

which the Indians appeared to be less formidable—on this direction we were fortunate enough to break thro' and every one made the best of their way for Fort Jefferson.

Several attempts were made to form a rear guard, but they all proved ineffectual, for as the Indians gave us chase and set up their horrid yells, the greatest part of our men threw down their arms, knapsacks &c and pushed a head with all their might. The Indians followed 4 or 5 miles firing on and tomahawking all that came within their reach.

Translations from French papers, to Oct. 12, received on Tuesday last by the Betsy, from Havre de Grace.

Paris, Oct. 8.—Many people in this country complain that the mode of election adopted in the constitution is attended with too much delay, and does by no means sufficiently provide against intrigue and corruption. Doubtless a less imperfect method might be fallen upon; altho' it must be confessed that corruption always prevails more or less in every elective assembly, from that of Poland which elects a king, to the simple district which only elects a justice of the peace. If there is an elective assembly in the world, without fraud and venality, it is that of Venice. Their mode of election is of a nature too complex to be adopted in France, but is nevertheless worth mentioning. When a doge is to be chosen, all the noblemen who are convened in the supreme council, draw each a little ball out of a box of balls, among which are mingled thirty gilt ones. Those who draw the gilded balls then draw lots a second time, their number being reduced to nine; and these nine electors name forty, who by another balloting are reduced to twelve. These again name twenty-five electors, whom the chance of the lots reduces afterwards to nine. The operation is not yet ended. These nine once more choose forty-five, who are by lot again reduced to eleven, who in the last place appoint the forty-one electors by whom the doge is immediately chosen. This is something like the drawing of a lottery, and is managed with great rapidity. An election there is never known to continue more than three or four hours, although there are commonly eight or nine hundred voters present. At first sight, one would suppose that mere chance decided these elections, but the real effect of this complicated balloting is to place those in office who have a majority of votes. It is by such a mode of election, (which is practised also at Genoa) that the Venetians prevent the intrigues of their magistrates to gain an ascendancy over each other, stifle a spirit of party and faction, and destroy the ambitious projects of an oligarchy.

Clerks, Oct. 1.—The French emigrants at Coblenz, Treves, Brussels, and most other places in the empire, and its dependencies, were thunderstruck at the king of France's acceptance of the constitution. All the consolation or advice we can afford to them in this place, is, to return to their country as expeditiously as possible and make their peace with the powers that be. They do not give the least credit to the accounts of a general amnesty, and still reckon upon the emperor's assistance in the spring.—Miserable men! how greatly are they mistaken—they seem not to know that the paper called *The Courier of the Lower Rhine* is supported by the Imperial chamber of Finance on purpose to persuade the numerous bodies of emigrants in those parts to return to France, and reform themselves to their country at any price.—That very paper has yesterday asserted from the most unquestionable authority, that "neither the emperor nor the empire, nor any other foreign power will either march their troops now, or at any future time, with a view to effect a counter revolution; and that the king of France has acted very wisely in making his peace with a people, of whom it is in his power again to become the idol, more than ever. If the French exiles and emigrants any longer depend upon assistance from this quarter, we have authority (which they have no idea of) to say, that bitter repentance will be the consequence of their idle hopes."

Brussels, Oct. 2.—The king of Prussia has given his ultimatum to the fugitive French princes; "That the present moment is the only time at which he could possibly spare any troops to act against France. In the spring circumstances would not allow him to send a single soldier." This declaration was a dead-broke to the poor exiled princes, and the prince of Conde even shed tears upon the occasion. The circumstances referred to by the king of Prussia, most probably had relation to the towns of Dantzic and Thorn, of which he is determined to possess himself, the first favorable opportunity by forcible means. Letters, however, from Russia, Sweden, and Poland say, that those powers are determined to oppose him with a combination of their forces.

Paris, Oct. 9. When the king understood that the usual ceremonial of salutation between the national assembly and himself was to be changed at his meeting them, he seemed very much affected.—"I should have thought (said he) that although they have deprived me of all honor, as an individual, they would have manifested some regard for the dignity of their first magistrate, the hereditary representative of the nation."—This effusion spread like wildfire; and to such a height were the passions of the populace raised, that when the great chair of state was brought into the assembly's hall, they seemed to worship the very chair. Such an excess of enthusiastic applause was reprobated by one of the orators—but his voice was drowned in the murmurs of the people.—This gave great umbrage to M. Cou-

pleau, one of the members of the second legislature, who cried out that the majesty of the people was sacrificed to the majesty of the king.—"If you dare to express yourself again in that manner (said one of the officers of the national guard) I will cut you to pieces—you are a traitor—end, take notice, that we have bayonets!"—"Yes!" (replied the national guard)—we will cut him to pieces should he infringe the constitution—we are also ready to cut that man to pieces, who offers him the most trifling insult, while he is doing his duty!" M. Goupilleau then exclaimed aloud, *The temple of the country is become the stage of bul-lies and gladiators. The national guard wears a menacing aspect—they tell us that the word majesty belongs to the king only—that the people are nothing and the king every thing.*—The officer was then called to the bar, and desired to explain. Three hours were spent in debating on this insult, and examining witnesses. The officer at length interpreted his expressions into another meaning; and the assembly passed on to the order of day.

