

Russian Admiral apprized of their approach, quitted Hengsa roads on the 25th August. He was however overtaken by the combined Squadron. The British ships, the Centaur and the Implacable being much better sailors than the Swedes, succeeded in bringing the rear of the Russian fleet to action, and one of their line of battle ships struck her colours. The whole of the Russian fleet then bore down to rescue her, in which they succeeded; but she was again attacked by the Centaur, and carried by boarding; the unfortunately however, got aground, and Sir S. Hood was obliged to burn her. The Swedish fleet at that time coming up, the Russian Admiral crowded all sail and took refuge in port Baltic, where he was blocked up when the last accounts came away by the united British and Swedish fleets. The Russians immediately upon entering port Baltic, began to erect works for the protection of their fleet, upon an Island which commands the entrance of the harbour.—When this intelligence reached Sweden, orders was given for the embarkation of a body of troops for the purpose of reducing the Island.—Sir S. Hood had four sail of the line.—Lieutenant Thompson arrived at the Admiralty yesterday with the above intelligence. Sun.

NEW-YORK, OCTOBER 27.

ARRIVAL OF THE HOPE.

Yesterday the United States Dispatch schooner HOPE, Capt. Woodward, arrived at this port from France and England. She left Havre de Grace on the 12th, and Coves on the 28th September, bringing DISPATCHES from both countries. Those from Mr. Armstrong are in the hands of Capt. Woodward, and those from Mr. Pinckney, are entrusted to Mr. Atwater. Both these gentlemen intend to set off this morning for Washington. Capt. Haley, who went out in the Hope with Dispatches for Mr. Armstrong, remained at Havre. We have not been able to learn ANY THING by the passengers except, that there was no prospect of England or France removing their obnoxious Decrees.

The Editors of the New-York Gazette having received London papers, to the 25th of September, they are enabled to furnish their readers with news from that quarter, eight days later than heretofore received. It will be seen, that the news of Bonaparte having declared war against the United States (as stated by Capt. Odiorne) was actually published in London on the 18th of September; but, though it excited much sensation, was not believed.

It is stated in London papers, that Bonaparte had left Paris and gone to Strasburgh; which led them to believe he meant to attack Austria. Previous to his leaving Paris, the Senatus Consultum had agreed to the requisition of 80,000 men, which were to be raised out of the conscription of 1810—to go against Spain.—To the frontiers of which country large bodies of French troops were marching.

They also state, that Sir J. Saumarez and Sir S. Hood's squadrons had formed a junction in the Baltic, landed detachments of Royal Marines at Baltic port, at its entrance, where the Russians had taken post and erected heavy batteries; that after a severe action the English succeeded in dislodging them, a part of the Russians surrendered, and the others escaped in boats to their ships. Grain has risen in price in England.

From the (London) Morning Chronicle, of the 22d Sept.

Mr. Atwater, the gentleman who brought the last dispatches by the Hope from America, sets off on his return to his native country on Friday next. This gentleman is not understood to take out any intelligence from our government that is at all calculated to allay the spirit of irritation prevailing in America, or to facilitate the complete reconciliation of the two governments. In fact, serious apprehensions are entertained, and by persons, too, not likely to be uninformed, that there is no probability of an amicable termination to the discussions which have so long gone on between the two governments. It is said that our government decidedly refuses to rescind the Orders in Council, or make any modification in them favourable to America, and the American Government therefore express their resolution, or speaking more correctly in the language of the American Constitution, their opinion that the Embargo will not be removed, or even relaxed, until the Orders in Council are rescinded; nay more, until the American flag shall be guaranteed from the molestation of our vessels upon any pretence whatever. Such is the representation that has reached us, and we feel inclined to believe it.

LONDON, SEPTEMBER 19.

