

papers, it appears that the federal legislature has proposed an amendment to the United States,—namely, to increase the number of representatives from the respective states of that nation, so that the congress shall, in future, consist of 200 members, instead of 100, as originally settled by the constitution.

The princes in the neighbourhood of France, as the duke of Wirtemberg, have been solicitous to testify how much they desire even to live in good understanding with France, by giving it no cause of uneasiness. On this subject the duke has written a letter to general Luckner, to remind him, that if he should be obliged to enter his country, he hoped that he, the general, would distinguish it as that which is most deserving of the consideration of the French nation.

The king has astonished France by refusing his assent to the decree concerning the clergy; the national assembly, however, heard their will opposed with wonderful composure, and a species of dignity, of which even their partisans did not think them susceptible; not a breath was stirring when the royal negative was announced; but the day after, a member moved for an appeal to the nation, who alone could decide whether an individual should be allowed the dangerous power

of invalidating the volition of twenty-five millions of men;—the motion was loaded with contempt. The different sections of the capital, are, however, now assembling to express to the assembly their high displeasure at the king's conduct, which they construe into treason against the nation.

The pope, before his illness, was making some considerable additions to the Vatican palace; in one angle of which is a superb room for the reception of the valuable antiquities which have been dug up within the last three years, among which is a beautiful chariot, which the ancients used in their races, and an immense vase of porphyry. His holiness has likewise laid the foundation of a magnificent palace in the Piazza de Pasquino for the residence of his nephew.

A letter from Dr Magenis, of the Irish college at Lisbon, gives a most awful account of the earthquake which happened in that city on Sunday night, Nov. 27. The first shock was felt about twenty minutes after eleven, and consisted of five or six strong vibrations, so closely following each other, that they could scarce be distinguished. After a pause of near five minutes, one very violent undulatory motion, that shook the whole house, succeeded, attended by a loud and tremendous crash, which, after a rustling