independent efficiency, equal to the production of its effect; but with better reason we are taught to consider these laws of nature as laws established by nature's God, to regulate, limit and establish the ordinary method of his own divine operations in the natural world, by the instrumentality of second causes; and not by giving these causes an efficient causality in their effects;—in order, therefore, to be able to announce with decision, that it is impossible that the conjunction of male and female should bring into being an immortal soul—I think we must be so fully acquainted with those laws by which the great author of nature is pleased to govern his own conduct in the world of nature, as to be able with equal certainty to announce it impossible for God to produce such effect by the instrumentality of such cause. But that all things which imply neither defect nor inconsistency, are possible with God, is a maxim of divine authority in christian philosophy; nor is it an easy thing for the human mind, restricted as it is, to narrow limits, otherwise to set bounds to divine omnipotence, or say any thing is impossible with God which is not evidently inconsistent with his own divine perfection and purity; for certain it is, his power cannot be limited by nothing out of himself.

Should it be affirmed that the soul is propagated as the body by natural generation, although it might be difficult, knowing so little as we know of the subject, to demonstrate its truth, yet I think it would be more difficult, and even impossible to prove its impossibility,—there are reasons which render it highly probable, taken from the analogy that is discernable in the world of nature.

It is obvious in every other instance, so far as our acquaintance extends, that the great author of nature has established a law that every kind of seed whether animal or vegetable, properly disposed, shall produce its kind in perfection, that is, that no other cause should be necessary to compleat the production:—this law invariably takes place in every instance that comes within the ken of our examination; there arises a high degree of probability that it does so also in other instances which are beyond the reach of our inquiry. This probability is heightened by the testimony of God himself, saying, "*Adam begat a son in his own likeness after his image.*" This testimony, undisposed of a natural likeness, must be decisive, at the question in hand; for, for the son to be begotten in the likeness, or image of the father, is to be begotten both soul and body. It is not an easy thing to produce convincive evidence that these words are not to be understood at least equally of the natural as of the moral likeness of the father who begat.

This writer says, "they may prepare a material habitation; but there must be an immaterial pre-existent inhabitant ready to take possession."

Should we admit they may prepare a body; (which by the way is not true if they are considered as doing it otherwise than an instrument in the hand of an almighty agent) yet it does not thence follow that there must be a pre-existent soul ready to take possession;—as it is evident from what hath been already demonstrated; nor can we with reason deny that God who forms the members of the body in the womb, can, if he please, breath into that body, when ripe for the purpose, and cause it to become a living immortal soul. He proceeds, "reason assures us that an immortal soul which will exist eternally after the dissolution of the body, would have eternally existed before the formation of it; for whatever has no end, can never have had a beginning." I find no reason to question this writer's belief of the immortality of the soul; and we can therefore do him no injury by the imputation of a belief that it never could have had a beginning, and the rather because on this ground he has seen fit to rise his argument: but should it be conceded that human souls never could have had a beginning, it must also be conceded, not only, that their existence could not be caused by their parents, but not even by the great creator himself; for if they never could have had a beginning, there never was a time when any cause whatever could have operated in giving them existence, for there never was a period in which they had not already made sure of it—they, therefore stand forth as an effect wholly without any cause at all—and as to existence are in a proper sense self originated, necessarily existent and independent. Then what we have been wont to ascribe solely to the great I AM, the supreme eternal, becomes at once agreeably and essentially the prerogative of all immortal spirits of angels and men;—nor is there any proper sense in which God may be considered or adored as either their creator, or the only all perfect being existing by the necessity of his own nature essentially independent, uncreated!

"Reason assures us," says he, "that a benevolent creator would never have formed such a world as this, and filled it with such inhabitants, if the present was the only or even the first state of their existence." Note, the conduct of the benevolent creator in this matter, is sufficiently cleared and accounted for by divine revelation, without the supposition of a pre-existent state. He adds, "We may rationally conclude that this world could be designed for nothing more than a prison, in which we are a while confined to receive punishment for the crimes committed in former, and an opportunity to prepare for a future life."

