

the Duke of York and some of his Royal Brothers walked through Bow-street and Hart-street, to view the effects of the conflagration, accompanied by some Military Officers, and with two Bow-street Officers to clear the way for them.

There are a variety of more minute circumstances relative to this melancholy event which have reached our ears, but which we forbear detailing to our readers until we can lay the facts before them in a more authentic shape. We are at present informed, that as many as 20 lives have been lost, besides the number that have been dangerously wounded. On the whole, there has not been any domestic catastrophe more fatal for many years, even the disasters at the Old Bailey and at Sadler's Wells not excepted. The engines played on the burning ruins all the day, and the fire was not entirely subdued at a late hour last night.

Among other losses the excellent Society which held their meetings at the top of the Theatre, called the *Beef Steak Club*, which have existed for many years, have lost all their old flock of wines, which cannot be replaced, and worth at least 1500*l.* besides their sideboard and table implements.

It will become a question, what will be the situation of the renters' shares, tootines, and other interests, secured on the property of the building and flock, &c. Though Covent Garden was less encumbered than any other Theatre in town, yet there were several routine debentures and other annuities independent on it; but we believe it was tolerable free from the nuisance and scandal of *private boxes*; and we trust, that on rebuilding the Theatre, that unbecoming expedient for raising a momentary sum to the permanent oppression of the Establishment will not be resorted to. It is an incumbrance which is a sensible injury to the Public.

There is no doubt, but, that from the liberal feelings of Mr. Taylor, the King's Theatre will be forthwith lent to the Managers for the employment of their Company. Indeed, we heard last night that the accommodation was offered them, and that they will perform there on Monday next.

The Proprietors have already begun to take measure for the erection of another Theatre. There are some considerations in the structure of such a building which are exceedingly well worthy of their notice. For instance, it is desirable that the area for the reception of the audience be not enlarged to a size much beyond its present extent; and it is still more desirable that the avenues to the house be both numerous and so contrived as to prevent all possibility of danger in case of a fire during the time of performance. The new stage will perhaps be a little larger than the last, and we hear that instead of the north, as before, the new stage will probably be situated to the south of the Theatre. We also trust that the house will be inflated.

September 22.—Major Campbell, who brought the accounts of the victories of Roleja and Vimiera, is still in town, a circumstance which leads many people to suppose, that Sir Arthur Wellesley will be recalled, as well as the two Officers first and second in command, Major Campbell being one of Sir Arthur's Aides du Camp. On the removal of Sir Hew Dalrymple and Sir Harry Burrard, the command would devolve upon Lieutenant General Sir John Moore. There is no person who would possess in a greater degree the respect and confidence of the army than this distinguished Officer.

September 23.—A treaty signed on the 8th inst. between M. Champagny, Minister for Foreign Affairs, and his Royal Highness Prince William of Prussia, has put an end to all differences which existed between France and Prussia.

Scarcely, however, is this deed of friendship a week signed, when providing for the execution of his project, which is nothing less than dethroning the King of Prussia at a more convenient time, he begins to furnish himself with his pretext. Hence the publication of the intercepted letter of M. de Stein to some Prince never before heard of, and which we have not a doubt is destined one day to figure in a manifesto as a proof of flagrant perfidy in Frederick William, supposing always that he eventually succeeds against Spain.

What his intentions are with regard to Austria, it is at present rather difficult to guess. He is said to have set out for Strasburgh, a circumstance which would seem to warrant the conjecture that he is going to put himself at the head of his German army, while on the other hand the large drafts now making from it, and which are repassing the Rhine to France, would rather indicate the improbability of an immediate rupture with Austria. Strasburgh and Mayence are certainly not the points where an army would be assembled with a view to an attack upon that Power.

The Guns were fired yesterday, at one o'clock, and the people flocked in the utmost conflation; to inquire the cause, afraid that intelligence of another Convention had arrived; but their anxiety was allayed by the Park gunner informing them, that it was the Anniversary of her Majesty's Coronation!

It is said, upon the authority of a private letter, that Junot gave a splendid entertainment to the principal Officers of the British Army, at the Palace in Lisbon, on the second day after the Convention was ratified. The dinner was served up in silver, and the desert in gold.

In consequence of some recent proceedings with regard to the condemnation of neutrals, at St. Petersburg and Riga, several charters which were about to be concluded with Americans, have been suspended.

ENGLAND AND SWEDEN.