Balbastro, (Spain) Sept. 20. Doctor Joseph Abado continues to practice inoculation for the small pox, in this city, with the most incredible success. Since the month of June last, he has inoculated in the different cities and towns of Aragon to the amount of four hundred and eighty patients. Out of this large number not one has died, and all are perfectly recovered. During the same space of time one hundred and fifty persons were attacked by the small-pox in the natural way, in the same towns and places where doctor Abado inoculated, out of which number seventeen died, as has been certified by the several magistrates of those places.

Warsaw, (Poland) Sept. 25. On the 15th instant the new constitutional diet opened with all that good order and dignity befitting the representatives of a free nation. The king made a speech at this session; having brought into view the general unanimity of the nation in accepting the constitution on the 3d of May 1791, he concluded a very rational and truly patriotic speech, with the following remarkable words: "We have sworn to maintain this constitution—we have engaged under the most sacred obligations, rather to die than suffer the least infringement thereof—and in speaking this, I am convinced I am nothing more than the echo of the public voice."—This was returned with suitable warmth on the part of the people, and then the diet proceeded to business.

Sept. 26.—The minister of France has caused a solemn mass to be performed in St. Mary's church for the happy success of the French revolution. The people of this country beheld with pleasure a religious solemnity which put them in mind of their own political regeneration. We love and admire the French constitution, and we may even venture to say, that it is to this constitution, in its early efforts, that we owe our revolution in Poland, which has broke the shackles of slavery, and brought us to be acquainted with the charms and blessings of liberty.

Paris, Oct. 10. Letters from Avignon mention nothing but trouble and disorder in those parts. At Sorgues, a town near Avignon, hostilities have been commenced between the parties that divide the country thereabouts. An officer of the last mentioned town has been killed, several others wounded, and numberless outrages committed. The inhabitants themselves seem bent upon persecuting each other; robbery and plunder are practised with impunity, and no one lies down at night in safety.

October 11.—M. d'Andre, not long since a dignified nobleman, and councillor to the parliament at Aix, has become a partner in the spice trade with M. M. Ginetti and Charlemagne. His store, one of the best in this capital, is in Glac. Blouie street. This citizen, at all times noted for his patriotism, after having acted a distinguished part in the first national legislature; has now enrolled himself in the national guard, and has actually twice mounted guard in quality of grenadier.

M. de Moutier, ambassador from France at Berlin, is soon to succeed M. de Montmorin in the department for foreign affairs.

THE KING'S SPEECH TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, on Sept. 30.

Gentlemen,
THE constitution being completed, your labors, for the present, are also at an end. A prolongation of the session for some time would have been desirable, that you yourselves might have seen, while in your legislative capacity, in what manner your other labors would have operated upon the public mind. But these additional objects are entered upon, and only wait to be perfected by those enlightened legislators, who well know what the nation stands in need of, from near three years painful experience. You have doubtless thought it a matter of great importance to make as short an interval as possible, between the finishing the constitution, and the conclusion of the labors of the constituting bodies, in order to determine with more precision the difference that exists between the duties of the constituting bodies and those of the legislatures.—In respect to myself, having accepted the constitution, which you have made for the kingdom, I shall employ all the power with which it invests me to ensure that respect and obedience to the laws which is due to them. I have notified to foreign powers my acceptance of the constitution, and it shall be my constant study and earnest endeavor to pursue such measures as shall secure the nation from any foreign attempts, and to exert all my vigilance and firmness in causing the constitutional laws to be executed within the kingdom, and to prevent their being changed or infringed.—As to yourselves, gentlemen, you, through a long and arduous task, have manifested a most indefatigable zeal for the public welfare—but you have still one duty to accomplish: When you shall be dispersed through this vast empire, let it be your constant care to instruct your fellow citizens in the true spirit of those laws which you have made for them—explain those which they may have misunderstood—purify all hearts, & unite all opi-

nions by the example which you will set before them of love to their country, order, and submission to the laws.

