses Brown and George Harryman, Esquires.

*For Talbot county*—David Kerr, jun. Solomon Dickinson, Thomas S. Denny and Edward Martin, Esquires.

*For Dorchester county*—John Smoot, Solomon Frazier, George Ward and Robert Dennis, Esquires.

*For Cecil county*—John J. Cox, James L. Porter, Thomas Moffit and George E. Mitchell, Esquires.

*For Prince-George's county*—Benjamin Hodges, Francis M. Hall, Henry A. Callis and Thomas Woodward, Esquires.

*For Queen-Anne's county*—William Sudler, William Gleaves, John Ruth Downes and John Brown, of Joel, Esquires.

*For Frederick county*—Thomas Hawkins, Joab Waters, Henry Kuhn and Benjamin Biggs, Esquires.

*For Caroline county*—Peregrine F. Bayard, John Keene, Alenby Jump and White Turpin, Esquires.

*For the city of Baltimore*—Edward Aisquith and Robert Stewart, Esquires.

*For Washington county*—John Bowles, Tench Ringgold, Martin Kerstner and David Schnebly, Esquires.

*For Montgomery county*—William Carroll, Richard Key Watts, Brice Selby and William Darne, Esquires.

**Postscript.**

**BY YESTERDAY'S PACKET.**

PHILADELPHIA, October 11.

Extract of a letter, dated Wilmington, (Del.) October 9, 1806.

"Our election for representative to congress and state legislators was held on the 7th inst. and I have the pleasure to inform you, that Mr. James M. Brown is re-elected without opposition, and that our legislature is decidedly federal."

NORFOLK, October 7.

The British ship of war Leopard sailed from Hampton Roads on Saturday. The Melampus is still at anchor in Lynnhaven bay.

The Squadron under the command of Sir J. B. Warren, has sailed for England.

BALTIMORE, October 14.

Extract of a letter from New-Orleans, to a mercantile house in this city, dated September 12, 1806.

"We have news from the Attakapas, saying 'it is rumoured here that col. Thompson has ordered the militia of this county to be in readiness; and that capt. Boyer has been defeated and taken, and that major Sparks is driven back. It is certain, that the Spanish army is on the march this side of Natchitoches.'"

"We have just, however, received authentic information, that there has been no engagement, but that the Spaniards were obliged to return across the Sabine river again to preserve their health, and that while they were on this side about 3 weeks, they lost 500 of their men with the fever; and that the governor of the interior of Mexico, was on his way with troops, and when he arrived they would have an army of 3 or 6000 men, when they will endeavour to force a passage to this place."

**LATEST FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.**

Arrived at New-York, on Saturday last, the schooner Hamlet, capt. Henry, in 32 days from Bourdeaux; and the Robert Burns, Waite, from Liverpool. By the former Paris papers to the 28th of August, and London advices to the 22d, inclusive, have been received. These papers furnish nothing definitive on the subject of the negotiation at Paris, the only topic, which, as it now exclusively engrosses the public mind; could give them interest. A passenger, however, from Bourdeaux, supplies this deficiency, and states, that the negotiation was entirely broken off, and that the earl of Lauderdale, on the 28th day of August, had demanded passports for his return to London.

**MIRANDA.**

Captain Briggs, arrived yesterday from Curacao, reports, that he was at Aruba, 6 weeks ago, at which time Miranda was in possession of that Island. Capt. B. sold part of his cargo to the British vessels under direction of Miranda, which consisted of the

Galatea,	of 36 guns.
Bachante,	28
Lily sloop,	22
Brigs Attentive,	18
Expres,	18

Two schooners heavily armed, and the Leander. With several schooners as transports. The troops were about 600 in number.

**JACOB'S LAW DICTIONARY.**

Subscriptions for this valuable work, now printing in Philadelphia, in two volumes, 4to, price 20 dollars, in boards, received at the printing-office.