To which he subjoins, "Secondly, these conclusions of reason are sufficiently confirmed by the face of nature and the appearance of things, this world is evidently formed for a place of punishment as well as probation, a prison, a house of correction, to which we are committed, some for a longer some for a shorter period" &c. then having given a picturesque description of that great variety of evils and distresses which menace us in the present state, concludes with these words—"Who that surveys this melancholy picture of the present life, can entertain a doubt but that it is intended for a state of punishment, and therefore must be subsequent to some former state in which this punishment was deserved." On which collectively taken, permit me the following remarks.

1. The present state, having respect to a future, disconnected with a past, appears to be calculated by divine wisdom and adapted to noble and important purposes.

2. Mr. Jenyns, who had been conversant in this world, yet seems never to have taken notice of any thing in it, for which men might be subject to those sufferings which they here endure; there is impotent the desert of these sufferings to pre-existent crimes;—nor does he appear to have ever learnt what revelation, reason and natural conscience unitedly teach and evince, viz. that men solely for their criminality in the present state are justly exposed not merely to all the miseries of this life, death itself not excepted, but to pains and penalties infinitely more tremendous. And this without any regard at all had to crimes in a pre-existent state.

3. Men in this have not consciousness either of having existed or committed crimes in a past state. To punish men for crimes, consciousness of which they never could have had, and to punish them without a crime amounts to the same thing. Surely no valuable end of moral government could be answered, nor the wisdom, righteousness and goodness of the supreme governor vindicated in such a mode of punishing. To punish without exhibiting any reason for it, cannot answer a better end than to punish without any reason at all. So that to suppose with our author, that men are here imprisoned and punished for crimes committed in a previous state, so long as they are utterly unconscious either of such state or crimes, does by no means relieve the difficulty in vindicating the conduct of the benevolent creator in making such a world as this and filling it with such inhabitants.

Y. Z.

BOSTON, January 29.

Tuesday last arrived in this port, the ship Thomas, *Capt.* Furber, *from* London *by whom we receive English Papers to the 12th of November, from which we extract the following European Intelligence.*

ANCONA, *(Italy)* October 3.

BY Letters from Ragusa we have received a piece of intelligence, which if true, cannot fail to be productive of very important consequences. In those letters it stated that the Pacha of Scutari, finding the Montenegrins determined to preserve their faith inviolate with their allies, the Austrians and Russians, had actually faced them in the field, but with so little success, that his whole army was dispersed, himself mortally wounded, and his brother killed on the spot.

By the same advices we learn, that the Pacha of Romelia has, by order of the Porte, demanded a free passage from the Republic of Venice for a Ottoman squadron and army, which had been ordered out to attack the Austrian coasts. To this bold requisition the Venetians gave no answer; but they immediately began to repair the fortifications at the mouth of Cattaro, and sent a reinforcement of armed galleys and shallops to Admiral Emo. It is also affirmed that five European ships have arrived at Ragusa, freighted by the Porte, also laden with biscuit, grain, and ammunition for the service of the Pacha of Scutari. Similar supplies, it is added, were expected from Salonica and Negropont.

WARSAW, *(Poland)* Octo. 23.

We received an account here from our frontiers three days ago, that the Tartars had attacked Prince Soltikow, but were repulsed with the loss of many hundreds of their people.

VIENNA, *(Germany)* Octo. 23.

We are assured for certainty, that the Turks have totally evacuated the Bannat, after entirely destroying the face of the country which they occupied. The damage done is estimated at many millions.

October 29. An action took place, on the 20th or 21st inst. between a division of the Emperor's army, on its march from Sakelo to Orova, and a considerable body of Turks; The latter, after having cut to pieces a battalion of Austrians Chasseurs, amounting to 550 then were at length compelled to retire. They, however, carried off in their retreat all the pontoons, and also the draught horses which were attached to that division. The Emperor's head quarters were on the 23d at Jakuba, about nine English miles from Panscova. Marshall Laudohn is still engaged in the Seige of Gradisca.

VERSAILLES, *(France)* Octo. 29.

The opening of the assembly of the Notables, which the King has ordered for Monday the 2d of November, is deferred by his Majesty to Thursday the 6th of that month.

PARIS, November 3.

