

check the progress of the flames, until they communicated to the steeple of the Church; which soon spread themselves on all parts, and it quickly fell. Nothing now remained for us, but one bold stand. Blowing up was proposed:—We took down three buildings, and surrounded the fire; and the large gardens of Mr. Brierry, Mr. Cutter, Mr. Warner, gave us very eligible situations; and thro' the Divine interposition of Almighty God, we eventually put a check to the ravages of this afflicting calamity. It is a little remarkable that this fire commenced at the same spot where that of Dec. 26, 1802, ended. I have endeavoured to run up the loss, and can make it amount to more than 90,000 dollars.—It may come up to 120,000 or 150,000 dollars.”

NEW-YORK, JANUARY 7.

Particulars of the State of British Affairs in SOUTH-AMERICA.

“Mr. Gilbert Deblois, of Boston, passenger in schooner Adela, from Cayenne, informs, that he left the port Monte Video, in the river Plate the 25th Oct. last, at 12 o'clock at night, in a small French privateer sch'r. called the L'Oiseau, Capt. Bidois, (the only vessel that had or would have liberty to depart the port for some months,) and has handed us the following intelligence relative to South-America:—“On the 27th June last, the capital of La Plata, the City of Buenos Ayres, was taken by an expedition from the Cape of Good Hope, under the command of Sir Home Popham and Major General C. Beresford, consisting of about 1600 choice troops, and without any loss, and a general capitulation, they kept possession of the city until the 12th August following, when the said Beresford was attacked and taken by an expedition of 2000 men, undertaken from Monte Video by a French gentleman of the name of Liniers, (formerly a naval officer) who was accompanied by a number of the first merchants in Monte Video, and about 70 French gentlemen, as volunteers; the battle was fought and disputed with great obstinacy by the British, but headed by an intrepid officer, the Spaniards bore down all opposition. The loss of the British in killed, wounded, and massacred, after they had surrendered, was by the best accounts stated to be 400 men, and the Spaniards about 260 in killed and wounded, but almost 7-8ths of their wounded expired of their wounds, owing (as they say) to the British using *poisoned balls*: but a well informed French officer, who shared their dangers, told Mr. D. it was not the venomous balls of their enemies, but the ignorance and unskillfulness of their own friends, improperly styled surgeons, that killed the Spaniards. The Spaniards retook their capital by storm, and made prisoners nearly 1200 English: but a serious dispute had taken place between General Beresford and General Liniers, the English General insisting, and saying, that a capitulation was made and signed while the white flag was flying upon the fortrefs and which the Spanish commander absolutely denies: however the prisoners were sent away a distance of 3 or 400 miles into the country and it was reported that General Beresford and their officers were coming to Monte Video, to be sent to Europe, but it was afterwards thought more proper to order them to Cordova, only about 350 leagues, or 1050 miles from Buenos Ayres. The common soldiers composing the expedition from Monte Video, robbed and plundered every English abode at Buenos Ayres, and also e-

very Spanish house wherein an Englishman was seen to enter or reside: they also put into prison, among many others, Mr. W. P. White, (formerly of Boston) Mr. Moloc, a Mr. Jackson, a Mr. Mark Riley, and a Mr. Haselback. The former, (Mr. White) was induced to receive an office, such as a Prize-Agent, under the English government, for which he was recompensed by being put into close confinement 2 months, and part of that time incommunicable, and, with the British officers, was obliged to take a journey into the interior. No stranger whatever permitted to go up to Buenos Ayres, as they mean without exception, to exclude all from thence, especially Americans.

“The British upon their becoming masters of Buenos Ayres, found only 1,200,000 dollars of public property, (although there were six times that amount in the place) which they sent, with dispatches to England, in the frigate Narcissus. They had collected considerable copper and quicksilver, but as it was not taken on board the transports, they got only the money off, Sir Home Popham was in Buenos Ayres, when it was retaken, and with great difficulty effected his escape in a boat to his ships; after which with the exception of one gun-brig left cruising between the Colonia and Buenos Ayres, he brought his squadron consisting of his own ship the Diadem of 64 guns, Capt. King; the Raisable 64, Capt. Royley; Diomete 50, Capt. Phillips; one frigate; two sloops of war, and several armed transports down the river, and anchored in full view of the harbour of Monte Video. Some days he would have every ship under weigh; at other times only one or two of easy draught of water, who would stand in so close, that the very inhabitants could discern the buttons on the officers' uniforms. Sir Home had sent into Monte Video upwards of thirty flags of truce, demanding General Beresford and his troops, a supply of provisions, and some medicines for his sick and wounded.—The Governor, tired of such business generously sent Sir Home Popham a supply of fresh provisions and 23 English seamen, who were brought into Monte Video a few months previous, in an English Guineaman—and saying that he should not respect any more flags of truce from that time. Sir Home Popham answered the Governor's civility by accepting the fresh supply of provisions, and receiving the 23 seamen; but contrary to the etiquette observed in time of war about exchange of prisoners, he refused to deliver up the like number of Spaniards, which he might very easily have done, as he had more than 90 in his possession, which were taken from a small town on the south entrance of the river.