A report which, for a time, created a considerable sensation, was current in the City on Saturday. It was said that France has declared war against the United States of America. Capricious and irritable as the Emperor of the French is, we should hardly have expected that he would so soon break with his friend Jefferson, after the handsome panegyric which he caused his Minister for Foreign Affairs to pronounce a few days ago on the conduct of government, of which that gentleman is at the head. A letter, however, of which the following is an extract, was on Saturday exhibited by a person of great mercantile respectability;—it is dated Guernsey, Sept. 13.

"This morning an American Captain landed with four of his crew, who made their escape from St. Maloes in their long boat, in consequence of an order having arrived at that port from the French Government to imprison all Americans. The Captain (Folgers) avers that they were obliged to fight their way, in order to get off. The vessel he commanded is called the Acorn, and sailed from hence to St. Maloes a short time ago."

SEPTEMBER 20.

That a number of Americans have escaped from France and arrived at Guernsey, under an apprehension that they would be imprisoned had they stayed longer in that country, is fully confirmed by letters received yesterday from Falmouth.

Yesterday we received, by mails from Corunna and Gijon, Spanish papers to the 16th inst. They were brought from the former port by the Snapper schooner, and from

the latter by the Peruvian sloop, both of which vessels have arrived at Plymouth. From these journals we have selected some very interesting articles, and their contents prepare us for intelligence of the greatest importance by the next arrivals from Spain. Various accounts lead to shew, that a great battle was about to take place on the Ebro, where the French have concentrated the whole of the force in Spain, and which, in the beginning of the present month, was supposed to amount to only 40,000 men. The three great armies of the patriots were then endeavouring to form a junction, for the purpose of attacking the enemy. Palafox was advancing with 25,000 men from Saragossa; the Marquis De Castelar, with 25,000 from Madrid; and General Blake, with 85,000, from Leon. The latter Commander is said to be within a day's march of the French, but we hope that nothing will be attempted until the three armies can, by their union, co-operate in one regular plan of attack. We are afraid that the force detached from Portugal, under the command of Sir Arthur Wellesley, which, we understand, consists of 18,000 men will not arrive at Burgos before the expected battle, on the result of which so much depends, shall have been fought.—It seems, that the original intentions of the French were to have pushed on to Arragon, and have made another attempt to get possession of Saragossa, but on their march to Tudela, they received intelligence which induced them to measure back their steps.—Joseph Bonaparte is still in Spain. A letter from Madrid, dated the 7th. states, that he was then at Logrono, on the borders of Old Castle, near Navarre, where the French head-quarters were established. Some private accounts state, that the French head-quarters had been advanced to Burgos, but there is nothing in the papers that can induce us to credit this statement. On the contrary, Gen. Blake is supposed to have occupied Burgos, as the last accounts from his army left him at Reynola. The head-quarters of Gen. Cuesta were at Alva del Formes. The Russian Ambassador has left Madrid for Lisbon, it is supposed for the purpose of communicating with Admiral Seniavin. By a vessel arrived at Carthagena from Palermo, which left on the 11th ult. we learn, that troops, arms and ammunition were then embarking for the Neapolitan territories, where the people, upon hearing of the events in Spain, had risen against the French. We are sorry to learn from Gijon the death of the Hon. Captain Herbert and Mr. Creed, who were drowned in consequence of the boat upsetting, which was conveying them from the Swallow sloop to the shore.

An Extraordinary Gazette, published by the Junta of Seville, dated the 22d ult. contains a detailed account of the battle at Gerona, on the 15th, in which the French under Dumetie, were completely defeated, with the loss of their artillery and baggage.

Letters from Stockholm have reached town which state that subsequent to the 17th ult. the Swedes had another battle with the Russians in Finland between Bjornborg and Christienschadt, the result of which was a decisive victory on the part of the Swedes. The Russians left 2000 dead on the field of battle. The Swedes had 22 officers, and 800 privates killed and wounded. General Cronstedt fell as he was charging at the head of his corps. The Russians in consequence of this defeat, are stated to have fallen back from Abo to the distance of between thirty and forty miles on the road to St. Petersburg. The Swedes had on some points marched upwards of fifteen miles beyond the Russian frontiers.

