

# T H E European Magazine,

A N D  
L O N D O N R E V I E W ;

CONTAINING THE  
LITERATURE, HISTORY, POLITICS, ARTS,  
MANNERS, and AMUSEMENTS of the AGE.

By the PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY of LONDON.

For M A R C H, 1784.

Embellished with the following Engravings :

1. An elegant Engraving of Handel, by Angus.—And 2. A beautiful perspective View (engraved by Walker) of the New Public Offices at Somerset House, fronting the Thames.

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L O N D O N :

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*\* \* \* Our Correspondents are particularly requested to direct their future favours to the care of Messrs. Scatcherd and Whitaker, No. 12, Ave-Maria-Lane, London.*

## ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*Our Correspondent Nicodemus, from Hackney, has our thanks for the notices he has sent us. A variety of circumstances which cannot be detailed have occasioned the errors he reminds us of. We hope that effectual care has been taken to prevent the like for the future.*

*D's Verses, beginning with two lines from Eugene Aram's Poem, and entitled, The Condemned Criminal's Soliloquy, we apprehend, have been printed already. If our Correspondent will satisfy us that they have not already appeared, they shall be inserted.*

*Juvenis's poetical effusions are too juvenile for publication.*

*The fact so strongly recommended by Drury, has been already served up to the Public.*

*Cato's hint shall be attended to.*

*The pieces pointed out to us by Benevolus have great merit. We will endeavour to begin the Series in our next.*

*The pieces signed F. G.—Amorata—J. N.—R. S.—Z. Z.—Negative—A Suffolk Farmer—and Inventus—are received, and under consideration.*

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## A LIST of NEW PUBLICATIONS.

**T**HE Fourth Satire of Persius imitated, and applied to Mr. Pitt. Pamph.

An Essay on Electricity. By G. Adams.

The Chronology and History of the World, from the Creation. By Dr. Blair.

Vulgar Errors. Pamph.

Considerations on the present Situation of Great Britain and the United States of North America. Pamph.

A complete System of practical Arithmetic. By W. Taylor.

Observations on the present State of Denmark, Russia, and Switzerland.

Observations on the Commerce of the American States; a new Edition, greatly enlarged. By John Lord Sheffield.

Memoirs of the Life and Writings of the late Rev. Thomas Baker, B. D.

The Modern Atalantis.

The Temple of Wit, and the Temple of Folly; a Vision.

Plays of Three Acts. By William Hayley, Esq.

Edwy; a Dramatic Poem.

Laws concerning the Election of Members of Parliament, continued to the End of the last Session.

The Resolutions of the House of Commons, from Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> 1783, to March 10, 1784. Pamph.

An authentic Narrative of the Dissentions in the Royal Society.

History of Modern Europe. Part the Second. 2 Vols.

Miscellaneous Pieces in Prose and Verse. By Mrs. Upton.

Impartial Advice relative to the Receipt Tax. Pamph.

Constitutional Truths. Pamph.

\* Dramatic Miscellanies. By Mr. Davies. 3 Vols.

A new Translation of Jeremiah and Lamentations. By Benjamin Blaney, B. D. 4to.

The Book of the Wars of Westminster. Pamph.

The Royal Ecclesiastical Gazetteer.



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T H E

# EUROPEAN MAGAZINE,

A N D

## L O N D O N R E V I E W ;

F O R M A R C H , 1784.

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An Account of the LIFE of GEORGE-FREDERICK HANDEL: with a DESCRIPTION of the INTENDED CELEBRITY at WESTMINSTER-ABBEY and the PANTHEON in Commemoration of his Memory.

Accompanied with an elegant engraved LIKENESS.

THE English nation have seldom been wanting in gratitude to those who have contributed either to the glory or to the entertainment of the country. In no part of the world have there arisen monuments to eternalize the memory of statesmen, legislators, warriors, or benefactors to society, at the public expence, more than in England. In no quarter of the globe have those who have contributed to the amusements of life, been more amply rewarded, or more respectfully noticed. The Jubilee in commemoration of Shakspeare a few years since, though ridiculed by the wits of the time, was not unworthy of a nation's gratitude; and the like mark of respect now in contemplation, under the sanction of Royalty, to do honour to the Shakspeare of musick, GEORGE-FREDERICK HANDEL, will afford another proof that distinguished merit will not be buried in oblivion, and, it may be presumed, will excite a spirit of emulation in others to deserve, and to obtain the like marks of respect and reverence.

Curiosity naturally enquires after those persons who have rendered themselves objects of public attention. To gratify that curiosity which the present Jubilee will excite, we shall lay before our readers the following outline of Mr. Handel's life.

George-Fredrick Handel was born at Halle, a city in the circle of Upper Saxony, on Februray 24, 1684. His father was a physician and surgeon at that place, and was more than sixty years old when this his son was born; he had also one daughter by the same wife, and a son by a former marriage, who was a domestic to the Duke of Sage-

Weisenfels, and resided at his court.

The destination of Mr. Handel by his father was to the law, but a superior propensity to musick rendered every effort of his father to attach him to legal pursuits ineffectual. He is said, when forbid to touch musical instruments, to have found means to get a little clavichord conveyed into a room at the top of his father's house, to which he constantly resorted as soon as the family retired to rest, and, astonishing as it will seem, without any rules to direct his finger, or any other instructor than his own ear, he found means to produce from the instrument both melody and harmony.

At the age of seven years, by perseverance and resolution, he may be said to have compelled his father to take him on a visit to his brother at the court of Saxe-Weisenfels, where he was allowed to indulge his fondness for musick without interruption. By the recommendation of the Duke, his inclination was no longer opposed; and on his return to Halle, he was placed under the care of Frederick-William Zachau, organist of the great church in that city. At the age of nine years he composed motets for the service of the church, and continued to make one almost every week for three years. By the time he had arrived at the age of thirteen years, he determined to visit Berlin, where he arrived in 1698. He continued there a short time, and then returned home; soon after which he lost his father. His attachment to his native place being much lessened by this event, he determined on another place of residence. He therefore went to Hamburgh,

and performed at the opera there with great reputation. It was here at the age of fourteen years he composed his first opera, called *Almeria*, which was performed thirty nights without intermission.

At Hamburg he remained three years, and during that time composed two other operas, namely, *Florinda* and *Nerone*. He then resolved to visit Italy, and accordingly accepted an invitation he had received from the Grand Duke of Tuscany to go to Florence. After a year's stay there, he went to Venice, and from thence to Rome, at each of which places he composed some operas. From Rome he went to Naples, and then returned to Germany. He soon fixed on Hanover for his residence, and received particular marks of distinction from the Princess Sophia and her son the Elector, afterwards King George I.

In the year 1710, by permission of his patrons at Hanover, he came to England and engaged with Mr. Aaron Hill, who had the management at that time of the Theatre in the Haymarket, where the opera of *Rinaldo* was performed, a work composed in a fortnight. It was represented with great success, and the person who printed the music is said to have got 1500*l.* by it.

Though much solicited to stay in England, he this time resisted the temptation, and returned to Hanover, where he remained two years. He then obtained leave to revisit England, upon condition of his returning within a reasonable time. He arrived in London about the latter end of the year 1712, at which time the negotiations for the treaty of Utrecht were in great forwardness. On the restoration of peace, he composed a *Te Deum* and *Jubilate*, which were performed at St. Paul's Cathedral, her majesty herself attending the service.

The queen died in 1714, and the Elector of Hanover came to the crown. Handel had given offence to his new sovereign both by his remaining in England, and by exerting his talents in celebrating a peace which was considered as a disgraceful one by the court of Hanover. To restore him to the king's favour, Baron Kilmansegge contrived a party on the Thames, at which Handel produced his celebrated water music. Enquiry being made concerning the composer, he was soon afterwards introduced to the king, and restored to his former situation.

Being now determined to make England his residence, he accepted an invitation to reside first with Mr. Andrews, of Barn Elms, in Surry, and afterwards with Lord Burlington. With this nobleman he continued three years: he then received a pressing invitation from the Duke of Chandos to undertake the

direction of the chapel at his superb mansion, Cannons. He went there in the year 1718, and resided with his Grace until the institution of the Musical Academy for the performance of operas at the Hay-market, under the patronage of the King and most of the principal nobility. Of this exhibition Mr. Handel was appointed director; and in that station he remained until 1726, when disputes arising between him and his employers, the academy was broke up, and a new subscription entered into with a new manager.

On this event, Mr. Handel engaged with Heidegger, in opposition to his former friends, and they continued together for three years. At the end of that term, he undertook to perform operas on his own account, and this scheme he persisted in, until he had expended almost the whole property he had acquired; his health too suffered in an equal degree.—To get rid of that dejection of mind which his repeated disappointments had brought on him, he was advised to use the waters at Tunbridge, and a regimen calculated to assist their operation: his disorder was, however, too deeply rooted; his mental powers were even affected; and, to complete his distress, the palsy seized his right arm, and he was rendered incapable of using it in any manner.

Medicines being found ineffectual, he was prevailed upon to try the baths of Aix-la-Chapelle, which soon restored him to his former health. On his return to London, he again tried his fortune with some new operas; but not being satisfied with their reception, he struck out a new mode of entertainments. These were oratorios, which were for some time favourably received; but on a suspicion that the public were growing indifferent towards them, he determined to try the temper of the people of Ireland. Accordingly, he went to Dublin in the year 1741, and gave a performance of the *Messiah*, for the benefit of the prisoners in that city. He returned to London in the year 1742, and performed *Sampson*, which was received with such applause, as seemed to insure him success in his future attempts of that kind.

From this period may be dated that almost uninterrupted flow of success which attended him in his oratorios, during the rest of his life. In gratitude for the favour shewn him by the public, and actuated by motives of benevolence, he performed the *Messiah* for the benefit of an institution which then stood in need of every assistance, the Foundling Hospital; and this he continued to do for several years. At the theatre his *Messiah* was frequently performed to such audiences as he could no otherwise accommodate than by erecting seats on the stage to such a number



as scarcely left room for the performers. In this prosperous state did his affairs go on, till he was afflicted with the misfortune of blindness, which, great as it was, did not totally incapacitate him from study, or the power of entertaining the public.

In the beginning of the year 1751, he was alarmed by a disorder in his eyes, which, upon consulting with the surgeons, he was told was an incipient gutta serena. From the moment this opinion of his case was communicated to him, his spirits forsook him; and that fortitude which had supported him under afflictions of another kind, deserted him in this; scarcely leaving him patience to wait for that crisis in his disorder, in which he might hope for relief. He submitted, however, to some operations, but without any beneficial effect.

Towards the beginning of the year 1758, he began to find himself decline apace; and that general debility which was coming on him was rendered still more alarming by a total loss of appetite. When that symptom appeared, he considered his recovery as hopeless; and, resigning himself to his fate, expired on the 14th day of April, 1759. He was buried in Westminster Abbey, the Dean, Dr. Pearce, Bishop of Rochester, assisted by the choir, performing the funeral solemnity. Over the place of his interment is a monument, designed and executed by Roubiliac, representing him at full length in an erect posture, with a music paper in his hand, inscribed, "I know that my Redeemer liveth;" with the notes to which those words are set in his Messiah. He died worth about twenty thousand pounds, almost the whole whereof he bequeathed to his relations abroad.

As the COMMEMORATION of HANDEL will give rise to one of the most splendid exhibitions which has been seen in this kingdom, we think it our duty to communicate to our readers the particular circumstances which first led to its being adopted.

In a conversation which took place in the beginning of the year 1783, between Earl Fitzwilliam, Sir Watkin Williams Wynne, and Joah Bates, Esq. one of the Commissioners of the Victualling-Office, at the latter's house, it was lamented, that, as London contained a greater number of eminent performers on different instruments of music, than any other city in Europe, there was not some public periodical occasion which would bring them all together; by which means a performance might be exhibited on such a scale of magnificence, as could not be equalled in any part of the world. The death of Handel naturally presented itself to three such enthusiastic admirers of that great master, and it immediately occurred that the next

(i. e. the present) year would be a proper time for the introduction of such a custom; as it formed exactly a fourth of a century since his death, and a complete century since his birth.

The plan was soon afterwards communicated to the Managers of the Musical Fund, who approved it, and promised their assistance. It was next submitted to the Directors of the Concert of Ancient Music, viz. Earl of Exeter, Earl of Sandwich, Viscount Dudley and Ward, Viscount Fitzwilliam, Lord Paget, Right Hon. H. Morice, Sir Watkin Williams Wynne, Bart. Sir Rich. Jebb, Bart. who, with a readiness that does honour to their feelings of humanity as well as of music, voluntarily undertook the trouble of managing and directing the celebrity. The design at last coming to the knowledge of the King, it received the sanction of his patronage. Westminster Abbey was fixed upon as the properest place for the performance, as Handel was buried there; and application was made to the Bishop of Rochester for the use of it, who readily consented, as the scheme was honoured with the King's patronage; and who only requested, that as the performance would interfere with the annual day of the Westminster Infirmary, a part of the profits might be applied to that charity. This was agreed to; and it was afterwards settled that the profits of the first day's performance should be equally divided between the Musical Fund and the Westminster Infirmary. The profits of the other days are intended to be applied solely to the Musical Fund.

Mr. WYATT (of whose abilities as an architect our readers, we presume, cannot be ignorant) has been since employed to plan the scaffolding to be erected in the Abbey, a drawing of which has been shewn to the King and approved.

The present organ will be taken down, and a grand gallery erected in the room, from a design of the abovementioned gentleman, for the reception of their Majesties, and all the younger branches of the Royal Family, of an age capable of relishing the performance, together with the Royal attendants. This gallery will be hung with crimson velvet fringed with gold. Over the western door of the Abbey, will be erected a large new organ, built by Mr. Green for Canterbury cathedral, but which is to be fixed up in the Abbey on this occasion. Mr. Bates, we are informed, means to play the organ. The base of the orchestra, which will contain a band of about five hundred vocal and instrumental performers, is to be seven feet from the ground. In short, the whole will form a *coup d'oeil*, equally novel, magnificent, and splendid.

The arrangement of the performance of each

each day is settled as follows; and it must not be omitted to mention, that it is said to have been at his Majesty's suggestion the performance was extended to three days instead of two, which he thought would compress it too much.

It was originally intended to have celebrated this grand harmonic *fete* on the 21st, 22d, and 23d of April; and the 21st being the day of the Funeral of Handel, the music was in some measure selected so as to apply to that incident. In consequence of the sudden dissolution of Parliament, however, it has been thought proper to defer the festival to the same period, as nearly as possible, in the succeeding month (May), and when, we are informed, the performances will be exhibited in the following order:

### FIRST DAY.

*In Westminster Abbey.*

#### PART I.

Coronation Anthem, to introduce the King.

Overture of Esther.

Dettingen Te Deum.

#### PART II.

Overture and Dead March in Saul.

Verbes selected from Handel's Funeral Anthem on the death of Queen Caroline, with a few slight alterations in the words, to adapt them to the occasion.

The Anthem of "O sing unto the Lord:"

The whole to close with the last Chorus of "Israel in Egypt."

### SECOND DAY.

The performance of this day will be held at the PANTHEON. This assembly will differ in many essentials from the preceding one. The music will be sprightly, to contrast it with the solemn stile of the Abbey selection, and will consist of a miscellaneous collection from his Operas, Oratorios, and other works.

The brilliancy of the place, and the time of the performance, which is to be evening, will

contribute to heighten the effect. Several improvements will be made in the Pantheon, to give every possible dignity to a building of unrivalled elegance and beauty. Here, as in the Abbey, a gallery, after a design of Mr. WYATT (who originally planned this elegant edifice) will be erected for their Majesties, their family, and suite. Those who have seen the Drawing speak of it in terms of the highest commendation. The hangings, drapery, and furniture, will be in the first stile. Several additional lustres, girandoles, &c. will be fixed up, and ranges of lights in a new taste be placed round the dome, and in other parts of the building.

### THIRD DAY.

This day will close the festival. The Jubilee will on that day be resumed in the Abbey, and conclude with the Messiah, which is selected as alluding to the Resurrection. The number of voices and instruments which are to unite in the performance of this Oratorio will produce an effect, that those best versed in the power of sounds can have but a very imperfect idea of; and even such as are auditors will never have language to express the sensations they must feel, if they have *music* in their souls!

PACCHIEROTTI, Bartolini, and all the most eminent vocal performers, (a list of whose names we hope to give in our next) have promised their assistance, gratis.

The number of performers who have already offered, are as follow:

|                |    |               |    |
|----------------|----|---------------|----|
| Violins,       | 96 | Bassoons,     | 28 |
| Tenors,        | 30 | Trumpets,     | 14 |
| Violoncellos,  | 30 | French-horns, | 12 |
| Double Basses, | 20 | Trombones,    | 3  |
| Oboes,         | 30 | Kettle-drums, | 5  |

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268

Vocal Performers, 225 |

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493

For the EUROPEAN MAGAZINE.

The POLITICAL STATE of the NATION, and of EUROPE, in MARCH 1784.

### No. I.

THE commencement of this month was rendered remarkable by putting a period to a very extraordinary dispute between the Crown and the Commons, which had agitated the whole nation for some months, and threatened to convulse the state dangerously, by the acrimony and obstinacy wherewith it was carried on; on one side accompanied with a stagnation of all public business, and even withholding, for a time, the supplies necessary for the support of Government and the preservation of public credit. This dispute ended as it ought to do, greatly to the disadvantage of the party with whom it ori-

ginated: the Commons assumed, or attempted to assume, a power which the Constitution has not vested in them, but in another branch of the legislature, namely, the appointment, or at least negating any appointment, of executive Ministers of State, by any power whatsoever, without their previous concurrence and approbation, that is, without their confidence signified or expressed in the minister so appointed; a measure big with anarchy, confusion and ruin, and subversive of our happy Constitution. The great body of the people saw the impropriety of the attempt, feared the consequences, if it had

succeeded.



succeeded, and spontaneously united themselves, like one man, to support the Sovereign in the due exercise of his undoubted prerogative, and comfort his new ministers in the discharge of their duty to their king and country, promising them, in their numerous addresses, all necessary legal support. Never was such a struggle known in England before ! The king, and lords, and the people, almost universally against a party of the representatives of the people, amounting to a small majority of members assembled, but far short of one half of the whole body of representatives ! and this majority led on, nay, precipitated into rash unguarded resolutions and addresses by two men the most obnoxious to the people in general of any men in England. What a hopeless enterprise did they hurry them upon !—the event has proved it.—The prerogative is firmly established upon the broad basis, the affections of the people ; the daring leaders of the party are struck dumb ; and the humble followers find themselves buried alive in the grave of faction of their own digging, without a hope or expectation of a joyful resurrection. May such ever be the fate of men, who, availing themselves of the *dignity* of representation of the people for their universal good, desert the important duty, for the purpose of erecting themselves into a factious oligarchy, to rule king and people according to their own ambitious and selfish views, or the dictates of presumptuous unprincipled deniagogues : dissolution or political death has already overtaken them, and damnation will follow many of them into the country among their constituents.