In returning to your several homes, I trust, gentlemen, that you will transfer my sentiments to your fellow citizens. Tell them all that the king will still be their head, their protector and their faithful friend; that it is his interest to be esteemed by them; and that he cannot be happy but with them and for them. The hope of contributing to their happiness will animate my courage, and the conviction of having fully secured it, will at all times be my sweetest reward.

Signed, LOUIS.
Counter-signed, DELESSART.

Oct. 12. Certain intelligence is come to hand, that the French residents in Spain are preparing to quit that miserable bigotted country, to avoid falling a sacrifice to tyranny and fanaticism. Our informant says, they have refused to take the requisite oath of allegiance, as the taking of it would blot out their national character. One brig only, at Cadiz, has taken on board one hundred and thirty persons of this description; eighty are embarked at Malaga; and more than 1200 have quitted Madrid and its vicinity.

A place has hitherto been set apart in the hall of the national assembly, appropriated to those members of the assembly whose times had expired. This privilege appears a contradiction to our own principles. It is essential to a free constitution, that citizens who have been honored with the public confidence, when their times are expired, should, in every sense, return to the common mass of the people. It would be absurd that such a privilege should be established in the very hall where every other privilege has been abolished. It appears that this affair has been managed by certain intriguing characters in the late assembly, who wished, after their political demise, to influence the national deliberations; and have even ventured to write billets from their seats and circulate them among the members.

The late bishop of Lucon, in a frenzy of ecclesiastical rage and despair, has issued a pastoral letter, in which he recommends to the anti-constitutional clergy of France to continue instructing the faithful as heretofore, and to do all in their power to inspire them with a contempt for the conforming clergy. He endeavors to make the peasantry believe that to attend a mass said by a conforming priest is a mortal sin, and that children, the offering of a marriage, the ceremonial of which was performed by one of them, are no better than bastards; and that burials, baptisms, and other acts of religious duty, are no other than blasphemies, when under the management of these intruders.

The empress of Russia has sent M. de Romanzow (son of the famous marshal of that name) with a present of two millions of roubles and notes to the exiled French Princes at Coblenz. The poor Princes insist upon it that M. de Romanzow comes to them in quality of Ambassador,—but they are utterly mistaken: we have the best authority to say he is invested with no public character whatsoever, beyond that of a genteel messenger.

While philosophy and liberty are making such rapid strides in France, Germany is every day bowing her neck more and more under the yoke of feudal tyranny. At Dusseldorff an ordinance has been lately published, which would have done credit to the titled robbers of the fourteenth century. It ordains that the citizens shall not enjoy the diversion of dancing more than three times in a year, and that only during the three days of the carnival. As to the nobility, they are not put under any restrictions in this matter, so that they can have as many balls, routs, &c. as they think proper. This humiliating discrimination has so incensed the populace, that it would not be surprising if they should give the nobility a dance more than to their heart's content.

Philadelphia, Dec. 26.

In the debate on Wednesday last in the house of representatives, on the 22d and 23d sessions of the post-office bill, the following observations were made with regard to newspapers and their mode of transportation:

It was observed, that although it be the duty of the legislative body to make every necessary provision for the conveyance of information to the different parts of the United States, it is as much the duty of each individual to pay his quota of the expense attending such conveyance: the newspapers are conveyed, not to those members of the community who are unable to pay for the carriage, but to those who can well afford to bear the expense. The necessity of disseminating information, was admitted; and also that nothing more should be expected than what would barely defray the expense of carriage; but in the case of newspapers it was said, even that expense was not defrayed: the printers are able to pay for the papers they receive; and no exclusive privilege ought to be granted to a printer, any more than to another person; when a printer is about to enter into business, he ought to make his calculations and take into his account every circumstance of this nature, and make his arrangements accordingly: in the interior parts of the country, it is rather disadvantageous to the printer, that the newspapers are exempt from postage: a small tax on them would operate as a bounty to the printer; it would be a kind of monopoly in his favor, whilst he is taxed only for a single paper, and those around him pay for a number:—but setting this consideration aside, why should other persons be taxed for the transmission of intelligence to the man who can and ought to pay for it? the tax need not be very great on each paper: but it was hoped, that when the magnitude of the business was considered, every printer would not be allowed to send as many papers, as he may think proper: It is impossible to know how great the amount may be: in those parts, where the mail is carried in waggons, the evil perhaps may not be so severely felt; but where it is carried on horseback, it will be impossible to transport weighty packages of newspapers: besides, even where waggons are established for the purpose, it sometimes becomes necessary to have the mail carried on horseback, and in such cases either the newspapers must be left behind, or pri-

vate letters containing important communications; if an obligation be laid on the post-office to carry both, it will operate as a prohibition to carry either; for he cannot possibly carry the whole: the conveyance of commercial intelligence is of much greater importance, than the circulation of newspapers; and yet, in the former case, a tax is laid; not only to pay for the carriage, but even with a view to revenue; whereas, in the latter, not even the expense of conveyance was contemplated.