Most of the parsons who compose the Assembly of the Notables are now at Versailles, to be presented to his Majesty, and on Thursday they are to meet for dispatch of business, when the King will go in state to open the Session.

LONDON, November 8.—12

The following intelligence has been received by one of the Foreign Ministers, officially, from Copenhagen:

"A cessation of hostilities has taken place from the 19th of October to the 13th of November, at Bohus in Sweden, under the auspices of the English and Prussian Ministers then present, between his Swedish Majesty and the auxiliary troops of Denmark commanded by the Prince of Hesse, which was signed by the latter. This convention was accepted, in the belief that peace would be re-established in the interim. It likewise mentions, that the Swedes had made themselves masters of ten boats, containing provisions from Norway or the Danish troops in Sweden; but that these boats, have been restored on being reclaimed by the Danish Ministry."

Extract of a letter from Dundee, Nov. 2.

"The Isis, Capt. Frith is arrived here from Berlin in Norway, in four days, by which there is an account that an accomodation has taken place between the Swedes and Danes; that the Danish troops are leaving the Swedish territories; Gothenberg is relieved; and the Prince of Denmark on his return from Norway, whence he is to be shortly followed also by the Prince of Hesse."

The Marquis del Campo, who is Ambassador from Spain to the British Court, has been some time at Paris, where he is carrying on a negociation for an accomodation between the Ottoman Porte and Sweden on the one hand; and Russia, Germany, and their allies on the other.

Extract of a letter from Cadiz, Octo. 15.

"The last accounts from Barbary mention, that two of the Emperor of Morocco's sons, with a numerous army, had lately advanced near the frontiers of Algiers, with an intent to penetrate into that kingdom; but the Dey being informed of their march, dispatched the Bey of Mascora, at the head of 60,000 of his best troops, who fell upon the Moors with such insistable fury, that in less than three hours he dispersed and entirely defeated them with a horrid slaughter. It is said that a greater massacre never was heard of, as the Algerines made no prisoners, but put every man to the sword that fell into their hands. It is further added, that upwards 800 heads, chiefly officers, were sent to the Dey's palace, and there exposed at the gates for three days."

THE KING.

MONDAY, November 10.

It is with the deepest regret that we find ourselves under the painful necessity of informing the public, that according to the last dispatches from Windsor, received so late as half past eleven last night, there scarcely remained a ground for the continuance of those hopes which have so long been anxiously wished on a subject of all others most interesting to the nation, at this awful period. His Majesty's physicians have exhausted the last resource, of their art, we grieved to add, without the least perceptible amendment.

The Duke of Gloucester and the Lord Chancellor were yesterday at Hounslow about the same time, changing horses in their way to Windsor.

The unremitted attention of the Prince of Wales towards his Majesty, gives such exemplary proof of duty and filial love, that creates to his Highness the most cordial attachments every hour.—Indeed he is the theme of national approbation and general affection.

TUESDAY, November 11.

Extract of a letter from Windsor, dated Sunday night, eleven o'clock.

"Yesterday evening his Majesty took a dose of James's powder, in order to promote perspiration, which had the desired effect, and the King seemed much composed in consequence. He slept two hours with seeming ease, and in the morning was thought to be much better.

In the course of this day his disorder increased, and this evening he is as bad as he has been at any time since his illness.

"Leeches have within this half hour been applied to the King's temples; and this night and to-morrow are supposed by the Physicians, will be the crisis.

"Saturday his Majesty remained composed till about eleven o'clock: his ideas then began to ramble very much, and his phrenzy encreased alarmingly at the evening.

Prayers were put up for his Majesty on Sunday, in most churches and chappels.—The Dissenters were fervent and animated in their prayers for his recovery.

WEDNESDAY, November 12.

The Gazette of last night, mentions the state of his Majesty's health in the forenoon. But though no express arrived from Windsor subsequent to that we are obliged to add, they brought no favourable intelligence. His Majesty continued in nearly the same state throughout the day.

The Prince, with an affection that reflects the highest honour upon his character, is unceasing in his assiduities and filial attention. No words can express or describe the anxiety which every beholder sees strongly marked in the countenance of this amiable youth.—The better he is known the higher he is rated.

Many gentleman have come to town on account of the King's indisposition.