The system of vigilance pursued upon the Dutch Coast is such, that no vessel whatever are permitted to approach it after sunset. A fisherman was lately shot near Scheveling, and two of his boats crew wounded, for attempting to land after sunset.

DREADFUL FIRE.  
DESTRUCTION OF COVENT-GARDEN  
THEATRE.

We have this day the painful task of recording one of the most dreadful conflagrations which has occurred in the Metropolis for several years. About four o'clock, yesterday morning a Fire was discovered in Covent-garden Theatre, which raged with such fury, that in the course of about three hours, the whole of that extensive edifice was destroyed.—The flames were so rapid, that scarcely any of the property within the Theatre, could be saved. The books of accounts, deeds, and the cash in the Treasury, were fortunately preserved through the exertions of Mr. Hughes, the Treasurer. A trifling part of the scenery was also saved; but the whole of the wardrobe was destroyed.

It unfortunately happened, that on the preceding day, in consequence of some complaints respecting an irregular supply of water, the main had been cut off, with the intention of laying down a new one. From this circumstance, the supply of water was for some time very scanty, and the engines were unable to act with effect. The flames in the mean time extended their ravages. The wind being westerly, blew them in a direction towards Bow-street, and for a short time there was so brisk a breeze, that the inhabitants on the opposite side of the street, and the courts leading into it began to entertain great fears for the safety of their property. Fortunately, however, the wind soon abated.—But it took a contrary direction—instead of the opposite side of Bow-street, the inhabitants of Hart-street were then threatened with destruction. By this change of the wind, the Ship public-house, the corner of Hart-street, in Bow-street, was saved, notwithstanding the fire raged with the utmost violence on each side of it; by the extraordinary exertions of the firemen, the Bath Hotel, on the other side of the Theatre in Hart-street, was also saved. But the blaze then rushed across Hart-street, the effect of which was, that there were six houses in that street most seriously injured, although not totally destroyed. The premises of Messrs. Hankins and Wilher, coachmakers, in Long-acre, were also partially damaged. But of all the damage which the furniture and other property of all the surrounding neighbourhood sustained; by their confused and hasty removal, as well as by the rapine of the miscreants who took advantage of their distressed situation, it is impossible to render any account.

To speak first of the Theatre itself; at 12 o'clock at night, Mr. Brandon, the house and box-book-keeper, took his usual survey of the different parts of the Theatre; and,