The public has been entertained with pompous accounts from America, of the formal leave taken by General Washington of Congress, of his general officers as well as others subordinate, and the whole American army, upon his retiring from all public employment into the station of a private gentleman ;—an example worthy of the attention and, indeed, imitation of our *quondam* ministers, statesmen, and commanders, naval and military. If the man, who, under all the disadvantages recited by him, conquered this country by emancipating his own country from the jurisdiction of Great Britain, voluntarily retires from conquest and from glory, from supreme command and power of dictation, to a solitary, rural, and humble station, unpaid, unplaced, and un pensioned ; what can be said of those, by whose imprudence, imbecility, and inaction, during the course of a long, inglorious civil war, he triumphed over their country ? of those men who unabashed and unblushing for their numerous miscarriages, disgraces and defeats, dare

to brazen it in the cabinet and in the senate—claiming, with effrontery, the most honourable and lucrative offices of government for themselves as their birth-right, and the disposal of all other subordinate places, pensions, and honours, to their own families, friends, and connections, honourable or dishonourable ?—of men who, under such circumstances, dare to bid defiance to government, attempt to overturn the constitution, and sink the nation to perdition, unless the reins are wholly entrusted again into their hands, and Majesty stoops down to be dictated to upon his throne, by them and their faction ?—The people of Great Britain will soon answer this question.

Although the General retires seemingly contented with the consciousness of having served his country without fee or reward, his countrymen seem little disposed to follow his example respecting public affairs. Unsatisfied with that independency they have been so long fighting for under his banner, they still want to quarrel with Great Britain for privileges they have no right to demand or expect.—Though *aliens*, or, which is the same thing, *independents* by their own creation, they still claim and require the rights, privileges, and immunities of liege subjects of Great Britain, in default of which they form hostile resolutions against her, tending to brew up another war : so little has the treaty granting them independency, done towards establishing a permanent solid peace,

Our West India islands ceded to us by the peace are now said to be restored to us ; but these, with those remaining in our possession thro' the war, appear to be in an unsettled condition, through the differences with the Americans above stated.—Those who bawled so loud for American independency, little understood what they clamoured for : the work of separation will be found more and more difficult, as the respective governing powers advance towards a commercial connection between the two (now) disjoined States.

Our affairs in the East-Indies grow more dark and perplexed than before, through the strife, contentions, plots, and counterplots of our own countrymen stationed there to keep order and good government in that part of the world.

Ireland has gone great lengths towards a separation from Great Britain ; and it is difficult to foresee to what further lengths the people of that country will go.—Volunteering is in full vigour still ; and who can stop them, now they have thrown off all subjection to the British Legislature !—Their own Parliament will, perhaps, find itself too weak to resist their rapid movements towards a ge-

neral reform, or what they will please to call by that name.

The general state of Europe is pretty calm at present.—The King of Prussia suspends the operation of his arms to give way to the progress of negotiation, which will probably terminate in peace between him and the Dantzickers.

The Republics of Holland and Venice are in an ill humour with one another, but they lie at too great a distance to come to blows hastily, and have many intermediate states lying between them; powerful ones too, who will probably interpose efficaciously enough to prevent any rupture for the present; unless the countenance given the Venetians by the Empress of Russia may spirit them up to be more tenacious and resolute than they would otherwise be.

Spain keeps menacing the Dey of Algiers, who on his part seems to hold their threats in great contempt: indeed he well may, considering how much noise they make about a little work.

Some busy politicians have set the Emperor of Morocco upon the back of the French, but with very little probability, and with less authority.—The French know better how to cozen these robust sovereigns, or to correct them

when fair means fail, than these people think.

Upon the whole, the true state of Europe will be but little known, until the Emperor of Germany comes to develop his system, which he is meditating and maturing secretly in his own mind, when the demise of the King of Prussia or other incapacity of that prince shall prevent his counterworking him in the completion of his mighty plans.—Thus, by the over-ruling hand of Divine Providence the man who, in the prime of life, set Europe in a flame of war, is made the instrument of preserving the same quarter of the globe in peace and tranquility in his feeble old age. Whenever the King of Prussia drops, the Emperor will have a family account to balance with his representatives, which may cost Europe dear in the end. To this scheme his affinity to the Grand Monarch may contribute not a little, through the instrumentality of his political and enterprising sister; lively emblem of the warlike mother, in whose cause Great Britain has shed much precious blood, and spent immense treasure, without the least recompence or return of favour of any kind whatsoever! Gratitude is not one of the tender feelings of European princes; those of Britain only excepted.

#### For the EUROPEAN MAGAZINE.

**T**HE annexed Plate exhibits a View of the New Public Offices at Somerset-House, fronting the Thames; a structure which does honour to the architect who designed it, and the country in which it is raised. It has long been a subject of regret, that one of the most noble rivers in the world remained undecorated with such buildings as would adorn it, and that the views from many parts were disgraced by erections which would discredit the most despicable fishing-town. To the honour of the present times, this censure is likely to be done away. The magnificent piles which have lately risen at

Somerset-House and the Adelphi, with the improvements made at the Temple and other parts of the River, the three noble bridges thrown across, and the further alterations which may be expected, will give an air of grandeur and magnificence well becoming the chief trading city of the world.

These are Imperial works, and worthy Kings.  
POPE.

We hope to be able in a future Magazine to give an account of the several Offices to be removed to the present building, and other useful particulars relating to it.

#### ANECDOTE of the ITALIAN POET METASTASIO\*.

**M**ANY years ago, when Metastasio's circumstances were far from affluent, and he was only known at Vienna as an assistant writer for the opera, under Apostolo Zeno; a person with whom he had contracted a great intimacy and friendship, dying, left him his whole fortune, amounting to fifteen thousand pounds sterling. But Metastasio hearing that he had relations at Bologna, went thither

in search of them; and having found such as he thought best intitled to these possessions, told them, that though his deceased friend had bequeathed to him his whole fortune, he could suppose it to be no otherwise than in trust, till he should find out the most deserving of his kindred, in order to divide it equally among them; which he immediately did, without the least reserve in his own favour.

\* From Dr. Burney's Present State of Music in Germany, &c.



## To the PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY of LONDON.

GENTLEMEN,

The following Letters from the late Dr. SMOLLETT, which I send you in his own hand-writing, will, I am persuaded, be an agreeable entertainment to many of your Readers. They were written to DANIEL MACKERCHER, Esq. a gentleman whose name is familiar to the Publick, as well from the account of his Life inserted in *The Adventures of Peregrine Pickle*, as from the part he took in the celebrated Anglesea Cause. They will do credit to the writer, and I think can give no offence to any person now living.

I am a well-wisher to your work,

G. H.

Dear Sir,

I SHALL take it as a particular favour if you will peruse the inclosed rough draught of a letter which I intend to send to Mr. Hume Campbell, provided you think it contains nothing actionable. I hope you will excuse this trouble, and believe me to be with equal sincerity and attachment,

Dear Sir,

Your very humble Servant,

T. SMOLLETT.

Chelsea, Friday,

Feb. 23d, 1753.

S I R,

I HAVE waited several days in hope of receiving from you an acknowledgement touching those harsh, unjustifiable (and let me add), unmannerly expressions which you annexed to my name, in the Court of King's-Bench, when you opened the cause depending between me and Peter Gordon; and as I do not find that you have discovered the least inclination to retract what you said to my prejudice, I have taken this method to refresh your memory, and to demand such satisfaction as a gentleman injured as I am has a right to claim.

The business of a Counsellor is, I apprehend, to investigate the truth in behalf of his Client; but surely he has no privilege to blacken and asperse the character of the other party, without any regard to veracity or decorum. That you assumed this unwarrantable privilege in commenting upon your brief, I believe you will not pretend to deny, when I remind you of those peculiar flowers of eloquence which you poured forth on that notable occasion.—First of all, in order to inspire the Court with horror and contempt for the Defendant, you gave the Jury to understand that you did not know this Dr. Smollett; and, indeed, his character appeared in such a light from the facts contained in your brief, that you never should desire to know him.—I should be glad to learn of what consequence it could be to the cause, whether you did or did not know the Defendant, or whether you had or had not an inclination to be acquainted with him?—Sir, this was a pitiful personality calculated to depreciate the character of a

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gentleman to whom you was a stranger, merely to gratify the rancour and malice of an abandoned fellow who had feed you to speak in his cause.—Did I ever seek your acquaintance, or court your protection? I had been informed, indeed, that you was a Lawyer of some reputation, and, when the suit commenced, would have retained you for that reason, had not I been anticipated by the Plaintiff; but, far from coveting your acquaintance, I never dreamed of exchanging a word with you on that or any other subject: you might therefore have spared your invidious declaration, until I had put it in your power to mortify me with a repulse, which, upon my honour, would never have been the case, were you a much greater man than you really are.—Yet this was not the only expedient you used to prepossess the Jury against me.—You was hardly enough to represent me as a person devoid of all humanity and remorse; as a barbarous ruffian, who in a cowardly manner had, with two associates as barbarous as myself, called a peaceable gentleman out of his lodgings, and assaulted him in the dark, with intent to murder.—Such an horrid imputation publicly fixed upon a person whose innocence you could hardly miss to know, is an outrage, for which, I believe, I might find reparation from the law itself, notwithstanding your artful manner of qualifying the expression by saying, *provided the facts can be proved*. This low subterfuge may, for aught I know, screen you from a prosecution at law, but can never acquit you in that Court which every man of honour holds in his own breast. I say, you must have known my innocence from the weakness of the evidence which you produced, and with which you either was or ought to have been previously acquainted; as well as from my general character and that of my antagonist, which it was your duty to have learned.—I will venture to say, you did know my character, and in your heart believed me incapable of such brutality as you laid to my charge.—Surely, I do not over-rate my own importance in affirming, that I am not so obscure in life as to have escaped the notice of Mr. Hume Campbell; and I will be bold enough to challenge him and the whole

X

world

world to prove one instance in which my integrity was called, or at least left, in question.—Have not I therefore reason to suppose that, in spite of your own internal conviction, you undertook the cause of a wretch, whose ingratitude, villany, and rancour are, I firmly believe, without example in this kingdom; that you magnified a slight correction bestowed by his benefactor, in consequence of the most insolent provocation, into a deliberate and malicious scheme of assassination; and endeavoured, with all the virulence of defamation, to destroy the character, and even the life, of an injured person, who, as well as yourself, is a gentleman by birth, education, and profession? In favour of whom, and in consequence of what, was all this zeal manifested, all this slander exhausted, and all this scurrility discharged? Your Client, whom you dignified with the title of Esquire, and endeavoured to raise to the same footing with me in point of station and character, you knew to be an abject miscreant, whom my compassion and humanity had lifted from the most deplorable scenes of distress; whom I had saved from imprisonment and ruin; whom I had clothed and fed for a series of years; whom I had occasionally assisted with my purse, credit, and influence.—You knew, or ought to have known, that, after having received a thousand marks of my benevolence, and prevailed upon me to indorse notes for the support of his credit, he withdrew himself into the verge of the Court, and took up his habitation in a paltry alehouse, where he not only set me and the rest of his creditors at defiance, but provoked me by scurrilous and insolent letters and messages to chastise him in such a manner as gave him an handle for this prosecution, in which you signalized yourself as his champion, for a very honourable consideration.—There is something so palpably ungrateful, perfidious, and indeed diabolical, in the conduct of the Prosecutor, that, even in these degenerate days, I wonder how he could find an Attorney to appear in his behalf. O Tempora! O Mores!—After having thus sounded the trumpet of obloquy in your preamble, and tortured every circumstance of the Plaintiff's evidence to my detriment and dishonour, you attempted to subject me to the ridicule of the Court, by asking a question of my first witness, which had no more relation to the cause, than if you had desired to know the name of his grandmother.—What title had you to ask of a tradesman, if he knew me to be an Author? What affinity had this question with the circumstances of the assault? Was not this foreign to the purpose? Was it not impertinent, and proposed with a view to put me out of countenance, and to raise the laugh of the

spectators at my expence? There, indeed, you were disappointed, as you frequently are in those little digressive efforts by which you make yourself remarkable.—Tho' I do not pretend to possess that superlative degree of effrontery by which some people make a figure at the bar, I have assurance enough to stand the mention of my works without blushing, especially when I despise the taste, and scorn the principles, of him who would turn them to my disgrace.—You succeeded, however, in one particular; I mean, in raising the indignation of my Witnesses; of which you took all imaginable advantage, puzzling, perplexing and brow-beating him with such artifice, eagerness, and insult, as overwhelmed him with confusion, and had well nigh deprived me of the benefit of his evidence.—Luckily for me, the next gentleman who was called confirmed what the other had sworn, and proved to the satisfaction of the Judge and Jury, and even to your own conviction, that this terrible deliberate assassination was no more than a simple blow given to a rascal after repeated provocation, and that of the most flagrant kind; that no advantage was taken in point of weapons; and that two drabs, whom they had picked up for the purpose, had affirmed upon oath a downright falsehood, with a view to blast my reputation.—You yourself was so conscious of this palpable detection, that you endeavoured to excuse them by a forced explanation, which, you may depend upon it, shall not screen them from a prosecution for perjury.—I will not say, that this was like patronizing a couple of Gypsies who had forsworn themselves, consequently forfeited all title to the countenance, or indeed forbearance, of the Court; but this I will say, that your tenderness for them, was of a piece with your whole behaviour to me, which I think was equally insolent and unjust: for, granting that you had really supposed me guilty of an intended assassination, before the trial began, you saw me in the course of evidence acquitted of that suspicion, and heard the Judge insist upon my innocence in his charge to the Jury, who brought in their verdict accordingly. Then, Sir, you ought in common justice to have owned yourself mistaken, or to have taken some other opportunity of expressing your concern for what you had said to my disadvantage; tho' even such an acknowledgement would not have been a sufficient reparation; because, before my witnesses were called, many persons left the Court with impressions to my prejudice, conceived from the calumnies which they heard you espouse and encourage. On the whole, you opened the trial with such hyperbolic impetuosity, and conducted it with such particular bitterness



and rancour, that every body perceived you was more than ordinarily interested; and I could not divine the mysterious bond of union that attached you to Peter Gordon, Esq. until you furnished me with a key to the whole secret by that strong emphasis with which you pronounced the words Ferdinand Count Fathom. Then I discovered the source of your good-will towards me, which is no other than the history of a law-suit inserted in that performance, where the author takes occasion to observe, that the Counsel behaved like men of consummate abilities in their profession; exerting themselves with equal industry, eloquence, and erudition, in their endeavours to perplex the truth, brow-beat the evidence, puzzle the Judge, and mislead the Jury.—Did any part of this character come home to your own conscience? or did you resent it as a sarcasm levelled at the whole Bench without distinction? I take it for granted, this must have been the origin of your enmity to me; because I can recollect no other circumstance in my conduct, by which I could incur the displeasure of a man whom I scarce knew by sight, and with whom I never had the least dispute, or indeed concern. If this was the case, you pay a very scurvy compliment to your own integrity, by fathering a character which is not applicable to any honest man, and give the world a handle to believe, that our Courts of Justice stand greatly in need of reformation. Indeed, the petulance, licence, and buffoonery of some Lawyers in the exercise of their function, is a reproach upon decency and a scandal to the nation; and it is surprising that the Judge, who represents his Majesty's person, should suffer such insults upon the dignity of the place.—But, whatever liberties of this kind are granted to the Counsel, no sort of freedom, it seems, must be allowed to the Evidence, who, by the bye, are of much more consequence to the cause.—You will take upon you to divert the audience at the expence of a witness, by impertinent allusions to some parts of his private character and affairs; but if he pretends to retort the joke, you insult, abuse, and bellow against him as an impu-

dent fellow who fails in his respect to the Court.—It was in this manner you behaved to my first witness, whom you first provoked into a passion by injurious insinuations; then you took an advantage of the confusion which you had intailed upon him; and lastly, you insulted him as a person who had shuffled in his evidence. This might have been an irreparable injury to the character of a tradesman, had not he been luckily known to the whole Jury, and many other persons in Court, as a man of unquestioned probity and credit. Sir, a witness has as good a title as you have to the protection of the Court; and ought to have more, because evidence is absolutely necessary for the investigation of truth; whereas the aim of a Lawyer is often to involve it in doubt and obscurity. Is it for this purpose you so frequently deviate from the point, and endeavour to raise the mirth of the audience with flat jokes and insipid similes? or, have you really so miserably mistaken your own talents, as to set up for the character of a man of humour?—For my own part, were I disposed to be merry, I should never desire a more pregnant subject of ridicule, than your own appearance and behaviour; but, as I am at present in a very serious mood, I shall content myself with demanding adequate reparation for the injurious treatment I have received at your hands; otherwise I will in four days put this Letter in the press, and you shall hear in another manner—not from a ruffian and an assassin—but from an injured gentleman, who is not ashamed of subscribing himself,

Dear Sir,

I AM much mortified that my rascally situation will not at present permit me to send more than the trifle inclosed, as nothing could give me more pleasure than an opportunity of shewing with how much friendship and esteem

I am, dear Sir,

Yours most faithfully,

T. SMOLLETT

Monday Morning.

