

The States General of the Catholic Netherlands, composed of Deputies from the Provinces of Brabant, Flanders, Hainault, Namur, Luxemburg, and Lamburg, are summoned to assemble at Brussels on the 6th of January, to take measures for arranging a stable and effective Government.

Notwithstanding the successive misfortunes of the last campaign, the Ottoman Ministry are preparing for a renewal of the war with redoubled ardour. The Grand Seigneur has, with sound of trumpet, declared by his heralds, through the streets of Constantinople, that he means to put himself at the head of his army, on the opening of the spring. This has not only appeased the tumults which were bordering on a general insurrection, but will certainly enable him to take the field with a recruited army of Four Hundred Thousand Men.

*Admiralty-Office, Nov. 10.* This day in pursuance of his Majesty's pleasure, Sir John Laforey, Bart. was promoted to the rank of Rear Admiral of the White, taking rank next after Rear Admiral Sir Charles Middleton, Bart.

*Whitehall, Nov. 18.* The King has been pleased to appoint the Right Honourable Lord Auckland to be his Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the States General of the United Provinces.

And to appoint the Right Honourable Lord Henry Spencer to be his Majesty's Secretary of Embassy to their High Mightinesses.

The King has also been pleased to appoint the Right Honourable Alleyne Fitzherbert to be his Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Court of Spain.

*Portsmouth, Nov. 14.* The convicts already arrived at this port from Newfoundland, are four-score in number; a few others are expected.—These unhappy wretches are almost destitute of every sort of covering, some of them are labouring under sickness and infirmity.

Their story is accurately as follows:—About the middle of last June, this miserable class of beings, to the amount of one hundred and two men and boys, and twelve women, all of whom were convicts, were embarked at Dublin, on board of the Duke of Leinster transport, the owners of which, who are Dublin merchants, contracted with the Government of Ireland, for carrying the convicts to the North-American States.

After the ship had been at sea five weeks, part of which was foul weather, the provision is said to have fallen short; the

master of the transport, Capt. Harrison, accordingly stood in for Newfoundland, and lay to, till night; when he disembarked at Bulls Bay, and a little distance from it, with as much secrecy as possible, his desperate freight.

To prevent this proceeding being too early known, he landed with them provision, for the immediate supply of their wants, and bore away with a press of sail. The hungry victims lived for three days in a state of warfare, quarrelling about their food; the strongest beat the weak, and over a cask of rank butter, or beef, there was, for a time, as severe fighting as if a kingdom had been at stake.

They reached the town of St. John's on the 20th July; and exhibited the most appalling procession ever seen in that country.—The inhabitants had immediate councils; and the Military and Navy co-operating, a place of security was fixed upon, at a distance from the town, and they were lodged there under a guard.

Here the Irish Howl was nightly sung in full chorus.—and the centinels were frequently affrighted with the noise which on their posts. A battle or two every half hour, kept them restless all day,—and when the provision supplied to them by the inhabitants was lessening,—they broke away, and laid hold of every thing that was eatable, without enquiry whether it had an owner.

Some of these poor wretches were anxious to be received into the service of the inhabitants,—and probably might have reformed, if to fostered;—But all of them have the claim to the charity of this country, for that supply of raiment, which is necessary to guard against the inclement weather.

*Perth, Nov. 18.* Yesterday, about ten minutes past two o'clock, there was a very uncommon shock of an earthquake felt about five miles from this town, at Printfield, known by the name of Cromwell Park. It lasted about three seconds, in which time, a large house, five stories, which was built for the purpose of a cotton-mill, was perfectly felt to shake so much as to alarm the people within to run out of the house. A smaller house, adjoining to the mill, not being so strongly built, one of the chimney-tops fell down; luckily, no person was hurt. Several alarming shocks were felt in the neighbourhood, particularly at Methven-Castle, where the inhabitants were much alarmed by a great noise, like to the rolling of carts and coaches.

*Leaves, Nov. 20.* Last Thursday morning one Abrahams, a Jew priest, who for some time past had lodged at a public house