His Majesty's complaint is pronounced not to be the Gout, but a Dropsy, the seat of which is in the Legs and Thighs.

The abstemious system which his Majesty has invariably pursued, is thought to have occasioned the present complaint. Opposite causes sometimes produces a similar effect and living too freely is no less prejudicial to health, than too abstemiously. The King, throughout his whole life, used a great deal of exercise, both on foot and horseback; but did not proportion the use of wine, to his exercise, which he used to a great degree, must exhaust Nature, instead of refreshing her.

NOTA BENE.

While the people are lamenting the indisposition of the King, they are in the same moment with unexampled unanimity, acknowledging the amiable and filial virtues of the Heir Apparent. He stands high in the judgment of All. Even the Treasury Runners, Sycophants and Parasites are abashed; they are obliged to join in the general voice.—His Royal Highness has mixed with the world—He knows the people, he loves them: and has had more experience of this kind than any other Prince of his age. His education has been excellent. He is perhaps one of the best classic scholars this day in the kingdom.

The officers of the army have cause, more than all others, to deprecate the King's death. This event, whenever it happens, puts them to the expence of new commissions, and thereby puts near 20,000l. into the pockets of the Secretary of State for the home department.

The present is a most critical period.—Parliament is to assemble on the 20th inst. according to the last prorogation, and something extraordinary must be speedily done.—If the King should linger in his present unhappy situation much longer, we have authority to say that a Regency will be appointed for the transaction of public business, at which the Queen and his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales will preside.

Several Cabinet Councils have been already held on the deliberation of this important subject, the result of which has been laid before the Prince at Windsor—Mr. Pitt has had several conferences with him within the last two or three days.

QUEBEC, December 29.

By a letter from Lake Ontario, to a gentlemen in this town, we learn that on Sunday the 2d of November, Mr. Fitzsimons, mate of his Majesty's vessel Dorset, cut his wife's throat, and then his own;—jealousy, fended by liquor, is supposed to have been the cause of this rash action. He expired immediately, it is expected Mrs. Fitzsimons will recover.

WILMINGTON, (N. C.) Dec. 6.

The general assembly have resolved, that five persons be chosen by ballot, to represent this State in a federal Convention, should one be recommended by Congress, to take under consideration the amendments proposed by the several States, to take place in the Constitution proposed, for the government of the United States.

NEW-YORK, January 29.

From undoubted authority, we can assure our readers, that the British government of the Bahamas has lately sent and caused to be landed on a certain point in Georgia, a fresh supply of powder, arms and a few small field pieces; which stores have been delivered to the Creeks, under the safe guard of some refugees.—M'Gillivray has at the same time received the most positive assurances of further assistance, should he continue to harrass the State of Georgia, whilst under the garb of good patriots, will take upon themselves to keep and feed the misunderstanding between that State and the Creek nation.

PROVIDENCE, Jan. 17.

Extracts of letters from Georgia, dated in November and December last.

"Although the Creeks have ceased hostilities for the present, yet we are attacked by a tribe of Indians called the Simonites, who inhabit a part of Florida;—they are not acknowledged by the Creeks as a part of their nation.—M'Gillivray sent us word lately, that he will strictly attend to the suspension of hostilities until April next; all our frontier inhabitants continue to live in Forts.

"Our old State Constitution, which is much like that of Pennsylvania, consisting of a single House of Assembly, is found so defective that a Convention is ordered to frame a new one; our present ideas are that the new one shall be nearly similar to the new federal Constitution—am sorry to hear that your state still continues averse to the new constitution."

It must give pleasure to the friends of home Manufactures, to make a correspondent, to be informed that JOHN BROWN, Esq. of this town, a gentleman well known throughout the United States, and not only fon, are clothed in the fabricks of their native Country, and from the fleeces of their own flocks.—It is a singular, circumstance, that the yarn was all spun by a woman 88 years of age—a monitory lesson to young Ladies, who little reflect how much the fate of their country is in their power.—The lowest Manufacturer, say Monsieur Necker, who furnishes a single bale of goods for sale, does more to retain the solid coin in the Kingdom, than the ablest Banker or the most skilful Financier.

NEW-HAVEN, Jan. 15.