For the EUROPEAN MAGAZINE.

Mrs. DRAPER, the Lady who has been so celebrated as the Correspondent of Mr. STERN under the name of ELIZA, will naturally attract the notice of the Publick. That she was deserving of the encomiums bestowed upon her by that admirable writer will appear from the following eulogium written by the excellent Abbe RAYNAL, which I transmit to you for publication in your next Magazine.

I am, yours, &c.

A. T.

TERRITORY of Anjengo, thou art nothing; but thou hast given birth to Eliza. A day will come, when these staples of commerce, founded by the Europeans on the coasts of

Asia, will exist no more. Before a few centuries are elapsed, the grass will cover them, or the Indians, avenged, will have built upon their ruins. But if my works be destined to

have any duration, the name of Anjengo will not be obliterated from the memory of man. Those who shall read my works, or those whom the winds shall drive towards these shores, will say: There it is that Eliza Draper was born; and if there be a Briton among them, he will immediately add, with the spirit of conscious pride, And there it was that she was born of English parents.

Let me be permitted to indulge my grief, and to give a free course to my tears! Eliza was my friend. Reader, whoso'er thou art, forgive me this involuntary emotion. Let my mind dwell upon Eliza. If I have sometimes moved thee to compassionate the calamities of the human race, let me now prevail upon thee to commiserate my own misfortune. I was thy friend without knowing thee; he for a moment mine. Thy gentle pity shall be my reward.

Eliza ended her days in the land of her forefathers, at the age of three-and-thirty. A celestial soul was separated from a heavenly body. Ye who visit the spot on which her sacred ashes rest, write upon the marble that covers them: In such a year, in such a month, on such a day, at such an hour, God withdrew his spirit, and Eliza died.

And thou, original writer, her admirer and her friend, it was Eliza who inspired thy works, and dictated to thee the most affecting pages of them. Fortunate Sterne, thou art no more; and I am left behind. I wept over thee with Eliza; thou wouldst weep over her with me; and had it been the will of Heaven, that you had both survived me, your tears would have fallen together upon my grave.

The men were used to say, that no woman had so many graces as Eliza: the women said so too. They all praised her candour; they all extolled her sensibility; they were all ambitious of the honour of her acquaintance. The stings of envy were never pointed against unconscious merit.

Anjengo, it is to the influence of thy happy climate that she certainly was indebted for that almost incompatible harmony of voluptuousness and decency, which diffused itself over all her person, and accompanied all her motions. A statuary who would have wished to represent Voluptuousness, would have taken her for his model; and she would equally have served for him who might have had a figure of Modesty to display. Even the gloomy and clouded sky of England had not been able to obscure the brightness of that aerial kind of soul, unknown in our climates. In every thing that Eliza did, an irresistible charm was diffused around her. Desire, but of a timid and bashful cast, followed her steps in silence. Any man of courteousness alone must have loved her, but would not have dared to own his passion.

I search for Eliza every where: I discover, I discern some of her features, some of her charms, scattered among those women whose figure is most interesting. But what is become of her who united them all? Nature, who hast exhausted thy gifts to form an Eliza, didst thou create her only for one moment? Didst thou make her to be admired for one instant, and to be for ever regretted?

All who have seen Eliza, regret her. As for myself, my tears will never cease to flow for her all the time I have to live. But is this sufficient? Those who have known her tenderness for me, the confidence she had bestowed upon me, will they not say to me, She is no more, and yet thou livest.

Eliza intended to quit her country, her relations, her friends, to take up her residence along with me, and spend her days in the midst of mine. What happiness had I not promised to myself? What joy did I not expect, from seeing her fought after by men of genius; and beloved by women of the nicest taste? I said to myself, Eliza is young, and thou art near thy latter end. It is she who will close thine eyes. Vain hope! Fatal reverse of all human probabilities! My old age has been prolonged beyond the days of her youth. There is now no person in the world existing for me. Fate has condemned me to live, and die alone.

Eliza's mind was cultivated, but the effects of this art were never perceived. It had done nothing more than embellish nature; it served in her, only to make the charm more lasting. Every instant increased the delight she inspired; every instant rendered her more interesting. Such is the impression she had left in India; such is the impression she made in Europe. Eliza then was very beautiful? No, she was simply beautiful: but there was no beauty she did not eclipse, because she was the only one that was like herself.

Eliza has written; and the men of her nation, whose works have been the most abounding in elegance and taste, would not have disavowed the small number of pages she has left behind her.

When I saw Eliza, I experienced a sensation unknown to me. It was too warm to be no more than friendship; it was too pure to be love. Had it been a passion, Eliza would have pitied me; she would have endeavoured to bring me back to my reason, and I should have completely lost it.

Eliza used frequently to say, that she had a greater esteem for me than for any one else. At present I may believe it.

In her last moments, Eliza's thoughts were fixed upon her friend; and I cannot write a line without having before me the monument she has left me. Oh! that she could also have  
endeavored



endowed my pen with her graces and her virtue ! Methinks, at least, I hear her say, " That stern muse that looks at you, is History, whose awful duty it is to determine the opinion of posterity. That fickle deity that hovers o'er the globe, is Fame, who condescended to entertain us a moment about you ; she brought me thy works, and paved the way for our connection by esteem.

" Behold that phoenix immortal amidst the flames : it is the symbol of Genius, which never dies. Let these emblems perpetually incite thee to shew thyself the defender of humanity, of truth, and of liberty."

Eliza, from the highest Heaven, thy first, and last country, receive my oath : *I swear not to write one line in which thy friend may not be recognised.*

### TO THE PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

GENTLEMEN,

The account of Madame Godin's voyage on the river *Maragnon*, in South-America, is allowed by the celebrated Dr. ROBERTSON to be *one of the most singular and affecting narratives in any language.* As I have never seen a translation of this narrative in our language, I have been induced, by a desire of gratifying the curiosity of the English Reader, to attempt one. A story so truly affecting in itself requires no meretricious ornaments. I have therefore rejected all the French tinsel of the original ; and aimed, not without success, I hope, at simplicity. I am, &c.

Dublin, Feb. 20, 1784.

W. C. J.

### NARRATIVE of the SUFFERINGS of MADAME GODIN.

— In faith, 'tis strange, 'tis passing strange!

'Tis pitiful, 'tis wond'rous pitiful !

SHAKSPEARE.

ON the first day of October, 1769, Madame Godin departed from Riobamba, the place of her residence, for Laguna, on her way to France, accompanied by her brothers, *Sieur R*— a physician and his servant, her faithful negro, and three female Indian domestics, together with an escort of thirty-one Indians to carry herself and her baggage, the road being impassable even for mules. The Indians which Madame Godin had engaged, and who were paid, as usual, in advance, were scarcely arrived at Canelos when they ran away ; perhaps afraid of the unhealthiness of the air, it may be, apprehensive of being made to go on shipboard ; a terrific circumstance to them, who had never even seen a canoe but at a distance. " But it is not necessary (says *Monf. Godin* to his friend *Monf. de la Condamine*) to seek such good reasons for their desertion ; you know, Sir, how often they have abandoned us upon the mountains during our operations." What was Madame Godin to do in such a situation ? Although it were possible to have returned by the same route, her eager desire of reaching the vessel prepared for her by two Sovereigns \*, and of once more beholding a beloved husband from whom she had been separated twenty years, determined her to proceed, and to brave every danger to which she might be exposed, and to endeavour to surmount every obstacle that might retard her progress.

There remained only two Indians in the village who had escaped the small-pox, which had lately raged there. They had no canoe ; but they offered to construct one, and to conduct her to the Mission of Andoas, about

twelve days journey lower on the river Bonafá ; a distance, one may suppose, of about one hundred and forty or one hundred and fifty leagues. She paid them in advance. The canoe being finished, they all departed in it from Canelos. Having sailed two days, they stopped, to pass the night ashore. Next morning the two Indians disappeared. The unfortunate company re-embarked without a guide, and the first day afforded no accident. The following day, about twelve o'clock, they discovered a canoe lying in a little port of a hut (*Carbet*), in which they found a convalescent Indian, who consented to go with them and steer their canoe. The third day, in endeavouring to recover *Sieur R*— 's hat which had fallen into the river, the Indian himself fell in, and, being too weak to gain the canoe, was drowned. Thus the canoe became again pilotless, and had only those who were totally unacquainted with every necessary manœuvre left to guide it : besides, it soon began to leak, which obliged them to land, and build an hut for a temporary residence. They were then but five or six days journey from Andoas. *Sieur R*— offered to go thither, and set out with his servant and Madame Godin's faithful negro, who she consented should attend him to assist in taking care of his effects, which he wisely resolved not to leave behind him. Madame Godin's brothers were so dismayed by the disaster which had just happened, that she could not prevail on them to accompany *Sieur R*— in the canoe to Andoas. *Sieur R*—, on his departure, assured Madame Godin and her brothers, that in less than fifteen days they should have a canoe and Indians.

\* The Kings of France and Portugal,

Twenty-five tedious days did they vainly wait in expectation of the accomplishment of his promise; but losing all hope from that quarter, they made a raft, upon which they placed all their provisions and effects, and proceeded slowly along the river. The raft, which was ill-constructed, struck against a tree that lay concealed in the river, and was overfet: every soul and every thing were immersed. Happily, however, no one perished; "thanks to the narrowness of the river in that place," says Monf. Godin. Madame Godin sunk twice, and was with difficulty saved by her brothers. Reduced to a situation yet more dreadful than the first, they all resolved to pursue the banks of the river on foot. What an enterprize! "You know, Sir, (continues Monf. Godin to his friend) that the borders of this river are covered with a wood rendered impervious to the rays of the Sun by the herbs, brambles, and shrubs, that creep up the trunks and blend with the branches of the trees; in passing through which, much time is employed in opening a passage by means of a bill-hook (*la serpe*)." They returned to their hut, took all the provisions that remained there, and began their melancholy journey. Observing, that in following the course of the river its meanderings considerably lengthened their route, they entered into the wood to avoid them, and in a few days after lost their way. Though destitute of provisions, oppressed with thirst, and their feet sorely wounded by briars and thorns, they continued to push forward through immeasurable wilds and gloomy forests, drawing refreshment from the berries and wild fruits which they now and then collected as they went along. At length, exhausted by hunger, thirst, and extreme fatigue, their strength failed them—down they sunk, helpless and forlorn. Thus they impatiently waited to be relieved by death, who delayed not long. In three or four days they all successively expired, except Madame Godin, who continued stretched beside her brothers and the other corpses eight-and-forty hours, deprived of the use of all her faculties, and still tormented with an ardent thirst. At last, Providence, who had resolved to preserve her life, gave her strength and courage to rise and go seek the salvation which awaited her. She was now without stockings, bare-footed, and almost naked; two cloaks and her shift, which had been torn into rags by the briars, sufficed not to cover her. Having cut off the soles of her brother's shoes, she fastened them

to her feet, and took her lonely way. In about nine days, according to her calculation, she arrived on the borders of Bobonasa. It is probable (as Monf. Godin remarks), that the tedious time appeared longer to her than it really was. "For (continues he), is it not almost incredible, that a woman naturally delicate, and who had been tenderly reared, could, reduced to such extremities, live even four days? Yet she has assured me, that she was ten days alone in the woods." The recollection of the sad scene to which she had so recently been a witness, the horrors of solitude and darkness in a desert infested with serpents and numberless ferocious animals\*, the fear of death ever present to her mind, a fear which was increased every instant, made such an impression on her imagination, that her hair became white. The second day of her sad journey, in which she could not have proceeded far, she found water; and the following day some wild fruit and green eggs, supposed by Monf. Godin to be the eggs of a species of partridge. So much was her wind-pipe contracted by the privation of nutriment, that she could hardly swallow a sufficiency of the sustenance which chance presented to her, as would support her emaciated frame.

The ninth day of her journey had just begun to dawn, when she reached the borders of Bobonasa. At the instant of her arrival, she heard a noise at the distance of about two hundred paces. A sudden emotion of dread made her at first retire into the adjoining wood; but reflecting that nothing worse than her present state could befall her, and that consequently she had nothing to fear, she approached the shore, and observed two Indians pushing a canoe into the river. It is usual with those people, when they go ashore for the night, to drag their canoe or part of it on land, lest, while they sleep, it should break from its moorings and be driven with the current. The Indians, as soon as they perceived Madame Godin, hastened to her. She conjured them to conduct her to Andoas. These Indians, who had long since fled from Canelos with their wives to escape the contagion of the small-pox, already mentioned to have raged there, had just left a little hut which they had at some distance, in order to go to Andoas. They heard Madame Godin's request benignly, took her under their care, and conducted her to that village. Here she intended at first to have staid for some time to rest from her fatigues; but so much was she incensed at the base conduct of the

\* Let those who may be inclined to doubt on reading this passage recollect, that Daniel continued a day and night in a den with hungry lions, yet was not devoured.—With the Lord nothing is impossible.



resident Missionary, that she would not have remained even one night there, could she have acted agreeably to her wishes.

There happened about this time a great revolution in the Missions of Spanish America dependent on Lima, Quito, Charcas, and Paraguay, which had been reclaimed and founded by the Jesuits two centuries ago. An order from Madrid had expelled them from all their colleges and missions: they had also been arrested, put on shipboard, and sent into the dominions of the Pope. This event, however, had not occasioned more confusion than the changing of the vicar of a village. The Jesuits were succeeded by secular priests. Of that order was the man who filled the office of Missionary at Andoas, "and of whom (says Monf. Godin) I endeavour to forget even the name." Madame Godin, bereaved of almost every thing, knew not how to evince her gratitude to the two Indians who had saved her life; 'till happening to recollect that she had on two golden necklaces (according to the usage of her country), she presented one to each Indian. Their

joy was excessive. But the Missionary seized on the necklaces in her presence, and replaced them with three or four ells of a coarse cloth made of cotton, which is fabricated in the country called Tucuyo. Madame Godin was so enraged at this act of insolence and inhumanity, that she instantly demanded a canoe and a proper number of attendants, and departed next day for Laguna. An Indian woman of Andoas made her a cotton petticoat; "to pay for which (Monf. Godin says) she sent a messenger as soon as she arrived at Laguna. This petticoat, as well as the soles of her brother's shoes, of which she made sandals, she still preserves—sad memento's! (continues he) not less dear to me than they are to her."

[Madame Godin survived several years the hardships and disasters related in the foregoing narration. Her husband's letter to M. de la Condamine, the source of all my information on this affecting subject, was written four years after her return to his arms, and while she was still living.]

#### The DEATH of LOVE. Concluded from page 98.

**M**R. B—— was delighted with the apparent cordiality between his mother and the object of his affections. But it is time that I inform my readers of Mrs. B——'s horrid treachery. This lady was a monster of ambition and avarice. She was desirous of enriching her son, already so opulent; to obtain which, no measures, however execrable, were to be rejected. Her son's passion for Augusta appeared an obstacle to her views; but she knew, by opposing her son's penchant, it would only serve to irritate and inflame him the more. For this reason, she was determined to make Augusta the first victim of her displeasure. This barbarous project was no sooner conceived, than she studied how to put it into immediate practice. Her plan was to indulge her son's inclination, to bring the lovers together as much as possible. She received Augusta with open arms, and left her to the indulgence of those tête-à-têtes that constitute the happiest moments of our life.

The amorous Mr. B——, impatient for the day that was to unite him to the most amiable of women, waited upon Mr. and Mrs. M——, to have their permission to visit their daughter; and his mother at the same time joined in the request. Mr. B—— was immediately permitted to pay his addresses, and consequently obtained the ingress and egress he had so ardently solicited.

In one of these interviews the lovers conversed together on the cause of the disunion so often found in the marriage state. Mr.

B—— observed, that it resulted from the different interests of the man and wife, and the want of harmony in their affections, dispositions, and inclinations; that this contrast was not properly investigated before marriage; that they seldom consulted any thing but their fortunes. Thus two years were elapsed in the reciprocal intercourse of exchanging their honest sentiments, and in cultivating the tender affections with which they were mutually inspired. This discovery on the part of Mrs. B——, induced her to think that it was now high time to put the finishing stroke to her long-meditated perfidy. She had observed, that her son for some days appeared remarkably in high spirits. From this circumstance she augured two circumstances: the one, that his passion was lessened, or that he had been the happy lover; either of which, in her estimation, amounted to the same thing. With this hope, she artfully interrogated her son; but he replied to all her questions with his usual candour, declaring, that, by Augusta's avowal of her passion, he was become the happiest of men. Nevertheless, she concluded, that this was an artful representation; and, at all events, it was high time to put a stop to any further proceedings, especially as she had her views respecting a young lady, whose fortune was as much superior to her son's, as his was to Augusta's. This measure being previously concerted between Mrs. B—— and her husband, she gave her son to understand, that he must no longer think of a marriage with Miss Augusta M——.

Thus

This was a thunderstroke for the enamoured Mr. B——. He was shocked at this sudden conduct of his parents, and secretly determined within himself to effect, if possible, a clandestine marriage; but the respect and awe that Augusta had inspired, deprived him of the power of even hinting his wishes upon that subject. His mother learnt that their correspondence and occasional visits were still repeated; and, by her artful representations, the father was determined to come to an open and public rupture. For this purpose, having bribed a servant's fidelity, he paid an unexpected visit to a family where the lovers had been accidentally invited. On entering, he saw his son sitting by Augusta; and interrupted their conversation, by telling his son he had business that required his immediate attention. Then turning to the young lady, he said,

"Miss Augusta M——, there are important reasons which oblige me to deny my son's having the honour of your company. I plainly perceive he has not informed you of my injunctions; but I flatter myself I am addressing a lady who is too well bred to permit the visits of one thus circumstanced. I have therefore come to the resolution of giving you this information; and I do not doubt but henceforward you will comply with my requisition."

Augusta, pale, without respiration, had not a word to answer, and instantly left the room in a state not to be described. The carriage had scarce set her down, than she fell breathless in her mother's arms.