It is known that some months since, an expedition of 10,000 men, under Gen. Sir John Moore, was sent from Great-Britain to Sweden;—That it arrived in Gottenburg, where the troops continued on board ship in the harbour several weeks without landing: That it then left Sweden, returned to England; and immediately proceeded to Portugal:—That no Manifesto has been published by Sweden complaining of the measure; nor by England in vindication of it; that the measure had not abated the zeal of the King of Sweden in his opposition to Russia; and that the relations of amity between Sweden and England had not been severed nor impaired by these events. To the American politician all this has appeared extraordinary. The following is the substance, of all which has been said on the subject, in the British newspapers:—

Sir John Moore's statement respecting his late misunderstanding with the King of Sweden is said to be to the following effect:—That having announced to his Swedish Majesty at Stockholm, the arrival of his force off Gottenburg, he received orders to land his army, and proceed without delay to storm the impregnable fortress of Sweaberg. Sir John, knowing that he could not obey these orders consistently with his instructions from England, immediately set off post for Stockholm, accompanied by his Deputy Adjutant General, and being admitted to an audience he stated to his Swedish Majesty the extent of the instructions which he had received from his own government; these it is now understood, were limited to a co-operative invasion of Norway, or defence of Finland. The King not satisfied with this explanation, demanded an immediate obedience to his own orders; this the British General said he found it his painful duty to decline. His Majesty turned instantly upon his heel withdrew with apparent indignation, to an adjoining apartment. Sir John, after waiting a short time, returned also to his hotel, where he had scarcely been seated, when a Swedish Aid de Camp attended him, and informed him, "that it was his Majesty's pleasure that he Sir John, should consider himself as confined to his apartment in Stockholm, until the King of Great-Britain's sentiments should be further known and received by his Swedish Majesty on this subject, and for which one of the King's Messengers had been instantly dispatched to England!" Under this extraordinary arrest Sir John Moore remained nearly a week, when recollecting the character and temper of the authority he had to contend with, he contrived, with his Adjutant-General, to effect a secret retreat in the night from Stockholm, travelling with such rapidity as to reach Gottenburg, distant nearly 400 miles, in less than 50 hours, when re-embarking on board his fleet, he instantly ordered it under weigh for England, having previously stopped one month's subsidy, which was about to be landed.

PORTUGAL CONVENTION.

Last night an Extraordinary Gazette was published, containing the particulars of the event which has so deeply and painfully interested the public mind. We are sorry to say, instead of softening the disagreeable impressions which were made by the less precise intelligence of the preceding evening, the official accounts tend very much to strengthen them.

A lame and miserable apology has been attempted in one, and only one, of the Ministerial Papers, for this disgraceful compact. They say that the Equinox was approaching (the Equinox, observe, at the 1st of August) which would have endangered our fleet of transports; and that the communication between our victuallers and the army was difficult to be maintained on account of the surf. Why then were not the operations pressed with the utmost activity? Why was there an armistice concluded for eight days, in which nothing was done on our part to forward the object of the campaign?

We have heard it pleaded too, in behalf of those who signed the Convention, that Junot had taken a strong position at Cintra, where he might have maintained himself, perhaps, for a fortnight, or a month; and that it was better to enter into this agreement, which would enable us immediately to send a considerable army to the assistance of the Spaniards, than to lose time in reducing him by force. But we have not been told why he was allowed to get possession of this post. We were informed that Sir Arthur Wellesley, immediately after the battle of Vimiera, proposed to detach a strong corps to intercept his retreat; and it is now more than ever desirable that some explanation should be given why this advice was not acted upon. With respect to the latter part of the apology, that the Convention would give us a large disposable force to send in aid of the Spaniards, it is altogether fallacious; we have merely changed the scene of action; and instead of fighting Junot in Portugal, we are going to fight him in Spain, and that too in circumstances which will certainly be much less advantageous, because in Portugal we had a decided superiority over him; whereas, it is by no means obvious that this will be the case in Spain. Let it be observed too, that the French are to have the secret of us, and that they are to be conveyed to France in those very transports which were waiting for the purpose of conveying our troops to Spain. In short, (though it is with pain inexpressible we say it) we do not see that much, if any thing, has been obtained with a view to the great object of the war, namely, the diminution of Bonaparte's power by the military operations in Portugal. We certainly owed something better to the memory of those brave men who fought and fell in the battles of Roleja and Vimiera, than such a tame surrender of the laurels which they so hardly and so gloriously won.

We have heard much of the unfortunate choice of a commander on a former occasion; It neither affords us satisfaction nor consolation to have an opportunity now of retorting charges against those who dealt them out so liberally against others. It was understood, however, that the appointment to the command in Portugal was the subject of much discussion among ministers, and it has been said even that it was their tardiness in coming to a decision upon this subject which delayed the sailing of the Cork expedition. And now that we had some proof of the ability of the person whom they selected, we cannot certainly congratulate them upon the judgment and discernment displayed in the choice. Sir Hew Dalrymple has been from forty to fifty years in the army, and for any thing we know to the contrary, may be a very good officer, and a very good man, but the public will not give him credit for his conduct in Portugal merely upon his general character. In his letter to Lord Castlereagh he confesses himself "to have landed in Portugal entirely unacquainted with the actual state of the French army, and many circumstances of a local and incidental nature, which doubtless had great weight in deciding the question." This is Sir H. Dalrymple's apology—but what is to be said for those Ministers who appointed a man to such a highly responsible situation, who pleads this ignorance in his defence.