Saturday last, Mr. Stephen Bishop, of this city, as he was walking on the floor, fell down, and expired in an instant.

PORTSMOUTH, (N. H.) Jan. 25.

Among other acts now before the Legislature, and which it is supposed will be passed is an act for the more equal distribution of Estates, where the parents die without making a will. By this act children will share alike—and the oldest son (merely because he first popped into the world—perhaps without any other recommendation) is no longer to run away with a double portion. This new act, which is lengthy, will, it is supposed, be on improvement upon the old one.

Yesterday forenoon, His Excellency President LANGDON, by a message to the General Assembly, resigned his office, as President, Captain General, and Commander in Chief of this State, in consequence of his late appointment as Senator of the United States.

NEWBURY-PORT, January 21.

Last Thursday night a building belonging to Ebenezer Marsh, Esq. of Newbury, and occupied by Mr. Thomas Evans, currier, containing a large quantity of leather, was consigned by fire. Several circumstances concur to make it strongly suspected that the building was first robbed of its contents, and then set on fire to prevent a discovery.

BOSTON, January 29.

Sketch of Business in the General Court.

THURSDAY, January 22.

A COMMITTEE of five was raised to consider the expediency of lessening the tax upon spirits, and adding the reductions of the states; who were enjoined to sit immediately.

The Committee appointed on the answer to the Governour's Message, an amendment thereto, which was read, and debated for some time.

The question to accept the amendment being put was carried. Yeas 117. Nays 50.

The Senate having non-concurred in the amendment proposed by the House, the message remained unanswered.

The Committee, consisting of one member from each represented county, raised to consider the petition of the Eastern Convention, praying for a seperation, reported, "That it lie on the table." And after considerable debate the question was put and the report accepted.

FRIDAY, January 23.

The question, Whether the tax to be assessed this Session, should be paid in specie, after being debated the greater part of the day, passed in the negative. A Committee was then raised to report what species of paper it is expedient the tax should be received in.

A message was received from the Governour, informing the Legislature, that agreeably to a Resolve of the General Court, all the copper in the Mint, has been coined into Cents, and that the Master-workman, Inspector and other persons employed therein, are discharged.

After the House had gone through the business of the Tax, they in the evening resumed the consideration of the report of the Committee who were chosen to consider of the expediency of a salary for the support of the Lieutenant-Governour, and after considerable debate thereon, a salary of £.160 was granted.

MONDAY, Jan. 26.

After some time spent in the consideration of private bills, reports and petitions,

Major NASON said, as the Session was approaching to a close, he thought it was high time an answer was made to his Excellency's Message—He therefore moved, That a message go to the Hon. Senate, to desire that the answer to the Governour's message be sent down, which was seconded and carried.

A short debate ensued, in which Gen. THOMPSON moved, that a Committee be appointed to propose an answer, on the part of the House, to said message. To this motion, a few words were said, when

Maj. LEMAN moved, That the answer to the Governor's message be committed to a Committee of Conference for consideration. The question on this last motion, was put and carried—and Dr. JARVIS, Mr. NASON, and Gen. HEATH, were appointed on the part of the House.

TUESDAY, January 27.

The Judiciary Act was this day debated, and Thursday, ten o'clock, assigned for its third reading.

The Senate having non-concurred the Resolve for a Poll Tax—the subject was again considered, but nothing was determined on.

WEDNESDAY, January 28.

A variety of business of a public and private nature, was acted upon, but no final decision had thereon.

Tuesday arrived here from Martinico, after a passage of 28 days, Captain James Prince, who informs us, that a vessel had arrived from London, at Dominica, with the news of the death of his BRITANNIC MAJESTY, GEORGE III. Capt. Capt. Prince sailed at St. Eustatia, where the news was confirmed from St. Kitts and Antigua.—While at St. Eustatia, they had two shocks of an earthquake in one day; the first shock was at four o'clock in the morning, the other about nine.

Capt. Grimes has arrived at Newport, in 63 days from Liverpool, and confirms the above account of the death of his Britannic Majesty.

NORTHAMPTON, February 4.