“Several skirmishes had taken place between the English vessels and the Spanish gun-boats and forts;—and almost every day they saluted Monte Video with 12 and 18 pound shot—which to those people who were peaceably attending to their business, and especially the young ladies, who, by their religion, were obliged to attend mass every day, was extremely ungentle and inconvenient—for a few days previous to Mr. D's departure, an English brig sent a number of heavy shot in and over the city, some of which had the audacity to tear away the S. E. corner of St. Felipe's Church; however not many lives were lost nor much damage done.

“On the 12th July last, an embargo was laid on all vessels in the port of Monte Video, and continued with more than usual rigour when Mr. D. failed. The reasons assigned were—1st that they were going to expedite four vessels which by uncommon good luck, had escaped clear of the blockading squadron in the river, the Governor's last objection to taking off the embargo, was, that the British squadron were starving for the want of provisions, which every body knew to the contrary, as the Raisable a man of war, had been dispatched to and arrived from Rio Janeiro with so much of a supply as to be obliged to calk in her lower tier of gun ports.

“It was reported before Mr. D. failed, that Sir Home Popham had received a reinforcement of 3500 men from the Cape of Good Hope, which he believes to be true, as he himself counted 35 sail at anchor 5 miles below Monte Video, between

Point Carettas and the island of Florest the same evening he failed: and it was known that 18 sail more had arrived off Maldonado, a city at the N. entrance of Rio Plata; as the Governor of Monte Video, had, the 23d October, received a letter from the commandant at Malo, who wrote to that effect. —If this force has arrived, Sir Home will undoubtedly attack Monte Video: but whether he will be able to take possession, even with 5000 men, is very uncertain, as the Spaniards have nearly 10,000, and in high spirits. Among the 35 sail at anchor off Florest Island, some were Spanish, some Portuguese and some Americans detained, or captured. Sir Home Popham, about the 29th Sept. sent in a flag of truce to the Governor of Monte Video, declaring the port in a state of blockade; but also mentioned that all neutrals might have leave to pass his squadron provided, they did it in 7 days, and in ballast only—after that he would keep up a rigorous blockade. This extraordinary determination was notified to all neutrals by the governor.—After two days had elapsed out of the seven, some few ships, Portuguese and Danes, endeavoured to avail themselves of the opportunity and go out in ballast, but were stopped by the Spanish government. The American vessels not being ready to go out in the limited time, the Captains petitioned the Governor to take off the embargo, but without success.”

HALIFAX, JAN. 23.

The *November Mail*, mentioned in our last, arrived at New-York on the 27th ult. in the Diana packet. It was put on board the schooner Jenny for this place; which vessel was unfortunately, wrecked near Cape Sable, on Tuesday, the 13th inst. The Mail was saved, and brought here on Monday night last, in the schooner Dolphin.

The London papers are to the 8th of November, inclusive; and fully confirm all the disastrous intelligence from the Continent of Europe, which we have hitherto received.

FIRE AT ST. THOMAS.

Arrivals at New-York from St. Thomas and Santa Croix state, that on the 3d of Dec. a fire broke out in the Coffee-House in St. Thomas, and laid the whole commercial part of the town in ashes.—It was not completely subdued until the 9th; but the shipping suffered no injury.

THE TELEGRAPH.

FREDERICTON, FEB. 7, 1807.

We kept the Press back in hopes of getting His Honor the PRESIDENT'S Speech at the opening of the Session of the General Assembly, but were disappointed in our expectation.

No later European Intelligence has been received than already announce d.

The last Halifax Mail brings nothing of importance, except what we were before in possession of.

The KING has been pleased to appoint WARD CHIPMAN, Esq. to be one of the Members of His Majesty's Council for this Province (in the room of the late Hon. DANIEL BLISS, Esq. deceased,) and has been sworn in and taken his seat accordingly.

Last Tuesday the Hilary Term of the Supreme Court was held in this town, but we understand there were few causes tated of any consequence.