

NEW-YORK, January 3.

The General Assembly of this Province meets here on Thursday next, in order to proceed on Business.

Tuesday Morning last died at his Seat in the Bowery, in the Out-Wald of this City, in the 54th Year of his Age, ROBERT LEAKE, Esq; Commissary General of North-America.

He was long a faithful Servant to the Crown; a loving Husband,---tender Parent,---one of the best of Masters, and a Friend to all Tradesmen.

His Remains were interred in the Family Vault, in Trinity Church Yard Yesterday Evening, attended by a great Concourse of the Inhabitants of this Place, and the Military.

The same Morning died also, Mr. JACOB TOWNSEND, of this City, Merchant, in the 55th Year of his Age.

On Christmas Night, the 25th Ultimo, two Sons of Mr. William Smith, near Ash-Swamp, in Essex County, East New-Jersey, one about Eighteen, the other about Fifteen Years of Age, went to Bed in good Health, in a small close Room where they usually lay, but were next Morning both found dead in their Bed, without the least Appearance of any Hurt.---They took a Pan of live Coals with them, shut the Door close, and placed it near their Bed; by which they were suffocated.

On Monday last the Members of St. John's Lodge celebrated the Anniversary Festival of their Patron Saint, at Brother Hull's. They were honoured with the Company of the Most Worshipful and Worshipful the Deputy Grand Master, Grand Wardens, several Officers of the Grand Lodge, and many other respectable visiting Brethren. The Day and Evening were spent with that social Joy, Harmony, and Order, by which the Fraternity are so eminently distinguished.

From Salem we are informed, that Dr. Latham is making the Inhabitants of New-England very happy from his successful Introduction of the Suttonian Inoculation in that Place. His first Class of Patients consisted of 142; and, by the Establishment of a Small-Pox Hospital, there is now a fair Prospect of all old Prejudices against the Practice of it being overcome.

About Eleven o'Clock last Wednesday Night, a most dreadful Fire broke-out in the Governor's Dwelling House in Fort George, in this City; It was so sudden and raged with such amazing Rapidity and Violence that it was with the greatest Difficulty his Excellency's Lady and Daughter saved their Lives; the two former by making their Way out of the East Door on the Ramparts of the Fort, and the latter by leaping out at a Window of the second Story. The Fire had got to such a Head before the Inhabi-

tants could imagine that it was utterly impossible to save any Part of the House or Furniture; the only thing to be done was to preserve the adjacent Buildings, which was happily effected by the Skill and Alacrity of the Citizens, assisted by the Military, who exerted themselves with great Spirit and Activity on the Occasion. The Roofs of the Houses being covered with Snow, contributed much to their Preservation, and prevented that general Conflagration which imminently threatened the whole City.

The Fire first appeared in the Council Chamber, but by what Means it was kindled, remains as yet undiscovered.

His Excellency's Loss on the Occasion must be very great; for besides a rich and costly set of Furniture, he has lost all his public and private Papers, Plates, Cash, &c. &c. with a valuable Set of Jewels belonging to his Lady.

Col. Fanning has also been a great Sufferer, but has been happy enough to save the Papers belonging to the Surrage Office.

We have the Pleasure to inform the Public that his Excellency, Lady and Daughter are well, and that the only Life lost on the Occasion was that of a Servant Girl named Elizabeth Garret, about 15 Years old, who perished in the Flames.

The Great Seal of the Province was saved out of the Ruins on the Evening of the 31st of December, without being the least defaced.

The Day after the above Fire his Excellency our Governor sent the following Letter to the Worshipful Whitehead Hicks, Esq; Mayor of this City.

New-York, 30th Decr 1773.

Deeply impressed as I am with a grateful Sense of the strenuous Endeavors of the Citizens to extinguish the raging Fire which happened at Fort-George, last Night, and greatly threatened the Safety of the whole City, I find myself irresistably impelled to request You to communicate to them my cordial and affectionate Thanks, for the Skill and Activity with which all Ranks exerted themselves on the alarming Occasion.

I am,

Sir,

Your very obedient humble Servant,

Wm^o TRYON

The Worshipful WHITEHEAD HICKS, Esquire, Mayor of the City of New-York.