The artless Augusta conceived nothing from her family, who were distressed at the state in which they found her. A fever followed, and every resource of medicine was employed; but her sensibility received a mortal stroke. A delirious fit caught hold of her reason, which only dawned forth at intervals to give vent to sighs of agony and horror. She seemed as overwhelmed with shame and confusion, when she recollected the reception she had hitherto received from Mrs. B——; the avowal of her passion for her son; the desire of her own family to see her so happily married; and the cruel manner in which her disappointment was announced.

Her lover, however, was ignorant of Augusta's real situation. He implored his father to revoke the fatal mandate, who began to waver; even the mother hesitated: but the deliberation was too long; the heart-broke Augusta was hastening to her tomb. At last permission was obtained for Mr. B—— to visit his adorable mistress. That evening, Augusta seemed to give some faint hopes of a recovery. She smiled upon her mother, and said,

"Mamma, I feel myself something better—my heart—it no longer beats—oppressed by

an unhappy passion. Mr. B—— is now free—let him be happy even with another: for me, I would not, I think, at least, I could not, accept the title of being his wife." A torrent of tears prevented her from distinguishing objects. She extended her hand towards her mother, who devoured it with her kisses. Augusta was so affected with this mark of tenderness, that she caught hold of her mother's, and bathed it with her tears. During this affecting scene, a servant made signs to Mrs. M——, that he wanted to speak to her. The repetition of the sign was observed by his young mistress: her feebleness at that moment made her life but a gasp; yet, in that state, she asked what the man wanted. A gentleman (replied the domestic) desires to speak immediately to Madam. Mrs. M—— retired into an adjoining chamber, where she found Mr. B——, who threw himself at her feet:—

"I crave your pardon, madam, not for me, but for my parents—they have at last relented—I thought it more prudent to see you first—I fear——"

"Ah! sir, my daughter! I have lost my daughter! it is now too late!"

"Too late!" exclaimed Mr. B——, with an accent of grief and astonishment, and in a tone so loud as pierced the ear of the dying Augusta. She made an effort to raise her head: that effort was her last—she expired.

It was agreed between Mrs. M—— and Mr. B——, that his visit should be cautiously announced to Augusta. She entered the apartment—she drew near to the bed:—her only hope, the only object of her affection, her only daughter, was no more; she found her without life.—Mrs. M—— shriek'd out, and fell lifeless beside her daughter. The lover heard the piercing accent of distress, and, rushing in, he perceived Augusta with the pallid hue of death upon her countenance, and her mother in a swoon on the carpet. He flew to their assistance; but on beholding her whom he loved more than life, pale, disfigured, his strength forsook him, and with the cry of distraction he pronounced, "Heavens! my Augusta is no more!"

The house was immediately alarmed.—What a spectacle for an unfortunate father! Every means was employed to restore Mrs. M——: at last they succeeded. Others were giving every assistance and consolation to the distracted lover: he no sooner recovered his senses, than he tore himself from those who held him, and precipitately threw himself on the dead body of his mistress. Let me spare the sensibility of the reader by drawing a curtain before a scene so distressingly affecting: suffice it to say, that the lover did not long survive his misfortunes, and by his death left two more wretched parents to bewail the miseries of their avarice and vanity.



## For the EUROPEAN MAGAZINE.

## An Account of the LIFE and WRITINGS of DR. THOMAS FRANCKLIN.

AS it is our intention in our future Magazines to perpetuate the memory of such persons who from their eminence in literature, in politicks, in endowments of the mind, or peculiarities in disposition, have rendered themselves deserving of particular notice, we earnestly request such persons as wish to preserve the names of their friends from oblivion, to furnish us with such materials as may enable us to do justice to their virtues and abilities.

The present month having deprived the world of an ornament to the republic of letters, we esteem ourselves obliged to the friendly hand which has communicated the following account.

Dr. Thomas Francklin was the son of Richard Francklin, a Printer, in Ruffell Street, Covent Garden, a person well known as publisher of the celebrated paper called the Craftsman, a work set on foot against the administration of Sir Robert Walpole, and conducted with great keenneſs and ability by Lord Bolingbroke, Mr. Pulteney afterwards Earl of Bath, and other leaders in the opposition. Richard Francklin intended this his son for his own profession; but, being prevailed upon by his patron, Mr. Pulteney, who undertook to provide for the youth, but afterwards neglected him, he was sent to Westminster School, where improving in learning, he in due time was removed to Trinity College, Cambridge. He soon distinguished himself there, and took the degrees of Bachelor and Master of Arts, and was admitted Fellow of the Society. He early solicited the notice of the world by a translation of *Pbalaris's Epistles* published in 8vo. 1749, and of *Cicero on the Nature of the Gods*, with Philosophical Notes, and an Enquiry into the Astronomy and Anatomy of the Ancients, reprinted 8vo. 1775. On the 27th of June, 1750, he was chosen Greek Professor in opposition to Mr. Barford of King's College, and in the same year became involved in a dispute with the University on the following occasion: On the 17th of November, he, with a number of gentlemen educated at Westminster School, having met at a tavern, according to custom, to celebrate Queen Elizabeth's anniversary, they were interrupted by the senior Proctor, who came into the company after eleven o'clock at night, and ordered them to depart, it being an irregular hour. Deeming themselves affronted by this intrusion, some words passed between the gentlemen and the officer, who, in his turn, being also offended, summoned several of them before the Vice Chancellor, who reprimanded four, and fined others. Mr. Francklin, who

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was one of the party, had his share in the altercation, and is supposed to have been the author of a pamphlet, intitled "An Authentic Narrative of the late extraordinary Proceedings at Cambridge against the Westminster Club," London, 1751, 8vo. denying the charge of irregularity and insult, and censuring the Proctor's behaviour as rigorous and unprecedented. This dispute engaged the attention of the University for some time, and occasioned much ill blood among the members of that learned body. In the year 1753, he published a Poem called TRANSLATION, in which he announced his intention of giving a translation of Sophocles. The concluding lines, which subjected him to some ridicule for defects in grammar, we shall here transcribe:

To Fame unknown, but emulous to please,  
Trembling I seek th' immortal Sophocles.  
Genius of Greece, do thou my breast inspire  
With some warm portion of thy Poet's fire;  
From hands profane defend his much-lov'd  
name;

From cruel Tibbald wrest his mangled fame;  
Give him once more to bid the heart o'erflow  
In graceful tears and sympathizing woe;  
A father's death while soft Electra mourn,  
Or shed her sorrows o'er a brother's urn;  
Or fair Antigone her griefs relate,  
Or poor Tecmeſſa weep her hapless state,  
Or Œdipus revolve the dark decrees of fate.  
Could I like him the various passions move,  
Granville would smile, and Chesterfield approve;

Each letter'd son of Science would commend,  
Each gentle muse would mark me for her friend;

Isis well pleas'd would join a sister's praise,  
And Cana applauding consecrate the lays.

In January 1757, on the periodical paper called THE WORLD being finished, he engaged to publish a similar one under the title of THE CENTINEL, which was not successful. The next year he published a Sermon preached the 17th of February, at Queen Street Chapel, where he was preacher, and at St. Paul's, Covent Garden, where he was lecturer, on occasion of the Fast; and about November 6th, he was preferred to the livings of Ware and Thundrich, in Hertfordshire, on the death of Dr. Webster. In 1759 appeared his translation of SOPHOCLES in 2 vols. 4to. which was followed by a Dissertation on ancient Tragedy, in which he mentioned the author of *The Orphan of China* by name, in terms of very gross abuse. That gentleman soon retaliated in a severe poetical epistle addressed to Dr. Samuel Johnson; and the

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enmity

enmity between them was carried to such a pitch, that our author even had recourse to the law for protection, and swore the peace against his antagonist. We remember on this occasion the following verses being handed about in MS.

To Mr. MURPHY.

Had you been damn'd, good Francklin had been easy,

Nor had the Law and Gospel join'd to tease ye;  
But Fame like yours no christian soul can bear,  
But Fame like yours would make a Parson swear.

And yet for all his oaths the priest is sore,  
Nor will enjoy the peace for which he swore;  
Unless he bind you too—to write no more. }

We believe, however, that the combatants afterwards agreed to a cessation of hostilities. At this time he is supposed to have been concerned in writing some articles in the Critical Review. On the 20th of January, 1759, he married Miss Venables, and in 1760 he preached and published a Sermon on the King's death.

Were we to judge of our author's character by the testimony of a hand not friendly to him, we should not hold him in that degree of respect which we are inclined to consider him in. Notwithstanding his learning and abilities, he seems to have been not much esteemed by his contemporaries. Churchill in his *Rosciad* says,

Others for Francklin voted, but 'twas known  
He sicken'd at all triumphs but his own.

How far he deserv'd this censure, is best known to those who were most intimate with him. For the credit of literature, we hope it is unfounded.

In 1763 he preached a sermon before the Sons of the Clergy, which was afterwards printed; and in 1765 set forth a volume of Sermons on the relative duties, which were favourably received by the public. The next year he turned his attention to the stage, and produced at Drury Lane Theatre *THE EARL OF WARWICK*, a Tragedy taken without any acknowledgement from Monsieur de la Harpe, but which the excellence of Mrs. Yates's performance gave a considerable reputation to. In November 1767 he was appointed chaplain to his Majesty. On the

16th of May, 1768, he exerted his talents as a preacher in behalf of the Charity for Female Orphans at the Asylum; and in the same year published "A Letter to a Bishop concerning Lectureships," 8vo. This admirable piece of humour is anonymous. The next year he wrote an Ode on the Institution of the Royal Academy, January 1st; and on March 15th he repaid the obligation he had received from Mrs. Yates's excellent performance of the character of Margaret of Anjou in *The Earl of Warwick*, by presenting her with a translation of Voltaire's *Orestes*, acted at Covent Garden for her benefit. On the 6th of July 1770 he took the degree of Doctor of Divinity. In March 1774 he preached a Sermon for the benefit of unfortunate persons confined for small debts; and in the same year produced another Tragedy at Drury Lane, translated from Voltaire, called *Electra*: In 1775, at the same Theatre, *MATILDA*, taken, as *The Earl of Warwick*, from a French play called *Duc de Foix*, without any acknowledgement. This was followed by *The Contract*, a Farce acted at the Haymarket in 1776, with no success. About this time he was presented to the living of Braisted in Surrey, which he held to his death. He had several years employed himself in translating the Works of Lucian, which he completed and published in 2 vols. 4to. 1780. This was his last performance which has been published. He had written a Tragedy on the subject of Mary Queen of Scots, which the prudery and ridiculous scruples of some principal actresses, who declined the part of Queen Elizabeth, have prevented the representation of. It has been announced several times, but hitherto without being performed. Dr. Francklin appeared to possess a constitution which promised a longer existence. To the misfortune of his connections, however, his life did not extend to a length equal to their hopes and expectations. He died at his house in Queen Street, March 15, 1784.

Besides the works already mentioned, Dr. Francklin suffered his name to be joined with Dr. Smollett's to a translation of Voltaire, which it is imagined neither of them executed, or at least but a very small part. These impositions on the public cannot be sufficiently censured. They are truly the disgrace of Letters.

## ON MIRTH.

THE old caution to *be merry and wise*, is commonly conceived to convey an implication that mirth and wisdom are not altogether compatible, at least in their extreme degrees. Now this, although the usual, yet we conceive to be a very erroneous, idea

of the purport of this ancient maxim, which doth, in our opinion, if taken in its true and proper sense, mean to inculcate, if not that to be merry is to be wise, at least that it is wise to be merry.

In mirth do we apprehend to consist the great



great distinction of man from beast. Ovid, we must allow, placeth it in another particular, an erect countenance.

*Os homini sublime dedit, cœlumque tueri*

*Iussit, et erectos ad sidera tollere vultus.*

But with all due deference to our old friend Ovid, for whom we entertain no small degree of respect, the two-legged creature cycled a goose hath as much to boast of in that particular as hath the biped man. There is indeed scarce any other instance in which we are not at least equalled, nay very often outdone, by what we are insolently pleased to stile the brute creation. In strength, in swiftness, and in most other corporeal qualifications, those gentry are universally acknowledged to far exceed the human race; and though we are so apt to value ourselves upon mental superiority, yet very few are there of our species who can vie in sagacity with the *chien savant*; and we, although we pique ourselves upon our dexterity as gamblers, yet are with shame obliged to confess, that we lost no less than three games at putt running, to the conjuring horse, who made his appearance some time since in this metropolis, and yet that horse was but a poney.

But in whatever other instances we may be equalled, or even excelled, by the animal creation, we may defy any of them to laugh. Tears several sorts of brutes are reported to shed; and it must be confessed, that the monkey will grin. But then it should be remembered, that the monkey is the immediate link between the human and the brute creation; and that even pug, near as he has the honour to approach the superior species, yet never exhibits that distinguishing mark of rationality, an hearty laugh.

How absurd, then, are the tenets of that sect of *soi-disant* philosophers who affect solemnity of countenance and behaviour as marks of wisdom; and how very happy is that explanation (at the mention of which, however, we remember an old gentleman who had observed of himself that he was generally very grave, to have been highly offended), which we find in most of our dictionaries, of the word *grave*, by *vide dull*!

Democritus and Heraclitus are recorded to have been in their times the chiefs, the one of the merry, and the other of the sad sect of philosophers. Now we are told in the history of those ages, that the people of Abdera (the direct ancestors, as it should seem by this relation, of those of the modern Gotham) being a grave, that is to say, a dull generation, took into their heads, from the incessant mirth of Democritus, who resided in or near that place, that he was run stark mad, and accordingly gave a fee to that prince of physicians Hippocrates to undertake his cure;

but that learned old Grecian, after having visited and conversed with his patient, told his employers, that so far from their fellow-citizen being crack-brained, he was indeed a person of infinite parts and knowledge, and that they were very great fools for not having found it out: a decisive authority, sure, on the side of mirth. Where Heraclitus lived, or what were his neighbours' opinions of that gentleman, we do not recollect to have read; but as it was not at Abdera, they probably did not think it worth while to trouble their heads about him; or, if they thought him mad (and they had no small reason so to do), looked upon him as incurable.

Milton hath indeed written in praise both of mirth and melancholy, in order, perhaps, to shew, that he could take either side of the question, whether right or wrong; but as a man generally begins with the dish he likes best, so we may observe L'Allegro precedes Il Penferoso, and that in L'Allegro he abuses "loathed melancholy," as

Of Cerberus and blackest midnight born

'Midst Stygian caves forlorn.

Whereas when, according to the plan of Il Penferoso, he is obliged to take the other side, as a counsel is sometimes called upon to plead against his own opinion, he is not by any means so scurrilous, only stiling the lady

Of idle Fancy without father bred—

thus calling the one a son of a b—— (we are aware that it is of a lady we are speaking, we cannot somehow express the idea *so well* in the feminine gender), and only reproaching the other with not having had a father; a circumstance not near so disgraceful as the having had one that a person ought to be ashamed of owning.

Shakspeare also is observed by Dr. Johnson to have found Comedy much more congenial to his disposition than he did Tragedy; and so entirely are we of this opinion, that had we the settling of a cartel of characters, we would not exchange our old friend Sir John for all the statesmen, heroes, and philosophers that ever existed.

Many absurd conceits enter the brain of man (especially grave and serious men); but that a being whose life is in common very amply dashed with misery, should be fond of artificially adding to that sorrow, is to us right wonderful.

And here, lest some Englishman, jealous of the honour of his country (as all Englishmen used once to be, but jealousy of national honour, is, alas! almost extinct in this unfortunate island), may be hurt at this our theory of wisdom, as tending to exalt the character of our Gallic neighbours in this instance over that of the inhabitants of our native land, we shall enquire into the foundation of that claim

to superior mirth which is set up by our Gallic neighbours. The French do, it must be allowed, describe us as a gloomy race of mortals; and an old French writer, Froissart, speaking of the English when in possession of Aquitaine, the land of claret, says, *Ilz s'enveroient moult tristement à la mode de leur pays*. "They got drunk very sorrowfully, according to the custom of their country." And we must allow, that it has been the general opinion, although we think very mistakenly, that there is more mirth in France than there is in our island (be it remembered, however, that although we use the present tense, we are speaking of what England lately was, and we hope soon will again be, not of what she now is; for our mirth seems to be flown along with the rest of our virtues. A Frenchman, indeed, constantly grins. In arms: Victorious, he grins; conquered, he also grins. In arts: If successful, he grins; if unsuccessful (which, however, he is not easily persuaded he can be), he grins on. In love: If he gains his mistress, or if any body else get her from him,

still he grins. In short, whether fortunate or unfortunate, whether pleased or displeased, you never see a Frenchman but upon the broad grin. But this constant grin is no more the indication of true mirth in the Frenchman, than it is in the head of a basilisk; and although the Frenchman grins until, according to Falstaff's simile, his face looks like a wet cloak ill laid up, yet the grin, as we have before observed, is not the distinguishing mark of rationality. It is indeed as absurd to think the Frenchman is merry because he grins, as to suppose the widow is sorrowful because she weeps; or that the undertaker, who puts on a grave countenance whilst he is taking measure of the alderman for his coffin, would be more pleased to see his worship alive. No; it is the laugh, the hearty laugh alone which is the true mark of rationality, and the true sign of mirth, that is, of wisdom: and the laugh of half a dozen jolly Englishmen, such as Englishmen once were, would have shaken a whole battalion of French into convulsions.

#### ON GENTILITY AND GOOD-BREEDING.

THERE is no attribute of which the acquisition is more generally sought, than is that of gentility; and yet this almost universally desired quality is perhaps altogether incapable of definition. It hath, indeed, in our idea, a merely relative existence; and as nothing can be pronounced great or little, but in comparison to some other matter of a similar nature; so nothing can, we think, be accounted genteel, or otherwise, but by a like mode of reference.

Gentility, however, whether it be positive or relative, whether it be actual or ideal, is the great aim of much the greater part of the human species, and of none more than of those whom fate has thrown into a line the most apparently devious from the wished-for track.