On Thursday last the inhabitants of this town assembled for the purpose of choosing a Federal Representative, for the western District—when at the close of the poll, the votes stood as follows, viz.

The Hon. *Theodore Sedgwick*, Esq. had 75—*William Williams*, Esq. 18.

SOUTH-HADLEY.

Hon. *Samuel Lyman*, Esq. 26, *Theodore Sedgwick*, Esq. 2, *Oliver Phelps*, Esq. 1, *Noah Goodman*, Esq. 6.

SHELBURNE.

Hon. *Samuel Barnes*, Esq. 33, *Theodore Sedgwick*, Esq. 8.

CONWAY.

Hon. *William Williams*, Esq. 20, *Theodore Sedgwick*, Esq. 2, *Samuel Lyman*, Esq. 1.

ASHFIELD.

Hon. *William Williams*, Esq. 20.

ANECDOTES.

IN 1571, when Don Juan of Austria commanded the Spanish army in the low Countries, one of his officers having used every gentle means to seduce the beautiful daughter of the Inn at Whose house he lodged, was determined to compel her by violence to submit to his desires. In this attempt, however, he was frustrated by the spirit of the young woman, who seized his poignard, plunged it into his bosom, and fled. The officer being informed that the wound was mortal, and penetrated with repentance for the conduct which had occasioned it, desired that the virtuous object of his late outrageous passion might be brought to him. On her approaching the bed, "I beg of you," said he to her, "to forgive the shameful affront you have received from me; and by way of making the best reparation in my power for such an abominable attempt, I now declare myself your husband. Since my crime, and your virtue have put it out of my power to offer you my person, receive at least the name and rights of my wife, with which I now invest you; and, the gift of all I possess in the world, that all who are acquainted with my shameful and dishonourable conduct towards you, may learn also, that an honorable marriage has been the price of the efforts I made to bring you to shame, and the reward of that virtuous courage with which you defended yourself against me."—Having addressed the young woman in this manner, he immediately married her in the presence of her father and his confessor, and expired a few minutes after the ceremony was completed.

A MAN inquiring for one he wanted, at the place of his lodgings, was told by the landlady below, that if he went up two pair of stairs backward, he would find him. The man mistaking the woman, imagining the word backward, by which she meant the situation of the room, denoting the manner in which he was to go to it; and, accordingly, thither he mounted, with his backside foremost, cursing his friend bitterly when he had laboured to the top, for living in a place that could not be come at without a man's taking such a plagey deal of pains, and turning his face behind him.

Deers Leather, and Indigo,

For Sale by

Luther Loomis,

WHO has lately received a large supply—which he is selling upon the most reasonable terms—and wants to purchase all sorts of Grain, White Beans, Peas, Butter and Cheese, Hemp, Flax, Tobacco, Beef Cattle, and Shipping-Oxen, Pork, White Oak Hogshead and Barrel Staves and Heading.

Suffield, Jan. 31, 1789.

THE subscriber hath erected a large and convenient STORE, on the bank of the River, in this city, within a few rods of Mrs. Knox's, for the convenience of storing any kind of Goods or Produce, which shall be done on the most reasonable terms—What produce may be freighted in vessels in which he is concerned, shall be exempted from the charge of storage—Any orders directed to him for the purpose of purchasing, selling, shipping or storing of Goods or Produce, shall be faithfully attended to, by

JOHN CALDWELL.

Hartford, Dec. 27, 1788.

CROCKERY.

A large and beautiful assortment of Yellow, and Blue and White WARE, consisting of all the articles in use, which will sell by crate or less quantity, on reasonable terms—Also, double and single Flint GLASS WARE—Raisins in casks, &c. &c. &c.

Good Wheat, Rye, Corn, Bees-Wax, and Cash, received in payment.

THOMAS TISDALL.

Hartford, State of Connecticut, Jan. 1, 1789.

WANTED,

A quantity of well dressed

FLAX,

By LEVI SHEPHARD.

Northampton, Jan. 28, 1789.

TAKEN up by the subscriber, on the 24th October, a chestnut coloured MARE, supposed to be five years old, with a white strip in her face, shod before and lame, the owner is desired to pay charges and take her away.

JOSEPH WARNER.

Leyden, Jan. 12, 1789.