The reports still continue to obtain, that there have been serious divisions among our Officers; and yesterday we fre-

quently heard the rumour repeated which was current the day before, that Sir Arthur Wellesley is now in London. Of this we have no certain information, and, for the reason we gave yesterday, are rather disinclined to believe it. Ministers, however, it is well known, are in high dudgeon at the very unexpected issue of the expedition, and, it is said, that both they, and the Commander in Chief, concur in the propriety of immediately instituting an inquiry into the circumstances that have led to a convention which, while unexplained, seems as disgraceful as it was unlooked for. It was some time before they could decide upon the propriety of firing the guns; and, every thing considered, we really think there would have been no great harm in omitting an expression of joy which no one felt.

SPAIN.—We have this day received papers from the North of Spain to the 9th inst. Their contents are important, but our limits do not allow us to offer any remarks upon them.

Extract of a private letter from Gijon, dated September 8.

"A Gentleman has this instant arrived here from Santander with an account of a victory gained over a body of French troops, by Palafox, near Pampeluna: the French were defeated with the loss of 5000 killed and 1000 prisoners. I am not certain as to the date, but I think it was on the 19th ult. It is said that had Palafox known General Blake was so nigh, he would have entered Pampeluna.

"An Extraordinary Gazette was published at Oviedo on the 5th of this month, containing an account of the assistance given by the English to the Spanish troops in Denmark, which concluded with this Proclamation:

"Noble and Generous English!—Your extraordinary activity in all parts of the Globe, and the succours which you lavish on the Spaniards to deliver them from a tyrant, will be ever engraven on our hearts, and serve as a model in the history of nations. Glory to Great-Britain! Glory to Spain! and death to the Tyrants!"

THE ROYAL GAZETTE.

NEW-BRUNSWICK.

SAINT JOHN, November 7, 1808.

We are happy to inform the public, that the *Three Deserters* who shot Capt. Clayton Tilton, were last night brought up from St. Andrews in the *Speedy Packet*.—We understand that they were taken by Capt. John Campbell and two of the Charlotte County Militia on *Pain's Island*, they were carried to St. Andrews and sent up by the Magistrates of Charlotte County, and are now committed to the Gaol of this City.

From NEW-YORK, OCTOBER 27.

Extract of a letter from Bordeaux, dated September 5, received by the Hope.

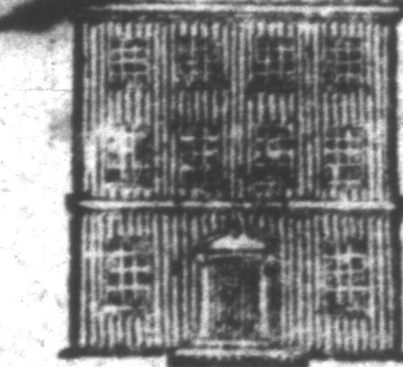
"The position of the United States as far as respects the two great belligerents is not likely to be changed. A considerable number of American vessels and cargoes have been lately condemned here, and will be sold in the course of the month. Remittances can be made in any manner directed."

Extract of a letter from Bordeaux to a merchant in this City, dated 3d September, received per the Hope.

"At times small vessels have arrived here from Guadeloupe, Porto Rico, &c. chiefly loaded with coffee, which has sold at immense prices. But I suspect the English cruizers now keep a better look out, as several vessels fitted out here for our colonies, have lately been captured.

"Our Emperor by way of encouraging navigation under the French Flag, has taken a share in all adventures from this port.—From this circumstance we presume, that at a future period, he aims at excluding all foreign vessels from our ports. In the mean time, all foreign vessels now in our ports, are still detained under one pretext or other, and Americans continue to be condemned under the different decrees. It is the general opinion, that the United States will at length be compelled to side with one party or the other of the Belligerent Powers. We are but imperfectly acquainted with the conduct of the British government towards the rebels in Spain, as they are called here, but from the equivocal conduct of our leading men, there is too much reason to apprehend a rupture between this country and the United States, and the sudden rise in colonial produce, is generally attributed to that cause."

TO BE LET,



THAT Valuable FARM and Stand for a place of ENTERTAINMENT (particularly in the Winter Season) formerly occupied by William Puddington, on the Portage from the Kennebec to Bellisle. For particulars apply to

CALEB WETMORE.

WHO HAS FOR SALE,

A good FARM of about 500 Acres at the upper part of what is commonly called the VILLAGE, on *Hammond River*, at the distance of only 18 miles from the City.

He will take several head of Cattle to Winter at *Brookville Farm*, the Village, at the moderate prices of 15 dollars for a Horse and 8 dollars for a Cow, and other Stock in proportion. Carleton, 5th November, 1808.

THE SUBSCRIBER

INTENDING to quit the Province in the Spring, requests all those who are indebted to him to make immediate payment.—All Accounts left unsettled the 1st of January, will be put into the hands of an Attorney to collect. FRANCIS WATSON.

Saint John, 3d November, 1808.

Wanted Immediately,

A Good MILCH COW—A generous price will be given by applying to the Subscriber.

DAVID MORRIS.

Saint John, 7th November, 1808.