from the most minute observation he concluded that there was no appearance of any thing that could induce suspicion as to the safety of the property. The watchman, in going his rounds, also concluded that all was safe. There is, in fact, no certainty as to the actual and positive origin of this dreadful accident; but the most general conjecture is, that some of the combustibles that composed the fire-balls which are discharged in the course of the performance of Pizarro had lain smothered among the scenery for several hours, and were not discovered until the fire had got too strong a hold of these extensive premises. It happened to be one of the mornings for the holding of Covent-garden market; and the first notice was that of a country dealer, who sagaciously observed, that he felt the unwholesome smell of the London smog; another, who happened to have a little better idea of the state of London, conjectured that the smell must be likely to proceed from Gifford's Brew-house. At length the Theatre in Covent garden was discovered to be on fire by a poor girl who had made the porch her bed. From the cause already stated, water was not procured for the supply of the great Fire-office engines, for nearly the space of an hour and an half, Messrs. Hadley and Simkins, of Long-Acre, Engine makers, however, very handsomely sent out all the engines they had in readiness, filled with water; and with the assistance of some of the neighbours who renewed their supply of water, they were doubtless extremely serviceable, though the powers of the small engines, which first acted on the flames, were by no means equal to the vast body of fire which they had then to contend with. If it were possible to detach the idea of the scene which presented itself, upon the bursting open of the gates of the Theatre in Covent Garden, from the dreadful conflagration, which must result both to the property and the performers, it must have had a most impressively grand and beautiful effect. From the extent and hollow nature of the building, and immense quantity of oiled canvas, the flames formed an upright column rising to a tremendous height in the atmosphere, and sending out sparks that spread a shower of fire all around. The flames still increased, and one of the Phoenix Engines, with rather too much daring, was introduced within the Theatre, with the hope that it could play with the greater effect. It most unfortunately happened, however, that the roof and an inside wall fell in, with such a sudden crash as to bury the engine and the men beneath the ruins. It was some considerable length of time before the rubbish could be so far removed, as to dig out the unhappy sufferers. It was then found that two men belonging to the Phoenix (Higglesworth and Kilby) were totally deprived of life; Seyers, another belonging to the same office, was taken to Middlesex Hospital in a most dangerous state, and is said to have since died. Several poor labouring men who were employed in assisting the firemen were also dug out of the ruins; some of them dead and others in a most dreadfully mutilated state, from which there is little prospect of their recovery. In the passage by the side of the Theatre, in Bow-street, some volunteers and their friends were found partly burnt and partly scalded to death by the pouring down of the water from the burning walls. The names of Mr. Watkins, a tailor, of York-street, Covent Garden; Mr. Harris, of the Bloomsbury Volunteers; Mr. Turner, a butcher, near Red Lion-square, have been stated to us as being among the list of unfortunate sufferers. In St. Paul's Church, Covent Garden, there were eleven most shockingly mutilated human bodies. Several persons were also conveyed to Middlesex, Bartholomew's, and St. Thomas's Hospital, where the greater part of them are said to have expired.

The loss to the Theatre itself is in fact irretrievable.—

The property is insured  
In the Sun, for - - - - - £ 25,000  
In the Phoenix, for - - - - - 13,000  
In the Royal Exchange, for - - - - - 5,000  
In the Union, for - - - - - 5,000

which makes a total of 48,000l. It is said that there are other insurances nearly to the amount of 20,000l. more.—But among the property lost, there is besides the usual stock of scenery, an additional quantity for a new melo-drama which was shortly to be brought forward; there were also a great quantity of pieces of music, of which, though the outline might have been given in many books, a correct copy had not yet been taken; some dramatic productions, the property of the theatre, have also been forever lost to the proprietors and to the public. Of the probable value of the Theatre a fair estimate may be taken when it is stated that Mr. J. Kemble not long since, gave 25,000l. for 1-6th share. In Bow-street, the house No. 9, belonging to Mr. Paget; Nos. 10 and 11, which were attached to the theatre; No. 12, belonging to Mr. Hill; No. 13 (the Straggler coffee-house); No. 14, belonging to Mr. Johnson, the fruiterer; and No. 15 were completely destroyed. The three latter were insured in the Hope for 2650l. Nos. 16 and 17 were seriously damaged, though not entirely consumed. At the rear of Mr. Paul's Mineral Water Warehouse, there was a horse in serious danger of being burnt; but, as has been frequently observed on similar occasions, so great was the terror of the animal, that it was impossible to move him from the spot until a cloth was fastened over his head so as to make him completely blindfolded. A house in Stewart's-tenns was set partially on fire by the falling of a flake of lighted wood down the chimney. In fact, there was from four to seven o'clock an almost incessant shower of fire, which spread as far as Claret-market on one side and St. Martin's-lane on the other; but no considerable damage was done beyond that which has been already described.—The melancholy catalogue of loss of human lives is not yet complete: but we shall lay further particulars before our readers to-morrow. All the west end of the town was aroused by the combined uproar of drums, bugles, rattles and bells, calling out Volunteer Corps and bringing out water engines. The Prince of Wales's, the Royal Westminster, the St. Clement Danes, the British Artificers, and other Volunteers, were on the spot on the first alarm, and were extremely serviceable, both in facilitating the operations of the firemen and in the apprehensions of several wretches who attempted to plunder the unfortunate sufferers. These were afterwards relieved by a party of Life Guards and a detachment also from the Foot Guards. In the evening,