To a thorough knowledge of this corner of the human mind are we to ascribe the epithet of genteel, which we so often see bestowed on the various alehouses, chandler's shops and coalsheds, which are daily advertised to be let in this metropolis; not but although the alehouse or the chandler's shop-keeper may not be esteemed to move in a very genteel sphere, by those of certain other ranks of the community, yet if we consider gentility as being merely comparative, this attribute may not always be assumed, even in those cases, without some degree of foundation. The worthy gentlemen who advertise night work performed genteelly, do not indeed, we imagine, apply that epithet to the

work itself, but to the manner of performance; so that they may certainly have an equal or even a superior right to pride themselves upon elegance of manner to a Vestris or a Lepicq, if engaged in the same occupation.

We hope we shall be excused for a momentary digression, into which we feel ourselves, as it were, forced by the mention of these celebrated names. Great was the outcry upon the attachment of our people of rank to these professors of "the light fantastic toe;" but although we cannot blame those capering gentlemen for picking up as many of our guineas as they could find fools to part with; yet had this been Morocco, and we had been emperors, or had we been despots of this country, we certainly should have commanded them to appear in a *Ballet de Vidangeur*, (Nightmen's Ballet) and all their votaries to have assisted at the performance.

But to return to the subject before us: Now, although it may seem ridiculous to attribute gentility to persons of certain trades or professions (and yet were those who smile when they look down upon affectation of gentility in their inferiors, to cast their eyes upwards, they would not seldom find themselves equal, and equally just, objects of ridicule to their superiors upon the same score), there are most certainly gentlemen and gentlewomen in every station of life. But this so much desired, and so much to be desired character is, we apprehend, indefinable, and by no means universally equally attainable. To those of lower



lower rank, it is in general the gift of nature solely; and so liberal is she sometimes in this particular, that we often see persons who, without the least opportunity of attainment either from education or from the company they have kept, possess behaviour which would not disgrace a drawing-room; for where there is natural good breeding, the ignorance of some few rules of artificial manners is matter of little consequence.

Education will indeed much improve the character, but the foundation must be in nature; and there are from whom it is as absurd to expect elegance of behaviour, whatever may have been their opportunities, as it would be to expect master-pieces of painting, or of sculpture, from those who have no genius for the arts.

Lord Chesterfield treats of this matter as purely artificial, and seems to suppose the behaviour of a gentleman may be put on, as may a fine suit of cloaths. Now, although we will allow that any one may mend his own manners, yet it is impossible for any person to put on the manner of another, without discovery. The noble Earl himself had, according to his own account, taken no small pains to attain both the manners and the appearance of a gentleman; and although he seems to have entertained not even the suspicion of doubt of his success in either instance, yet had not his manners much the pre-eminence over those of his neighbours; and as to appearance, scarce ever did dancing-master look less like the gentleman than did his lordship.

The statue is, according to the old idea, always in block; but this is not the case with man. A Phidias or a Praxiteles might produce an elegant figure out of any tolerable found piece of marble. But let us suppose the attention of the whole polite world to have been affixed to the late Dr. Goldsmith from the hour of his birth, would that attention have produced the gentleman? No; he might, indeed, have been wearied into imitations of gentility, as the bear is taught to dance, by putting hot

irons under his feet; but the gentility of the Doctor would in such case have plainly appeared, as doth that of the bear, to have been (to speak in the Johnsonian style) the production of pain, and the offspring of constraint.

It is indeed impossible to make any one a gentleman, as Moliere's peasant was made a physician, *malgré lui*; and there is in some characters a certain *vis inertiae* towards gentility, which no power can overcome; and even where there is an inclination, unless nature has also bestowed certain other necessary requisites, that inclination will not be entirely successful.

But although it may not be in every one's power to attain that elegance of manner which is so engaging in, and in general so advantageous to, the possessors of such elegance, none should therefore be deterred from aiming at that attainment, as all may be sure of partial, if not total success in such aim.

Attention to the company, so regulated as to prevent that attention giving trouble, is perhaps almost the whole of good breeding. It is an old saying, that the king can make a lord, but he cannot make a gentleman; and yet a lord may make himself a gentleman, with less trouble, perhaps, than can a person of inferior degree, as attention from superiors is ever more pleasing than is that from equals or from inferiors.

It would far exceed our limits to enter into the various particulars which constitute gentility of behaviour; but there is one simple circumstance which we have often observed to have a wonderful effect in this case; we mean, the taking care to be acquainted with the name of every one into whose company a person happens to be introduced, and addressing each by name. The Romans who were candidates for public offices were so sensible of the effect of this kind of attention, that they hired men to attend them, whose profession it was to be acquainted with the names of all the citizens; but this surely must have had a very awkward appearance.

#### EXTRACTS from the APHORISMS of GREAT MEN. Sloanian MS. 1523.

SIR THOMAS WIAAT.

LET my friend bring me in, but let my merit and service keep me there.

SIR JOHN FINEUX.

Nile's original is hidden, but his stream is famous.

His device upon his serjeant's ring was,  
"Quisquæ suæ fortunæ faber."

EDWARD FOX, Bishop of Hereford.

He that hath mettle to be extravagant when he cannot govern himself, hath a spirit to be eminent when he can.

His father's money helped him to his parsonage, his mother's wit to his bishoprick.

Take the emperor's money, said he to his followers (who were afraid to accept what he had refused), for you are not all the King of England's Ambassadors.

SIR ANTHONY ST. LEGER.

Three things he said would settle a state,  
1. Good godfathers and godmothers performing their vows. 2. Good householders overlooking their families. 3. Good schoolmasters educating youth.

SIR RALPH SADLER.

Never spend that time in designing one action, in which you might perform two.

THOMAS WRIOTHESLEY, the first Earl of Southampton.

Every man sold the king that sold justice.

Every week he had a schedule of his own accounts, and every month of his servants'.

SIR JOHN FITZ-JAMES.

When his cousin urged for a kindness, Come to my house, said the Judge, I will deny you nothing; come to the King's Court, and I must do justice.

His faith was, I believe as the church believes; and the great rule of his practice was, I will do as the law directs.

SIR THOMAS HOWARD.

Policy and friendship are incompatible. "Norfolk begs that life which he had ventured two and thirty times for his sovereign."

Who knows the cares that go to bed with statesmen?

SIR EDWARD HOWARD.

Never did sea-man good, that was not resolute to a degree of madness.

LORD HUNSDON.

To have the courage to observe an affront, is to be even with an adversary; to have the patience to forgive it, is to be above him.

SIR FRANCIS TALBOT, Earl of Shrewsbury.

Nobility without virtue is a disgrace, virtue without nobility is low; but nobility adorned with virtue raiseth a man as high as nature reacheth.

THE DUKE OF NORFOLK.

The most honourable personages, like the most honourable coat of arms, are least gawdy.

SIR NICHOLAS THROCKMORTON.

To prevent is the policy of all nations; to be powerful, is ours.

England is never peaceable but in arms.

France can neither be poor nor abtain from arms three years together. *Tempora mutantur.*

## THEATRICAL JOURNAL.

DRURY-LANE.

MARCH 8.

A New musical entertainment was represented, for the first time, called, "The DOUBLE DISGUISE."

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

|                        |                  |
|------------------------|------------------|
| Lord Hartwell,         | Mr. Barrymore.   |
| Sir Richard Evergreen, | Mr. Parsons.     |
| Tinfel, - - -          | Mr. Dodd,        |
| Sam, (a Postillion)    | Mr. Burton.      |
| Emily, - - - -         | Miss Phillips.   |
| Miss Dor. Evergreen,   | Mrs. Hopkins.    |
| Rose, (an Irish Wait-  | } Mrs. Wrighten. |
| ing Maid)              |                  |
| Servants, &c.          |                  |

The story is that of a Servant personating his master, in order to make a fortune by marrying the young lady intended for that master, and only differs from the plan in *Neck or Nothing*, by the servant, after he comes to the intended bride's house, changing his plan, and paying his addressees to the aunt instead of the niece. A post-chaise boy is in league with the steward, and, when threatened, discovers the plot.

The music is light and pleasing. Some of the passages in the overture were much relished.

## THE HIVE: A COLLECTION OF SCRAPS.

A PARALLEL, on seeing a famous Actress in the Gallery of St. Martin's, after the rest of the Congregation were departed, to avoid a Presentation of Benevolence to the Westminster Dispensary.

B—Y and S—ns, rivals are for fame,  
One has true merit—th' other has a name.  
When pity pleads—this their criterion shews:  
S—ns but mimics—B—y truly does!

*Lines written on a Window at an Inn, under some infamous Verse.*

WHEN Dryden's clown, unknowing what he sought,  
His hours in whistling spent, for want of thought,

The guiltless oaf his vacancy of sense  
Supplied, and amply too, by innocence.  
Did modern swains, possess'd of *Cymon's* pow'rs,  
In *Cymon's* manner waste their weary hours,  
Th' indignant traveller would not blushing see  
This crystal pane disgrac'd with infamy!

Severe the fate of modern fools, alas!  
When Vice and Folly mark them as they pass:  
Like pois'nous vermin o'er the whiten'd wall,  
The filth they leave—still points out where  
they crawl!

EPIGRAM.—On a LADY who squinted.

IF ancient poets Argus prize,  
Who boasted of a hundred eyes;  
Sare greater praise to her is due  
Who looks a hundred ways with two.

EPIGRAM.



EPIGRAM.

GEORGIUM SIDUS, *the new-discovered Planet.*

BRITAIN, in spite of ev'ry blow,  
Thy George superior still shall rise ;  
Fate lessen'd here his realms below,  
And gave him kingdoms in the skies.

PARLIAMENTARY REFORM.

*Question and Answer.*

Q. REFORM the Parliament ! pray tell me how ?

A. Make men a-new : No other way I know.

*Epitaph on the late HOUSE of COMMONS.*

*(An Imitation.)*

THIS House was the best that e'er motion  
was made in,  
For faction, and noise, and alternate upbraiding ;  
But for *Charters* and *People*, for *Peers* and  
*the Throne*,  
'Twas the very worst House that ever was  
known.

EPITAPH on an ATTORNEY.

HERE lieth one who often lied before,  
But now he lieth here, he lies no more !

The following is an exact copy of the lines  
with which Sir Richard Hill concluded a speech  
in the House of Commons :

His Majesty's most gracious Answer to the  
Mover of the late *bumble, loyal, dutiful,*  
*respectful* Address.

With all humility I own

Thy power supreme to mount my throne ;

And to thy guardian care I give

That *scare-crow* thing, *Prerogative* \*.

O teach my Crown to know its place,

Hide it beneath the *Speaker's Mace* †.

To rule and reign be wholly thine ;

The *name* of King be only mine.

All hail to thee, Great CARLO KHAN †† !

The Prince's Prince, *the People's Man* ‡.

I'll ne'er presume to damp thy joy ;

I'll now dismiss the *angry Boy* §.

Tho' virtue be his only crime,

That's fault enough—at *such a time*.

And for the rest, I'll leave to you,

The *terms of fair and equal* too ¶.

\* Lord North's own expression in a late speech.

† It was proposed by an honourable member to put the Mace under the table, if the Crown got the better in the present struggle.

‡ Alluding to the print of Mr. Fox riding upon an elephant, in the character of Carlo Khan.

§ *The Man of the People* was the name by which Mr. Fox was distinguished in the days of his popularity.

¶ The appellation given by Mr. Sheridan to Mr. Pitt, borrowed from the play of the Alchemist.

¶¶ The expression so much agitated in the late attempts to bring about an union.

\*\* The Treasury Board.

†† The French name for the blue ribband.

‡‡ The Jews' quarter.

The Board's \*\* before thee : all is thine,  
So let thy needy jobbers dine,  
But don't forget th' obsequious crew  
Of thy fair spouse, *en cordon bleu* †† ;  
Nor grudge with handfals to solace  
Old Israel's circumcised race  
Of useful friends, about *Duke's Place* ‡‡.

*Anecdote.*—In the reign of James II. the Court was busy in making converts to the Roman Catholic faith, and some of the new papists pretended on this occasion to have seen visions ; and amongst the rest *Joe Haines*, the comedian, who professed himself a convert, declared that the *Virgin Mary* had appeared to him. Lord Sunderland being informed of this, sent for him, asked him about the truth of his conversion, and whether he had really seen the Virgin ? “ Yes, my lord, I assure you 'tis a fact ! ” — “ How was it, pray ? ” — “ Why, as I was lying in my bed, the Virgin appeared to me, and said, “ Arise, *Joe* ! ” “ You lie, you rogue,” replied the Earl ; “ for had it really been the Virgin herself, she should have said, Arise, *Joseph* ! at least, if it had been only out of respect to her husband ! ”

*Bon. Mot.*—During the late contested election at Colchester, the returning officer, who is a miller, received many heavy tokens of the mob's displeasure, on account of some decision which they deemed illegal. Not a little agitated on the occasion, he turned round to Mr. Rigby and said, “ He hoped to God he was safe in what he had done ? ” — “ O yes,” rejoins Mr. R —, “ as safe as a *thief* in a mill.”

A celebrated physician was sent for to a lady who imagined herself very ill ; when he came, she complained dismally that she eat too much, slept too sound, and had a very alarming flow of spirits. “ Make yourself perfectly easy, Madam,” said the doctor ; “ only follow my prescriptions, and you shall soon have no reason to complain of any such things.”

A dancing-master asked one of his friends if it was true that Harley was Lord High

Treasurer? "It is," says his friend. "That is very amazing," said the dancing-master: "what merit can the Queen find in that man? I had him two years for a pupil, and I declare I could never make any thing of him."

#### THE CIBBER.

SEVERAL years since Mrs. Willis, an excellent actress in low comedy, having lived to a great age, with its worse companion Poverty, a charitable subscription was set on foot for her relief among the players, who seldom turn their backs upon want and affliction. The Cibber, the dissipated son of the Laureat, was then young and very extravagant. When Mrs. Willis applied to him, he put her off with the excuse, "that he had a large family to provide for."—"O dear Sir, (said she) how can that be? you have neither wife nor child."—"It may be so," replied the humourist—"But I have a *large family of vices, Madam.*"

#### MICHAEL STOPPELAER.

THIS honest Teague had the faculty of uttering absurd speeches and disagreeable truths, without any design of giving offence.—Rich, the late Manager of Covent-Garden Theatre, talking to some of the actors when Stoppelaer was present, concerning an agreement he had made with Hallam greatly to his own disadvantage—Stoppelaer shook his head, and said with a significant look, "By my shoul, Sir, he has got the *blind* side of you there."—Rich, apprehensive of hearing something more offensive, abruptly left the company, when one of Mich.'s friends, who was by, observed that his speech was exceedingly improper and affronting, as every body knew Mr. Rich had a great blemish in one of his eyes.—"Upon my credit, (returned Mich.) I never heard of it before; but I'll go immediately and ask his pardon."—Which he presently did with great solemnity.

Another time, when the sweetest favourite of the Tragic Muse was performing Belvidera, Mich. being inflamed with liquor, made such a disturbance by the side of the scene, that when that celebrated actress came off the stage, she rebuked him in very severe terms for his rude behaviour. Irritated at this, the intoxicated comedian replied in very coarse language, and concluded with calling the fair-one—"an adulterous hussy." The next morning, when Mich. came to rehearse, he could hardly believe he had been capable of such indecency, and running up to Mrs. C——, who was rehearsing, made three or four awkward bows, saying, "I beg ten thousand pardons, Madam, for the shocking names I called you last night; but I was

very much overtaken—and children and drunken men generally tell the *truth*—you know."

A Correspondent being upon an excursion into South Wales, at a considerable market-town met with the following advertisement, the peculiarity of which afforded him some amusement, and he supposes it may not be unacceptable to our readers in general:—"To the inhabitants of the town of ———, also the nobility and gentry, of either sex, who may resort to that favourite watering place, the ensuing season, for pleasure or the benefit of bathing. This is intended to inform the world, that a native of Taunton, in Somersetshire, Mr. Thomas Lemon, has had the honour to carry arms in the Cardigan battalion, and was particularly distinguished in the course of last campaign, when he had the good fortune to be employed on some eminent services, not far from the encampment at Wevel, near Gosport—the advanced post of his Majesty's British dominions. He combines the intrepidity of Alexander with the caution of Fabius; his principles patriotic; equal to Cæsar as a man, nor inferior to Brutus as the friend of liberty. Amorous as Antony, and, like him too, of irresistible person. Incorrupt as Aristides; patient as Socrates; eloquent as Cicero. In manners and address, what Chesterfield was, *he is.* Although a stranger to Locke, and unacquainted with Newton, he is familiar with the Seven Wise Masters.—The extraordinary young man, at the conclusion of the war, received his discharge from the service of his country; not enriched by plunder, rapine, or extortion. Poor as Fabricius he retires, and now practises the improvement of those heads *without*, which nothing can *within*.

\* \* \* "He is avowedly the first hair-dresser, shaver, and wig-maker, of the present age; and humbly solicits that encouragement and support, his transcendent abilities and exalted virtues so justly demand."

*A Bon Mot.*—A person reading a paragraph in the papers, that a large piece of land had been *washed away* by an inundation in Poland, but that the account wanted confirmation; a gentleman observed, even admitting it was true, one might safely say, there was *no ground* for the report.

#### E P I T A P H.

ON DEFUNCT COALITION.  
UNDERNEATH this stone doth lie,  
As much knavery as could die;  
Which, when alive, did vigour give  
To as much treachery as could live \*.

\* See an Epitaph of Ben Jonson in the Spectator.



T H E  
L O N D O N R E V I E W,  
A N D  
L I T E R A R Y J O U R N A L.

*Quid sit turpe, quid utile, quid dulces, quid non.*

Dramatic Miscellanies ; consisting of critical Observations on several Plays of Shakspeare : With a Review of his principal Characters, and those of various eminent Writers, as represented by Mr. Garrick and other celebrated Comedians : With Anecdotes of Dramatic Poets, Actors, &c. By Thomas Davies. 3 Vols. 8vo.