It was further observed, that a late dispute, between one of the printers of this city and the post-master-general, had thrown some light on this business of the conveyance of newspapers: it appeared, that near six hundred papers per week were received by the printers of this city; and surely so great a number cannot be necessary for the conveyance of intelligence:—if printers are to receive papers untaxed from all parts of the union, they may receive a still greater number: near four millions of newspapers are yearly printed in the United States; and the number may probably increase in a short time, so that it is impossible to foresee the extent of this business.

The free carriage of newspapers (it was said) would give a kind of monopoly to some states, to the detriment of others: in the state of North-Carolina, there are but two printers;—and if only half a cent is to be paid for the carriage of a paper from Philadelphia, the inhabitants of that state will have their intelligence as cheap from this place, as from the press of either of the North-Carolina printers, and earlier besides.

Considering the present number of newspapers and the probability of its increase; it will be laying a heavy burthen on the Post-Office (or at least on the horses that carry the mail) to allow all the printers to receive the papers free; and to subject them to a tax of half a cent, without regard to distance, will be encouraging the presses in one particular place, and crushing those in the other parts of the union; for the consequence, it was said, will be, that the people will take the papers from the greatest distance, because they will convey the intelligence quicker. It is of considerable importance to the mercantile interest, that there should be papers in every state, to circulate advertisements: it is also of great importance to the citizens of every state to have an opportunity of expressing their sentiments respecting the operations of government: these desirable objects cannot be obtained without giving an adequate support to all newspapers alike: to give equal encouragement to the printers in the different states; some regard ought to be paid to the distance to which the papers are conveyed, and the tax, whatever it may be, proportioned accordingly.

It was not however wished that any further tax should be laid upon newspapers, than barely what would be sufficient to defray the expense of postage; and to make the postmaster accountable for them, on receiving an allowance of at least fifty per cent.

A statement was read, by which it appeared, that one thousand one hundred and forty papers per week pass through the general post-office; and that the printers of Philadelphia have lately, in a single week, lodged newspapers there, to the weight of two hundred and forty-two pounds avoirdupois.

PRICE OF STOCK.
Funded Debt.
Six per cents, per £. - - 22/6.
Three per cents, - - - 13/3/4.
Deferred six per cents, - - 13/4/2.
Unfunded Debt.
Final settlements, - - - 20/6.
Interest due previous to 1788, 22/6.
Indents, - - - - 12/6.
Bank scripts, - - - - 14/6 dollars.
Do. complete shares payable and deliverable 2d January, 44 per cent advance.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

December 1791.
D. H. Bar. Ther. Wind. Weather.
Monday, 19. 7 29. 9 40 N.W. Rain.
29. 95 49 do. Cloudy.
Tuesday, 20. 7 30. 1 27 N.W. Cloudy.
30. 5 31 do. Fair.
Wednesday, 21. 7 30. 6 23 S. E. Fair.
Thursday, 22. 7 30. 2 27 N.W. Fair.
30. 5 27 do. ditto.
Friday, 23. 7 30. 2 31 S.W. Fair.
30. 1 32 do. ditto.
Saturday, 24. 7 30. 7 20 W. Fair.
30. 5 28 N.W. ditto.
Sunday, 25. 7 29. 8 23 S.W. Fair.
29. 7 39 do. ditto.

* * A few copies of the REPORT of the Secretary of the Treasury, on the subject of MANUFACTURES, may be had at the Office, No. 239, High-Street.

JUST PUBLISHED, and for sale by THOMAS LANG, No. 21, Church alley; An Essay on COMMERCE and LUXURY.

Re-printed from the London edition—Price 1/6. The merit of this work will be acknowledged by every judicious reader. The republication of it in this country, at this time, has been advised by several enlightened patriots. These with to promote our national commerce, on the basis of agriculture and industry, and free from the base alloy of imposition and gaming. They set a proper value on the conveniences and ornaments of civilized life; but detest that luxury which is the offspring of a frivolous taste, and the mother of profligacy, dishonesty, poverty, of numberless private and public vices and misfortunes. Nov. 28. c. c. t.