**Poet's Corner.**

**SELECTED.**

**AUTUMNAL REFECTIONS.**

"Oh let us tune one tender farewell to the fading year."

SUMMER's sweets with autumn's blended,  
Flora's beauties soon are o'er;  
These but for a while's suspended,  
Youth once past returns no more.

Yonder fields, late cloath'd in verdure,  
Where is now your beauteous hue?  
Where with delight I've often wandered,  
Purling streams adieu! adieu!  
Where, Oh! now, ye tuneful warblers,  
Tenants of the shady grove,  
Where with pleasure oft I've listen'd  
To your artless tale of love.

The Whippoorwill, in strain melodious,  
In silent eve, no more we hear;  
Nor the cooing Dove harmonious,  
In plaintive note doth charm the ear.

Farewell green hills! farewell ye vales!  
Where lambskins us'd to sport with glee;  
Adieu, ye zephyrs, fragrant gales!  
That whisper'd thro' the trembling tree.

Rude Boreas soon, with iron steppe,  
Must a while his way maintain;  
May we find within our cottage,  
Peace of mind, and virtue reign.

Learn, O youth! in NATURE's volume,  
Useful lessons for the mind;  
In ev'ry page, in ev'ry column,  
Rich instruction thou may'st find.

See the fairest flowers fading,  
Withered leaves now strewn the ground;  
Winter soon, our plains invading,  
Comes with majesty profound.

Thus we see the changing season,  
Flora yields her sweetest breath;  
Hence, vain man! adhere to reason,  
Thou, alas! must yield to death!

Another Spring's returning verdure  
We perhaps may never view!  
Then may our thoughts aspire further,  
Where summer ever blooms anew.

By order of the orphans court of Anne-Arundel county, will be Sold, at Public Sale, on Thursday, the 15th of November, if fair, if not, the first fair day, at the Fork of Patuxent, near the Quaker meeting-house,

ALL the personal property of ABSALOM ANDERSON and ANNE ANDERSON, consisting of negroes, horses, cattle, sheep, hogs, household and kitchen furniture, corn, wheat, rye, oats, and plantation utensils. A credit of nine months will be given for all sums above ten dollars, all sums under ten dollars cash. The sale to commence at 10 o'clock, and continue till all is sold. All persons indebted to either of the deceased are requested to make payment, and those having claims to make them known within six months, to

JAMES ANDERSON, Executor.

October 15, 1806.

**NOTICE.**

THERE is a stray GOW at the subscribers', on the north side of Severn, which has been there ever since the latter part of June last, she has no perceivable flesh mark, she has a bald face, crooked horns, and some white places on her belly, she is a light brindled on her back and sides. The owner is desired to come and prove property, pay charges, and take her away.

BARNCH BOWLER.

October 16, 1806.

TAKEN up, on Sunday, the 14th day of September, between Holland's Island and Fishing Creek, four SPARS, which appear to be designed for ships masts, the said spars now lie in Fishing Creek, and without the owner comes forward, proves the property, and pays the charges that have originated in securing the same, they will be sold as the law directs.

R. BYWATERS.

Anne-Arundel county, September 16, 1806.

THE subscriber will SELL, on moderate terms, thirty-nine tracts of LAND, situate in Wayne county, Pennsylvania; containing from 300 to 450 acres each tract, clear of allowance for roads. Purchasers may be accommodated with a single tract, or part of a tract. These lands are mostly situate near the river Delaware, and generally heavy timbered: immense quantities of lumber go from them to the Philadelphia market. There is a ready sale for all kinds of produce at Milford, within five miles of those lands, and the mills in the neighbourhood last year's wheat sold at from 11s. 3d. to 12s. 6d. and corn, the average price, about a dollar. Those two articles are produced in great abundance. Any person inclining to purchase may be informed of further particulars, by applying to the proprietor, at Annapolis, or to Mr. JAMES BARTON, of Milford, agent for the care of those lands, and payment of taxes which have been regularly made.

JOHN GIBSON.

Annapolis, June 8, 1806.