THE entertainments of the Stage compose so great, and we may add so innocent, a portion of the amusement of life, that it may be esteemed a matter of surprize that so little attention has been paid to the history of the Theatres by writers of any eminence. Of the numerous frequenters of the play-houses, few will condescend to consider what passes before them in any other light than mere transient objects of momentary gratification, to be looked at and forgotten, to be seen and thought of no more. The memoirs of passed pleasures ought not however to be neglected. They are fraught with amusement, and they answer more valuable purposes. By means of them the taste of the public at different periods is exhibited, the variations noted, the causes ascertained, and the improvement or decline in manners and morals traced from their source to their effects.

The author of these volumes, from his situation and abilities, is well qualified to entertain his readers on the subject of the Theatre. He has long been conversant with the Drama, and has evidently looked upon the entertainments of the Theatre equally in a critical and a candid point of view. His observations are judicious, his anecdotes amusing, and his strictures humane and impartial.

After a Dedication to the Prince of Wales rather too high-seasoned with politicks, we are presented with an Advertisement, in which the author sets forth his plan, and the assistances he received in its execution. In the course of this part of his work we have some strictures on the representatives of the late Mr. Garrick, and a further display of the benevolence of our admired Roscius. Mr. Davies informs us, he is now at the advanced age of 70, and intimates his intention of resigning his pen. We see no appearance of debility in the faculties of our author's mind,

and hope to find him still continuing to entertain the public on such subjects, as, from the present specimen and his Life of Garrick, we deem him fully competent to.

The first volume contains observations and notes on King John, Richard II. First and Second Parts of Henry IV. and Henry VIII. with anecdotes of the several performers in those plays.

The second, on *All's Well that Ends Well*, *Every Man in his Humour*, on Ben Jonson, on *Machbeth*, on *Julius Cæsar*, on *King Lear*, on *Antony and Cleopatra*, and on *Rule a Wife and have a Wife*.

The third has for its subject *Hamlet*, *Dryden*, *Otway*, *Alexander*, *The Rehearsal*, *Con greve*, *Betterton*, and *Cibber*.

As a specimen of the entertainment the reader may expect, we shall select the last chapter of the third volume, which, from the title, is devoted to *Colley Cibber*, but which, as will be seen, is not entirely confined to him.

“ To a player we are indebted for the reformation of the stage. The first comedy, acted since the Restoration, in which were preserved purity of manners and decency of language, with a due respect to the honour of the marriage-bed, was *Colley Cibber's Love's last Shift*, or the *Fool in Fashion*. The principal plot of this play was not unknown to the English theatre: *Amanda's* scheme to allure her profligate husband to her arms, by personating another woman, resembles the contrivance of *Helen* in *All's Well that Ends Well*, and still more, I believe, the wife's scheme in *Shirley's Gamester*. The success of this piece exceeded greatly the author's expectation ; but so little was hoped from the genius of *Cibber*, that the critics reproached him with stealing his play. To his censurers he makes a serious defence of himself, in his dedication to *Richard Norton*, Esq. of *Southwick*,

wick, a gentleman who was so fond of stage plays and players, that he has been accused of turning his chapel into a theatre.

"The furious John Dennis, who hated Cibber for obstructing, as he imagined, the progress of his tragedy called *The Invader of his Country*, in very passionate terms denies his claim to this comedy: 'When the *Fool in Fashion* was first acted,' says the critic, 'Cibber was hardly twenty years of age; now could he, at the age of twenty, write a comedy with a just design, distinguished characters, and a proper dialogue, who now, at forty, treats us with Hibernian sense and Hibernian English?'

"Poor Cibber! it was his hard fate to have his best comedies attributed to any body but himself. His Careless Husband was, for a long time, given to the Duke of Argyle and other noblemen. Nothing could put an end to such ungenerous and weak suggestions but his scenes of high life in the *Provoked Husband*, which he proved to be his own by printing the unfinished MS. of Sir John Vanbrugh's play, called a *Journey to London*.—Some comic characters of this writer were severely treated by the audience, because supposed to be written by Cibber.

"In *Love's last Shift*, the audience were particularly charmed with the great scene in the last act, where the ill-treated and abandoned wife reveals herself to her surprised and admiring husband. The joy of unexpected reconciliation, from Loveless's remorse and penitence, spread such an uncommon rapture of pleasure in the audience, that never were spectators more happy in easing their minds by uncommon and repeated plaudits. The honest tears shed by the audience at this interview, conveyed a strong reproach to our licentious poets, and to Cibber the highest mark of honour. The uncommon run of this comedy, which I have been told formerly, by several who lived at that time, was greatly admired and followed, is a convincing proof that the people at large are never so vicious as to abandon the cause of decency and virtue, and that it was entirely owing to our dramatic writers themselves, that plays were not lessons of morality as well as amusements of pleasure. While Congreve's plays were acted with applause at Lincoln's-inn-fields theatre, Cibber's *Love's last Shift*, Vanbrugh's *Relapse*, and Southern's *Oroonoko*, were successfully opposed to them at Drury-lane. But, while Cibber, by his new comedy, and his peculiar merit in acting foppish and other parts, drew crowds after him, the parsimonious and ungrateful patentees allotted him no larger income than thirty or forty shillings per week.

"Sir Novelty Fashion was a true picture

of manners in the fop of the times. Before this author wrote, our affected gentlemen of the stage were, I believe, not quite so entertaining with their extravagances, nor so learned in their profession of foppery. Etherege's *Sir Fopling Flutter* is rather a copy of Moliere's *Marquis* than a thing of English growth. Crown's *Sir Courtly Nice* is, in a few shadows, distinct from the other, by being more insignificantly soft and more pompously important. Sir Courtly's song, of 'fop thief!' is a translation from a sonnet of the French poet. The presenting the reader with Sir Novelty's dress will revive the idea of the long-forgotten beau of King William's time. In the genuine language of a fop, who expects his mistress should admire him for his outside decoration rather than the accomplishments of his mind, Sir Novelty tells Narcissa, that his fine fashioned suit raises a great number of ribbon-weavers: 'In short, madam, the cravat-string, the garter, the sword-knot, the cinclarine, the bandath, the steinkirk, the large button, the plume, and full peruke, were all created, cried down, and revived, by me.' Such a dress of antient foppery, exhibited at a masquerade, would draw as many admirers as any habit of modern invention.

"In his *Narcissa*, acted by Mrs. Montford, Cibber drew an outline of a coquet in high life; of which character he afterwards made a finished picture, in his *Lady Betty Modish*. Besides the honour of reforming the moral of comedy, Cibber was the first who introduced men and women of high quality on the stage, and gave them language and manners suitable to their rank and birth.

"Mrs. Cibber, the wife of Colley, whose name is seldom to be found in any of the personæ dramatis, was his *Hillaria*. So much depended on *Amanda*, and especially in the two last acts, that the success of the play must, in some measure, be owing to the actress, Mrs. Rogers, who continued a favourite of the public till her merit was eclipsed by the superior splendor of an Oldfield. Sir William Wifewould, the old gentleman, who pretends to great command over his passions, and is constantly subdued by them, is, I think, a new character; and, I believe, the first, of consequence, which gave old Ben Jonson an opportunity to discover his great comic powers: he had been just brought to London from an itinerant company. The audience saw his merit, and cherished it through life, from 1695 to 1742.

"Mr. Horden, the son of a clergyman, a very promising young actor, and remarkable for his fine person, was the Young Worthy. This gentleman was bred a scholar: he complimented



plimented George Powell, in a Latin encomium, on his Treacherous Brothers. He was soon after killed, in an accidental fray, at the bar of the Rose-tavern, which was at that time remarkable for entertaining all sorts of company, and subject, of consequence, to riot and disorder.—In this house George Powell spent great part of his time; and often roasted, to intoxication, his mistress, with bumpers of Nantz brandy; he came sometimes so warm, with that noble spirit, to the theatre, that he courted the ladies so furiously on the stage, that, in the opinion of Sir John Vanbrugh, they were almost in danger of being conquered on the spot. Powell was a principal player of Drury-lane when Love's last Shift was first acted: some quarrel or difference between him and Cibber, we may reasonably suppose, prevented his having a part in the play, considering there were two, at least, well suited to his abilities, Loveless and Young Worthy. Verbruggen he chose to represent the former. As the Miscellanies are drawing to a conclusion, I shall not have to fit an opportunity to do justice to the merits of an actor of whom Cibber speaks so sparingly and coldly.

"Cibber and Verbruggen were two dissipated young fellows, who determined, in opposition to the advice of friends, to become great actors. Much about the same time, they were constant attendants upon Downs, the prompter of Drury-lane, in expectation of employment. What the first part was, in which Verbruggen distinguished himself, cannot now be known. But Mr. Richard Cross, late prompter of Drury-lane theatre, gave me the following history of Colley Cibber's first establishment as a hired actor. He was known only, for some years, by the name of Master Colley. After waiting impatiently a long time for the prompter's notice, by good fortune he obtained the honour of carrying a message on the stage, in some play, to Betterton. Whatever was the cause, Master Colley was so terrified, that the scene was disconcerted by him. Betterton asked, in some anger, who the young fellow was that had committed the blunder. Downs replied, 'Master Colley.'—'Master Colley! then forfeit him.'—'Why, sir,' said the prompter, 'he has no salary.'—'No!' said the old man; 'why then put him down ten shillings a week, and forfeit him 5s.'

"To this good-natured adjustment of reward and punishment, Cibber owed the first money he took in the treasurer's office.

"Verbruggen was so passionately fond of Alexander the Great, at that time the hero of the actors, that the players and the public knew him, for some years, by no other name. I have seen the name of Mr. Alexander to

several parts in Dryden's plays; to Ptolemy in Cleomenes King of Sparta, to Aurelius in K. Arthur, and Ramirez in Love Triumphant, or Nature Will Prevail. Verbruggen, I believe, did not assume his own name, in the play-house-bills, till the secession of Betterton and others, from Drury-lane, in 1695. The author of the Laureat says, that the name of Colley was inserted in the characters of several plays. For this I have searched in vain; the earliest proof of Cibber's appearing in any part is amongst the dramatic personæ of Southern's Sir Antony Love, acted for the first time in 1691, in which his name is placed to a Servant. That Verbruggen and Cibber did not accord is plainly insinuated by the author of the Laureat. It was known that the former would resent an injury, and that the latter's valour was entirely passive. The temper of Verbruggen may be known from a story, which I have been often told by the old comedians as a certain fact, and which found its way into some temporary publication.

"Verbruggen, in a dispute with one of King Charles's illegitimate sons, was so far transported by sudden anger, as to strike him, and call him a son of a whore.—The affront was given, it seems, behind the scenes of Drury-lane. Complaint was made of this daring insult on a nobleman; and Verbruggen was told, he must either not act in London, or submit publicly to ask the nobleman's pardon. During the time of his being interdicted acting, he had engaged himself to Betterton's theatre. He consented to ask pardon, on liberty granted to express his submission in his own terms. He came on the stage dressed for the part of Oroonoko; and, after the usual preface, owned that he had called the Duke of St. A. a son of a whore: 'It is true, and I am sorry for it.' On saying this, he invited the company present to see him act the part of Oroonoko at the theatre in Lincoln's-inn-fields.

"To Cibber's passive valour Lord Chesterfield ironically alludes in a weekly paper, called Common-Sense: 'Of all the comedians who have appeared on the stage in my memory, no one has taken a kicking with such humour as our excellent laureat.' He is thus characterized in the History of the two Stages: 'He is always repining at the success of others; and, upon the stage, is always making his fellow-actors uneasy.' Whatever gloss Cibber might put on his conduct, and however, in his Apology, he may extol the equanimity of his own temper, there is too much reason to believe part of this charge to be true. Cibber, however, chose Verbruggen for his Loveless, and certainly from a confidence in his superior abilities, in preference to any other actor.

"In 1696, Verbruggen was called upon to an exertion of his talents in tragedy. The part of Oroonoko was assigned him by Southem, by the special advice of William Cavendish, the first Duke of Devonshire. This we are told in the dedication to his grace : he adds, 'that it was Verbruggen's endeavour, in the performance of that part, to merit the duke's recommendation.' A more exalted character, dignified with the noblest faculties of the mind, is not to be found in the English theatre. The passion of love is nowhere so tenderly or ardently expressed. Cibber meanly drops any mention of the man who first acted this great original part. From Verbruggen's Oroonoko, Tom Elrington, an excellent general player, caught a most noble flame of imitation.—In the surprise of Oroonoko, on his unexpectedly meeting with Imoinda, a situation which calls for an actor of the greatest genius, Elrington charmed all who saw his action and heard his expression. I have heard Mr. Macklin speak of Elrington's excellence, in this scene, with rapture.—Barry himself was not always equally happy in this superior lover. Garrick seldom failed ; but he was not equally successful in Oroonoko ; the lustre of his eye was lost in the shade of the black colour ; nor was his voice so finely adapted to the melting and passionate addresses and feelings of the lover, as to the more violent emotions of the heart. A farther confirmation of Cibber's unfair representation of Verbruggen's merit was the constant respect paid to him by such capable judges of merit as Congreve and Rowe, who trusted him with some of their most difficult characters. He was the original Bajazet ; and the author of the *Laureat* thinks that the part has not been equally acted since. It is said, he once boasted that he frightened a bailiff from pursuit of him, by *putting on his Bajazet's look of terror*. Elrington was, in Bajazet, as well as in other tragic characters, a fine copy of Verbruggen. When the managers of Drury-lane gave Bajazet to Elrington, in preference to John Mills, the latter complained to Booth of the disgrace : Booth told him, Elrington would make nine such actors as Mills. When Verbruggen died we have no certain account ; nor can I find his name to any part in a new play later than that of *Sullen* in the *Stratagem*, acted originally in 1707. To sum up his character in the words of a late author : 'He was, in many parts, an excellent actor. In *Cassius*, *Oroonoko*, *Ventidius*, *Chamont*, *Pierre*, *Cethagus*, (in tragedy) as well as several in comedy, as the *Rover*, &c. he was an original ; and had a roughness and a negligent agreeable wildness, in his manner, action, and mien, which became him well.'

"Cibber's next step to fame was his being honour'd, by Sir John Vanbrugh, with a continuation of his *Love's last Shift*, in the *Relapse*, or *Virtue in Danger*. Of all language in comedy, that of this author is the most natural, and the most easy to learn by rote. The *Thalia* of Vanbrugh resembles a female who charms by the native beauty of her person, the sprightliness of her air, and simplicity of her dress ; though, at the same time, she exerts her influence to steal into your heart and corrupt it. The style of this writer is more the language of conversation than his friend Congreve's. Dine when you will with the latter, you are sure to feast ; to have the choicest fish, pheasant, partridge, venison, turtle, &c. With the other you have delicious fare, it is true, but blended with the plainest dishes : the furlow is not banished to the side-board, nor will you be at a loss to find a joint of mutton.

"The coxcomb-knight, Sir Novelty in the *Fool in Fashion*, is, in the *Relapse*, dignified with a title. Lord Foppington is exalted into a higher degree of folly than the knight ; the author has placed him in more whimsical situations to excite mirth. Cibber's Foppington I have often seen : as the fashions of the times altered, he adjusted his action and behaviour to them, and introduced every species of growing foppery.—Cibber excelled in a variety of comic characters ; but his perfection of action was the coxcomb of quality, and especially his Lord Foppington, in the *Careless Husband*, which is a very fine draft of a man of good parts stepping beyond the bounds of sense by peculiarity of excess in dress and behaviour.

"In Vanbrugh's comedy of *Æsop*, Cibber acted the principal character with that easy gravity which becomes the man who instructs by fable.

"In pronouncing the fables of *Æsop*, which more resemble the style of Fontaine than Prior's, which are professedly copied from him, my friend Mr. John Henderson excels all men. Those who have heard him read a tale of Prior or Swift, a chapter of *Tristram Shandy*, or any composition of the same species, will justify my opinion of his merit in fully conceiving and uttering the spirit of an author in the most familiar and agreeable manner.

"At her first onset, the muse of Vanbrugh was very prolific : in the space of six or seven months she brought forth three comedies ; the last was the *Provoked Wife*. There seems to have reigned in our dramatists of that age a strong desire to throw abuse on the clergy : in this play, which I think is the most perfect of his pieces, he has introduced Sir John Brute drunk in the habit of a clergyman ;

his



his Parson Bull, in the *Relapse*, was another vile representative of the sacred order. Pope was at a loss to guess at Swift's unalterable dislike to Vanbrugh: I think the doubt is easily resolved, from the poet's ridicule of churchmen.

"Cibber's *Sir John Brute* was copied from Betterton, as far as a weak pipe and an inexpressive meager countenance could bear any resemblance to the vigorous original. I have seen him act this part with great and deserved applause; his skill was so masterly, that, in spite of natural impediments, he exhibited a faithful picture of this worshipful debauchee. Vanbrugh was, I suppose, prevailed upon by Cibber to transfer the abuse on the clergy to a satirical picture on women of fashion, in a scene which Cibber acted with much pleafantry. His comic feeling when drunk, and after receiving the challenge of Constant, when he found him and Heartfree in his wife's closet, was inimitable acting. The audience was so delighted with him, that they renewed their loudest approbation several times.

"Quin, for several years, was the Brute of Lincoln's-inn fields, and other theatres.—He was in general a most valuable performer in comedy. In *Sir John Brute*, he seemed to have forgotten that he had ever been a gentleman, of which part of the character Cibber and Garrick retained the remembrance through every scene of Brute's riot and debauchery. Quin, besides, in this part wanted variety, and that glow and warmth, in colouring the extravagances of this merry rake, without which the picture remains imperfect and unfinished.

"When Garrick was first announced for Brute, various were the opinions of the play-going people. Quin swore that he might possibly act Master Jacky Brute, but that it was impossible he should ever be *Sir John Brute*. The public almost unanimously set the stamp of approbation on his manner of representing this character upon his first attempt. After he had fully satisfied his fancy, and ripened his judgement by the experience of two or three years, he was pronounced to be as perfect in this, as in any of his most approved parts.

"Though Cibber's performance in Brute was justly admired, those who can call to remembrance the different portraits of this riotous debauchee, as exhibited by these two great masters, will, I believe, justify me in giving the preference, on the whole, to Mr. Garrick. The latter had, amongst other advantages, a more expressive countenance, and

a much happier tone of voice; his action, too, was more diversified, and his humour less confined.—In the Bacchanalian scene, with Lord Raké and his gang, from deficiency of power and look, Cibber fell greatly short of Garrick; here the latter was most triumphantly riotous, and kept the spectators in continual glee. Cibber's pale face, tame features, and weak pipe, did not present so full a contrast to female delicacy, when in woman's apparel, as Garrick's stronger-marked features, manly voice, and more sturdy action. The cap, which he ordered to be made for this scene, was a satirical stroke upon the vast quantity of gauze, ribbon, blond lace, flowers, fruit, herbage, &c. with which the ladies, about eight years since, used to adorn their heads. After enlarging so much on the great perfection of acting which Cibber displayed in the closet-scene, where Constant and Heartfree are discovered, I cannot there give the preference to Garrick, though of all the actors of drunken-scenes he was allowed to be the most natural and diverting; but impartiality requires me here to give the palm to Cibber.

"In 1699, Cibber was unhappily seized with a passion for writing tragedy.—This brought forth his *Xerxes*; but the patentees and actors of Drury-lane rejected his tragic brat so absolutely, that he was reduced to the necessity of applying to the company of Lincoln's-inn-fields.

"Betterton consented to act this tragedy, on condition the author would pledge his credit to pay all incidental expences, in case of non-success\*. The action of Betterton and Mrs. Barry could not prevent the entire damnation of *Xerxes*.

"Soon after the author employed his talents more happily in writing the *Careless Husband*. The success of this comedy raised him, very deservedly, to a high rank amongst our dramatic writers. The plot is simple; the reforming a gay, thoughtless libertine, into the kind and generous husband, by opening, in their full lustre, the amiable conduct of a patient and neglected wife: to the main plot was added, in an episode, a well concerted scheme of pretended love, to reduce, by jealousy, a lovely coquet to the frank acknowledgement of a real passion for a worthy and constant lover. The dialogue of the play is easy and natural, properly elevated to the rank of the personæ dramatis. The acts seem to be made up of nothing but chit-chat, though the characters are well discriminated, and the plot regularly proceeds. Cibber was fond of scenes of reconciliation: in three or

\* *Life of Æsopus*, annexed to the *Laureat*.

four of his comedies \*, he has wrought them up with incidents so natural and interesting, and in a style so truly affecting, that they afford perpetual source of pleasure to an audience. So well did Cibber, though a professed libertine through life, understand the dignity of virtue, that no comic author has drawn more delightful and striking pictures of it. Mrs. Porter, upon reading a part, in which Cibber had painted virtue in the strongest and most lively colours, asked him how it came to pass, that a man, who could draw such admirable portraits of goodness, should yet live as if he were a stranger to it?—‘Madam,’ said Colley, ‘the one is absolutely necessary, the other is not.’

“The first shining proof of Mrs. Oldfield’s merit was produced in the *Careless Husband*; little known before, she was barely suffered. Her Lady Betty Modish at once discovered accomplishments to which the public were strangers.

“Mrs. Oldfield was, in person, tall, genteel, and well shaped; her countenance pleasing and expressive, enlivened with large speaking eyes, which, in some particular comic situations, she kept half shut, especially when she intended to give effect to some brilliant or gay thought. In sprightliness of air, and elegance of manner, she excelled all actresses; and was greatly superior in the clear, sonorous, and harmonious tones of her voice.

“By being a welcome and constant visitor to families of distinction, Mrs. Oldfield acquired an elegant and graceful deportment in representing women of high rank. She expressed the sentiments of Lady Betty Modish and Lady Townly in a manner so easy, natural, and flowing, and so like to her common conversation, that they appeared to be her own genuine conception. She was introduced to Christopher Rich by Sir John Vanbrugh. She lived successively the friend and mistress of Arthur Manwaring, esq. one of the most accomplished men of his age, and General Churchill.—She had a son by each of these gentlemen.—Notwithstanding these connections were publicly known, she was invited to the houses of women of fashion, as much distinguished for unblemished character as elevated rank. The royal family did not disdain to see Mrs. Oldfield at their levees. George II. and queen Caroline, when prince and princess of Wales, often condescended to converse with her. One day, the princess told Mrs. Oldfield, she had heard that general Churchill and she were married.—‘So it is said, may it please your highness, but we have not owned it yet.’

“Mrs. Oldfield, from mere motives of compassion, bestowed a yearly pension of 50*l.* on the unfortunate Savage, which he enjoyed to her death. Dr. Johnson seems to approve Savage’s not celebrating the memory of his benefactress in a poem. But, surely, he might have written verses on his patroness without offence to decency or morality. Mrs. Oldfield was generous and humane, witty, well-bred, and universally admired and beloved. In variety of professional merit, she excelled all the actresses of her time. These are topics Mr. Savage might have insisted upon without wounding his piety.

“Pope, who seems to have persecuted the name of player with a malignancy unworthy of genius, in his *Art of Sinking in Poetry*, stigmatized her conversation by the word *Oldfieldisms*, which he printed in Greek characters. There cannot be a doubt that he meant Mrs. Oldfield by the dying coquet, in his *Epistle on the Characters of Men*:

Odious! in woollen! ’twould a faint provoke!—

Were the last words which poor Narcissa spoke.—

No! let a charming chintz and Brussels lace  
Wrap my cold limbs, and shade my lifeless face.

One would not, sure, be frightful when one’s dead;

And, Betty, give this cheek a little red.

“The Betty here mentioned is supposed to have been Mrs. Saunders, Mrs. Oldfield’s friend and confidante, a very good actress in parts of decayed widows, nurses, and old maids. She retired from the stage in 1725; and played about nine years after, the part of Lady Wishfort, in the *Way of the World*, for the benefit of Mrs. Younger, soon after, by marriage, the honourable Mrs. Finch. Mrs. Oldfield had, for a long time, conceived a dislike to acting parts in tragedy; but the constant applause which followed her tragic representation, reconciled her to *Melpomene*. Her last new part, in tragedy, was Thomson’s *Sophonissa*. The author bestows, in his short advertisement to the play, a very high encomium on her action and deportment in that noble character.—In reply to some degrading expression of *Massinissa*, relating to Carthage, she utter’d the following line,

Not one base word of Carthage, for thy soul!—

with such grandeur in her action, a look so tremendous, and in a voice so powerful, that it is said she even astonished Wilks, her *Massinissa*; it is certain the audience were

\* Love’s last Shift, Careless Husband, Wife’s Repentment, Provoked Husband.



struck, and expressed their feelings by the most uncommon applause. To gain a more complete knowledge of this actress's distinguished faculties of pleasing, the reader must peruse the latter end of Cibber's preface to his *Provoked Husband*. In all the tumults and disturbances of the theatre, on the first night of a new play, which was formerly a time of more dangerous service, to the actors, than it has been of late, Mrs. Oldfield was entirely mistress of herself; she thought it her duty, amidst the most violent opposition and uproar, to exert the utmost of her abilities to serve the author. In the comedy of the *Provoked Husband*, Cibber's enemies tried all their power to get the play condemned. The reconciliation-scene wrought so effectually upon the sensible and generous part of the audience, that the conclusion was greatly and generously approved. Amidst a thousand applauses, Mrs. Oldfield came forward to speak the epilogue; but, when she had pronounced the first line,—

methinks I hear some powder'd critic say—

a man, of no distinguished appearance, from the seat next to the orchestra, saluted her with a hiss. She fixed her eye upon him immediately, made a very short pause, and spoke the words *poor creature!* loud enough to be heard by the audience, with such a look of mingled scorn, pity, and contempt, that the most uncommon applause justified her conduct in this particular, and the poor reptile sunk down with fear and trembling.

"Lady Townly has been universally said to be her *ne plus ultra* in acting. She slid so gracefully into the foibles, and displayed so humorously the excesses, of a fine woman, too sensible of her charms, too confident of her power, and led away by her passion for pleasure, that no succeeding Lady Townly arrived at her many distinguished excellencies in the character. Mrs. Heron, her successor, and the beautiful Mrs. Woffington, came nearest to her."

"Cibber has, in his preface to this play, very justly commended Wilks for his manly assumed spirit in *Lord Townly*.—Wilks was so much the real fine gentleman, that, in the scene where he was reduced to the necessity of reproaching Lady Townly with her faults, in his warmest anger he mixed such tenderness as was softened into tears. The part has not been equally supported by any actor since."

"Mr. Garrick, in *Lord Townly*, seemed ever to be under restraint. He kept back his natural impetuosity so much, that he lost the spirit of the *Provoked Husband*.

"During the embrace of reconciliation, in speaking these words,—'But from a ship-

wreck saved, we mingle tears with our embraces,'—Barry, in happily mixing the various passions which arise in the breast of a good man and reconciled husband, exceeded all conception.

"Sir Francis Wronghead has been well acted by several comedians, and especially by Macklin and Yates; that they did not reach the finish of the author may be excused.

"Cibber had two passions, which constantly exposed him to severe censure, and sometimes the highest ridicule: his writing tragedy, and acting tragic characters. In both he persisted to the last; for, after he had left the stage many years, he acted *Richard III.* and very late in life produced his *Papal Tyranny*. Of his *Cardinal Wolfey* I have spoken largely in my remarks on *Henry the Eighth*. Iago he acted in a style so drawing and hypocritical, and wore the mask of honesty so loosely, that *Othello*, who is not drawn a fool, must have seen the villain through his thin disguises. The truth is, Cibber was endur'd, in this and other tragic parts, on account of his general merit in comedy. During this century, the public had not seen a proper outline of Iago till Charles Macklin exhibited a faithful picture of this arch-villain, 1744, in the Haymarket-theatre, when Foote was his *Othello*. It is to Macklin we chiefly owe the many admirable strokes of passion with which Barry surprised us in *Othello*. Let not this be understood to mean the least degradation of that great actor's abilities; for, if Barry had not possessed a soul capable of receiving the instructions of so great a master, he could not have so pathetically affected an audience. Macklin himself will honestly tell us, that he owed no small part of his knowledge in acting to the lessons he gained from Mr. Chetwood, prompter of Drury-lane theatre.

"Cibber persisted so obstinately in acting parts in tragedy, that at last the public grew out of patience, and fairly hissed him off the stage. The following anecdote was many years since authenticated to me:

"When Thomson's *Sophonisba* was read to the actors, Cibber laid his hand upon Scipio, a character, which, though it appears only in the last act, is of great dignity and importance. For two nights successively, Cibber was as much exploded as any bad actor could be. Williams, by desire of Wilks, made himself master of the part; but he, marching slowly, in great military distinction, from the upper part of the stage, and wearing the same dress as Cibber, was mistaken for him, and met with repeated hisses joined to the music of catcalls; but, as soon as the audience were undeceived, they

converted their groans and hisses to loud and long-continued applause.

"To aim at general excellence is highly commendable; but to persist, in opposition to the repeated reproofs of the public, is bidding defiance to the general sense.

"As a manager, to whom was entrusted the inspection of new plays, operas, and farces, and of receiving the applications of all dramatic writers, Cibber's character does not appear very justifiable. In the *Memoirs of Mr. Garrick*, I related the story of his insolent behaviour to Mr. Fenton, the author of *Marianne*, who perhaps fared the worse with him from his being known to be the intimate friend of Mr. Pope. Various complaints were continually circulated, in the prints, of his pride and impertinence to authors, especially to the youngest of them, whom he termed *singing-birds*, which he was fond of choking. His callous temper rendered all attacks from the press ineffectual. One story of his unrestrained insolence is worth relating, because it seems, for once, he was mortified with the chastisement which attended his behaviour.

"A certain young gentleman applied to Cibber to look over a new dramatic piece. He knocked at his door, and gave into his hands a roll of paper, as he stood on the threshold, the door being but half opened; he desired he would read it, and give him his opinion of it. Cibber turned over the first leaf; and, reading only two lines, returned it with these words, 'Sir, it will not do.' The mortified author left him; and Cibber, full of the adventure, went to Button's coffee-house, and, ready to split with laughter, related the story to Colonel Brett; but he, far from applauding such conduct, put on a severe brow, and treated him with very sharp language. He told him, if the gentleman had resented this vile usage in any manner, he would have been justified.—Do you pretend, Sir, by reading two lines, and that in a ridiculous cursory manner, to judge of the merit of a whole play?—Much more, to the same purpose, the Colonel added, and, when he had done, left the room. Cibber made no reply: he squinted, as usual; took a pinch of snuff; and sat down to ruminate on the affair, under the pretence of reading a *Spectator*.

"But Cibber was not only accused of treating authors with superciliousness, but with purloining from works which were left in his hands, and which he detained in order to make advantage of them. The author of the *Laureat* particularly mentions his discouraging a lady who brought him a play, in which a gallant gentleman courts two women at once: this he called an incident entirely im-

probable. The same author accuses him of afterwards engraving this very character in one of his own comedies, under the name of Atall. At this distance of time, the evidence of Cibber's thefts, if any such were committed by him, being removed, nothing positive can be pronounced concerning them.

"The author of the *Laureat's* description in what manner this manager and his brothers treated authors, will give a strong picture of overbearing insolence on one side, and of tame submission on the other.

"*'The court sitting,'* says this writer, 'Chancellor Cibber (for the other two, like Masters in Chancery, sat only for form-sake, did not presume to judge) nodded to the author to open his manuscript. The author begins to read; in which if he failed to please the corrector, he would sometimes condescend to read it for him. If the play struck him very warmly, as it would if he found any thing new in it, and he thought he could particularly shine as an actor, he would then lay down his pipe (for the Chancellor always smoked when he made a decree), and cry, "By G——, there is something in this! I do not know but it may do; I will play such a part." When the reading was finished, he made his proper corrections, and sometimes without any propriety.'

"That Wilks, who was without a learned education, though a man of plain good sense, should submit to the supreme direction of Cibber, respecting new pieces, is not surprising; but that Booth, a scholar, and a better judge, of tragedy at least, than Cibber, should resign his understanding to an inferior, must be resolved into the great love of ease which accompanied him through life. Of Booth's conduct, as a manager, we have not the least or most distant hint of complaint in Cibber's *Apology*, but the author is extremely querulous with respect to Dogget's and Wilks's behaviour. The former was certainly, in the opinion of the world as well as Cibber, an original and inimitable actor; a close copier of nature in all her attitudes or disguises; a man so sensible of what his own natural abilities could possibly attain to, that he never ventured upon any part that he was not sure he could properly represent. Of this integrity to himself Cibber produces a remarkable instance.—On his return to Drury-lane, in 1697, Vanbrugh cast him into the part of Lory, in the *Relapse*: after a trial, in which he found his deficiency, he gave it up to Pinkethman. Cibber says, in dressing a character to the greatest exactness, Dogget was remarkably skilful; the least article, of whatever habit he wore, seemed, in some degree, to speak and mark the different humour he represented. This, says the writer



of a General View of the Stage\*, I have heard confirmed from one who performed with Dogget; and that he could, with great exactness, paint his face so as to represent the age of seventy, eighty, and ninety, distinctly; which occasioned Sir Godfrey Kneller to tell him one day, at Button's, that he excelled him in painting; for that he could only copy nature from the originals before him, but that Dogget could vary them at pleasure, and yet keep a close likeness. In the part of Moneytrap, in the Confederacy, he wore an old thread-bare black coat, to which he had put new cuffs, pocket-lids, and buttons, on purpose to make its rustiness more conspicuous; the neck was stuffed so as to make him appear round-shouldered, and give his head the greater prominence; his square-toed shoes were large enough to buckle over those he wore in common, which made his legs appear much smaller than usual.—This great actor was perhaps the only one who confined himself to such characters as nature seemed to have made him for. No temptation could allure him to step out of his own circle; from this circumstance, he never appeared to the audience with any diminution of his general excellence. In his temper, he was as true a humourist as Morose in the Silent Woman. Liberty he liked, for he was a staunch whig, but not on the generous principles established at the Revolution; his love of freedom extended little farther than the gratification of his own inclinations. Money he loved; but even that he would reject, if his own method of obtaining it was by any means disturbed; witness his resigning a large income, because the crown, through the interest of Lord Bolingbroke, interfered in favour of Booth. Dogget never interposed in the management of the theatre, except to adjust his own parts in plays, and to take his share of the profits at the treasury. No stock-broker was busier at the exchange, to take advantage of the rise and fall of stocks, than Dogget. Cibber was as intent upon gaming, and all manner of pleasure, as Dogget could be in trafficking with the funds. Cibber has lost every shilling at hazard or cards, and has been heard to cry out, 'Now I must go home and eat a child!' This attention to the gaming-table would not, we may be assured, render him fitter for his business of the stage. After many an unlucky run, at Tom's coffee-house †, he has arrived at the playhouse in great tranquillity, and then, humming over an opera-tune, he has walked on the stage very imperfect in the part he was to act.

Cibber should not have reprehended Powell so severely for neglect and imperfect representation: I have seen him at fault where it was least expected, in parts which he had acted a hundred times, and particularly in Sir Courtly Nice; but Colley dexterously supplied the deficiency of his memory by prolonging his ceremonious bow to the lady, and drawing out 'Your humble servant, madam,' to an extraordinary length; then, taking a pinch of snuff, and strutting deliberately across the stage, he has gravely asked the prompter, What is next?

"Wilks was, by nature and education, differently formed: with the warm and generous spirit which becomes a man, he had, from practice and experience, under the tuition of Mr. Ashbury (a very good actor of the Bettertonian school, and many years manager of Dublin theatre,) acquired a love for order, decency, and strict regularity, in the business of the scene.—It is asserted, by the writer of the Laureat, that, when trusted with the management of the stage by Christopher Rich, he found such confusion, and contempt of all discipline, in the company, that he was reduced to the necessity of challenging and fighting several amongst the ring-leaders of these disorders. Powell, says Cibber, declined a duel with Wilks, when he found his antagonist would fight. Pity! that a man, possessed of such great talents for acting as Powell, should have rendered them all ineffectual by his persisting in irregularity and intemperance. In looking over the advertisements of plays, in the first edition of the Spectator, published in 1711 and 1712, the name of Powell I see placed to many very important characters, under the management of Cibber, Dogget, and Wilks: to Falstaff, to Lear, Leon, Cortez in the Indian Emperor, and many others. Even Wilks would not be so partial, during Powell's ability to act, as to give these important parts to his friend Mills. Addison and Steele continued their regard and countenance, as long as they could be of service, to this unhappy man. That he acted Portius, in Cato, 1713, must have been with the author's approbation; and this, I believe, was Powell's last part, in a new play, of any consequence. He was so hunted, by the sheriffs officers, for debt, that he usually walked the streets with his sword in his hand, (sheathed) in terror to his pursuers. If he saw any of them at a distance, he would roar out, 'Get on the other side of the way, you dog!' and the bailiff, who knew his old customer, would most obligingly answer, 'We do not want

\* Written by Mr. T. Wilks, and published for J. Coote in 1759.

† In Russell-street.

you now, Master Powell.' He was alive in the year 1717; I saw, many years since, a play-bill, for his benefit, dated that year. The unhappy George Powell, whose fault was too great a passion for social pleasure, was certainly an actor of genius; but, in his moral conduct, he was, amongst the players, what Edmund Smith, the author of *Phædra* and *Hippolitus*, was amongst the poets: not all the care and caution of Smith's Oxford-friends, and his polite acquaintance at London, could keep him either decent in dress or regular in behaviour.

"To return to Wilks. What could this man, of sobriety and habitual regularity, do with such partners as a gamester and a hunter after the stocks? Cibber and Dogget wanted not abilities to go through the various business of the theatre; but their inclinations carried them to their two dear Dulcineas, pleasure and profit.

"Cibber draws an advantageous character of Dogget, as a man of sense, and one that understood business; but, surely, his giving up near 800*l.* or 1000*l.* per annum, on another man's being advanced to an equal degree of happiness with himself, or from a paltry grudge or pique to a worthy man who sometimes thwarted his pride, gives no good proof of the soundness of his intellects. The great complaint of Cibber and Dogget, against their partner, Wilks, was his impetuous and overbearing temper. On that account, and that only, Dogget told Cibber, says the latter, he gave up his income; and, for that cause, the same informer assures us, several actors of Drury-lane theatre forsook their old masters, and lifted with John Rich at Lincoln's-inn-fields. I shall not take the evidence of two such partial and interested men against so honest and steady a character, in the maintenance of every thing that was decent, just, and generous, as that of Robert Wilks. Dogget sacrificed to his own humour when he resigned his share of the licence or patent. When Quin, Walker, and Ryan, left Drury-lane theatre, it was not from a dislike to Wilks, but from an offer of advanced salary, with the possession of the capital parts.—Ryan chose 5*l.* per week, at Lincoln's-inn-fields, with the part of Hamlet, in preference to *Laertes*, in the same play, and 50*s.* at Drury-lane; and Quin preferred the acceptance of the same, or a larger, salary, offered from Rich, with *Tamere* and *Brutus* in *Julius Cæsar*, instead of inferior parts in

the same plays with what he thought a small pittance. The mean subterfuge of Cibber, to cloke his spleen to Wilks by the suffrage of others, is visible. But this good man gave Dogget and Cibber still farther provocations. In the decorations of plays, they grudged, from mean economy, every necessary expence, while his spirit took pleasure in dressing every character as it ought to be, and furnishing such other theatric ornaments as the dramatic piece required.

"Of the managers, Booth, Wilks, and Cibber, the last, for many reasons, was the least esteemed by the players. He spared no pains, it is true, to instruct the actors in such characters as he drew in his own pieces; but he could not forbear, at times, wantonly throwing out sarcasms on the inferior performers\*. Cibber was certainly least esteemed of the three great masters; the Laureat goes further, and avers that he was absolutely odious to the comedians. I will not go so far; but I have been told, that the players had no hold on any of his passions, to accomplish their views, except his timidity. Victor informed me, that Bickerstaffe, a comedian whose benefit-play Steele good-naturedly recommends to the public, in the *Tatler*, on account of his being, as he says, his relation, had acquired an income of 4*l.* per week. Cibber, in an economical fit, retrenched him of half. The man, who had a family, was struck at the sudden diminution of his allowance; and, knowing whence his misfortune was derived, waited on Cibber, and flatly told him, that, as he could not subsist on the small sum to which he had reduced his salary, he must call the author of his distress to an account, for that it would be easier to him to lose his life than to starve. The affrighted Cibber told him, he should receive an answer from him on Saturday next. Bickerstaffe found, that day, his usual income was continued.

"However Cibber might be disliked by the players, it is certain that Wilks was esteemed and respected by them.—Booth was valued and beloved as their companion, who mixed in their society and took part in their interests. When Harper remonstrated to him, that Shepherd's income was larger than his by 20*s.* per week, though he presumed, he said, that his own industry and variety of business were not inferior to Shepherd's, Booth said, in reply, assenting to the truth of what he had affirmed, 'Suppose, now, Har-

\* When the younger Mills was once rehearsing *Scandal*, in *Love for Love*, a part which Booth had formerly acted, Mills in that part of the play where *Scandal* breaks out into the exclamation of 'Death and hell! where is *Valentine*?' observed, that poor Mr. Booth forgot the 'Death and hell,' &c. Cibber, with a contemptuous smile, told him, there was more beauty in his forgetfulness than in all he remembered.



per, we should make you both equal by reducing his salary to yours?"—"By no means," said the other; "I would not injure Mr. Shepherd for the world; I would only, by your favour, sir, honestly serve myself."—The manager said no more; on pay-day, Harper found his weekly allowance increased by an addition of twenty shillings. However trifling these little stories may seem, they throw more light on a distinguished character than matters of seemingly more importance. The truth is, the love and esteem of the actors went along with Booth and Wilks; to Cibber they paid no farther regard than what his power and their fear inspired.

There is a little open room, in Drury-lane theatre, called the Settle; it is separated from the stage and the scene-room by a wainscot inclosure. It was formerly, before the great green-room was built, a place for many of the actors to retire to, between the acts, during the time of action and rehearsal. From time out of mind, till about the year 1740, to this place a pretty large number of the comedians used to resort constantly after dinner, which, at that time, was generally over at two o'clock. Here they talked over the news and politics of the day, though, indeed, they were no great politicians; for players are generally king's men. Here they cracked their jokes, indulged in little sallies of pleasantry, and laughed, in good humour, at their mutual follies and adventures. Kings, footmen, aldermen, cardinals, coblers, princes, judges, link-boys, and fine gentlemen, in short, all characters, were mingled together; and from this chaos of confusion arose a harmony of mirth, which contributed not a little to reconcile them to their various situations in the theatre. Wilks came amongst them sometimes; Booth, who loved the bagatelle, oftener: he liked to converse with them freely, and hear their jokes and remarks on each other; and if, from any accidental story or information, these good men, I mean Wilks and Booth, could make any individual happy, they laid hold of the offered opportunity. Cibber seldom came amongst the *settlers*; tyrants fear, as they know they are feared.

"Cibber, with propriety enough, perhaps, confines his narrative to those actors who were dead. But how came he to forget Dicky Norris and Bullock, men of acknowledged merit, who had been numbered with the dead several years before he published his Apology? Norris was so much a favourite of the public, ever since he had acted the part of Jubilee Dicky, in the Trip to the Jubilee, that the name of Dicky was often annexed, in the play-house bills, to any character he acted.—In the first edition of the Spectator, in the advertisement of the Beaux Stra-

tagem, he is called Dicky Scrub. He was in size, low and little, but not ill made, with an expressive, truly-comic, countenance, and a shrill, clear, and audible voice.—Mrs. Oldfield thought him an excellent figure for a cuckold. When, upon the indisposition of Norris, Cibber undertook to play Barnaby Rattle, in the Wanton Wife, his action was generally applauded; but, when Cibber said to Oldfield, 'Nanny, how do you like your new husband?' she replied, 'Why, very well, but not half so well as Dicky Norris.'——'How to?'——'Why, you are too important in your figure for one of the horned race; but Norris has such a diminutive form, and so sneaking a look, that he seems formed on purpose for horns, and I make him a cuckold always with a hearty good will.'

"In his last illness, he was attended by an eminent physician, who gave him hopes of recovery. 'Doctor,' said the sick man, 'when the wheels of a watch are quite decayed, do you think they can be repaired?'——'No, by no art in the world.'——'Then, sir,' says Norris, 'it is the same case with me; all the wheels of my machine are absolutely, through time, quite worn out, and nothing can restore them to their accustomed force.'——Norris died about the year 1725.

"Bullock was an actor of great glee and much comic vivacity. He was, in his person, large; with a lively countenance, full of humorous information. Steele, in the Tatler, speaks, with his usual kind sensibility, of Norris, Bullock, and Pinkethman, and their powers of raising mirth. The historian of the two stages says, that Bullock 'is not only the best of actors, but to modesty, that he is insensible of his own merit.' The comic ability of Bullock was confirmed to me by Mr. Macklin, who assured me very lately, that he was, in his department, a true genius of the Stage. I have seen him act several parts with great applause; especially the Spanish Friar, at a time when he was above eighty.

"Cibber, agreeably to his adopted plan of confining his narrative to deceased actors, spoke only in general terms of Mrs. Porter's merit in tragedy; but, although this volume is enlarged to a much greater bulk than I intended, I cannot omit some well-authenticated anecdotes relating to this most valuable and respected actress; who was not only an ornament of the Stage, but of human nature.

"She was first taken notice of by Betterton; who saw her act, when a child, the Genius of Britain, in a Lord Mayor's Pageant, in the reign of Charles or James II. Mrs. Porter always spoke of Betterton with great

respect and veneration. She was so little, when first under his tuition, that he threatened her, if she did not speak and act as he would have her, to put her into a fruit-woman's basket and cover her with a vine leaf. It was the custom of the fruit-women, formerly, to stand fronting the pit, with their backs to the Stage; and their oranges and other fruit, covered with vine-leaves.

"Mrs. Porter was ever welcome to the best and most respectable families in London. Oldfield and this actress rose gradually to excellence and fame much about the same time. They conversed together on the best terms; Porter's gravity was a contrast to the sprightliness of Oldfield, who would often in jest call her her mother.

"She lived at Highwood-hill, near Hendon. After the play, she went home in a one-horse chaise; her constant companions were a book and a brace of horse-pistols. The dislocation of her thigh-bone was attended with a circumstance that deserves to be recorded. In the summer of 1731, as she was taking the air in her one-horse chaise, she was stopped by a highwayman, who demanded her money. She had the courage to present one of her pistols to him; the man, who perhaps had only with him the appearance of fire-arms, assured her that he was no common thief; that robbing on the high-way was not to him a matter of choice, but necessity, and in order to relieve the wants of his poor distressed family. He informed her, at the same time, where he lived; and told her such a melancholy story, that she gave him all the money in her purse, which was about ten guineas. The man left her: upon this she gave a lash to the horse; he suddenly started out of the track, and the chaise was overthrown; this occasioned the dislocation of her thigh-bone. Let it be remembered, to her honour, that notwithstanding this unlucky and painful accident, she made strict enquiry after the robber; and finding that he had not deceived her, she raised amongst her acquaintance about sixty pounds, which she took care to send him. Such an action, in a person of high rank, would have been celebrated as something great and heroic: the feeling mind will make no distinction between the generosity of an actress and that of a princess.

"I have already observed, that she was esteemed the genuine successor of Mrs. Barry,

whose theatrical page she had been when very young.

"When the scene was not agitated with passion, to the general spectator she did not give equal pleasure; her recitation of fact or sentiment was so modulated, as to resemble musical cadence rather than speaking, and this rendered her acting in comedy somewhat cold and ineffectual.—Where the passions predominated, she exerted her powers to a supreme degree; she seemed then to be another person, and to be informed with that noble and enthusiastic ardour which was capable of rousing the coldest auditor to an equal animation. Her deportment was dignified with graceful ease, and her action the result of the passion she felt.

"After the misfortune of her dislocated limb, and in a very advanced age, I saw her act many of her principal characters with much vigour and great applause, and, in particular, Clytemnestra in Thomson's *Agamemnon* \*. In drawing this character, the author has varied from the idea of *Æschylus*; and, I think with great propriety, he has followed the original drawing of *Homer*, who gives some strokes of tenderness to this princess, and makes her yield with reluctance to the persuasions of *Ægisthus*; who could not entirely subdue her affection to her husband, till he had removed the faithful bard, placed about her by *Agamemnon* as her counsellor and adviser.

"In this tragedy, Mrs. Porter gave a striking proof of her great power in expressing the passions.—Her action and deportment, through the part of Clytemnestra, marked the consummate actress. In the second act, when, in the distress of her mind from conscious guilt, she is torn with conflicting passions at the approach of her injured husband, her action and expression when she said to her attendant—

Bring me my children hither; they may  
perhaps relieve me—

she struck the audience with astonishment, who expressed the highest approbation by loud and reiterated applauses.

"In her person she was tall and well-shaped; of a fair complexion, but not handsome; her voice was harsh and unpleasing. She elevated herself above all personal defects by her exquisite judgement. Though she greatly admired *Betterton*, and had seen all the old

\* Thomson, in reading his play of *Agamemnon* to the actors, in the Green-room, pronounced every line with such a broad Scotch accent, that they could not restrain themselves from a loud laugh. Upon this, the author good-naturedly said to the Manager, 'Do you, sir, take my play, and go on with it; for, though I can write a tragedy, I find I cannot read one.'



actors of merit, she was much charmed with Mr. Garrick, and lamented her want of youth and vigour to exert her skill with so great a genius.

"Mrs. Porter outlived her annuity; and, in a very advanced age, was principally supported by a very worthy nobleman\*, who made her a present of a new comedy, and permitted her to publish it, for her benefit, by subscription. She died about the year 1762. When Dr. Johnson, some years before her death, paid her a visit, she appeared to him so wrinkled, that, he said, a picture of old age in the abstract might be taken from her countenance. Mrs. Porter lived some time with Mrs. Cotterell, reliet of Colonel Cotterell, and Mrs. Lewis, who, I believe, now resides in the Circus at Bath †.

"To return to Cibber. Envy is, I fear, annexed so closely to mankind in general, and more especially to the condition of a player, from his circumscribed situation, that we are not to wonder that he had his share of it.—He never heartily joined the public voice in the approbation of Mr. Garrick; he shrunk from it as if he was hurt by it.

"Mr. Garrick asked him if he had not, in his possession, a comedy or two of his own writing.—'What then?' said Cibber.—'I should be glad to have the honour of bringing it into the world.'—'Who have you to act it?'—'Why, there are (said Garrick) Clive and Pritchard, myself, and some others,' whom he named.—'No!' said the old man, taking a pinch of snuff, with great nonchalance, 'it won't do.'—Foote often declared, that Cibber would allow no higher merit to Garrick than his acting Fribble.—At a meeting of Cibber, Garrick, Foote, and others, at Sir F. Blake Delaval's, Garrick imprudently drew on himself a rebuke from Cibber. The conversation happened to turn upon old actors, and their peculiar manner of playing. Mr. Garrick observed, that the old style in acting was banished the stage, and would not now go down. 'How do you know?' said Cibber; 'you never tried it.'

"He either did not see, or would not acknowledge he saw, the merit of Elrington, an actor approved by the best judges in England and Ireland. Elrington, when a young man, wished to act the part of Torrifmond, in the Spanish Friar; this request Cibber opposed with all his might. A nobleman of great eminence sent for him, and desired he would give his reasons for not permitting the young player to try his abilities in a favourite

part. 'My lord,' said Cibber, 'it is not with us as with you; your lordship is sensible, that there is no difficulty in filling places at court; you cannot be at a loss for persons to act their parts there. But I assure you it is quite otherwise in our theatrical world; if we should invest people with characters who are incapable to support them, we should be undone.'

"But Cibber was sufficiently mortified afterwards for his behaviour to Elrington; who, during the indisposition of Booth, in the year 1729, was the great support of Drury-lane. The managers were so well convinced of his importance to them, that they offered him his own conditions if he would engage with them for a term of years. Elrington, with great modesty, replied: 'I am truly sensible of the value of your offer; but in Ireland I am so well rewarded for my services, that I cannot think of leaving it on any consideration. There is not,' added he, 'a gentleman's house in that kingdom to which I am not a welcome visitor.' Elrington died at Dublin, greatly lamented, July 22, 1732.

"To conclude. As a writer of comedies, Cibber must be placed in a very superior rank: before Jeremy Collier attacked the profaneness of dramatic writers, he first taught the stage to talk decently and morally. He was properly the inventor of the higher comedy, a species of the drama in which persons of high birth and eminent rank are introduced; for the faint efforts, in that style, of Etherege and Steele, in *Sir Fopling Flutter* and *the Funeral*, are scarcely worthy our notice. As a manager of a theatre, his behaviour to authors I have proved to have been illiberal and insolent; his treatment of the actors has been generally condemned as unfriendly, if not tyrannical. As a member of society at large, little can be said in his praise.—Soon after he had sold his share in the patent, for a very large sum, to Mr. Highmore, he applied to the Duke of Grafton for a patent, in favour of his son Theophilus, because Highmore would not comply with the young man's demands. The duke saw through the injustice of the act, and peremptorily refused to gratify the unreasonable request of his old acquaintance, Colley. Victor, from whom I received my information, very honestly opposed this unjust behaviour of his old friend, Cibber; who, after having parted with his share in the old patent for more than its value, would have rendered it worthless by a new one.

\* Lord Cornbury.

† The anecdotes relating to Mrs. Porter were communicated to me by an elderly gentleman, lately dead, an acquaintance of Dr. Johnson, who often visited her; by one, who was a frequenter of the theatres for near sixty years; and others.

"His love of gaming rendered him a neglectful father, and unkind to his family and relations. The moral honesty of a gamester, depending so much upon the revolutions of chance, cannot safely be relied on.

"It must be granted, that, although Cibber was a gamester, he was not ever charged with being a cheat, or gambler. A dupe to his own passions he certainly was, and probably to the fraudulent practices of others; but he never merited the odious nick-name of a black-leg.

"His contempt of religion was justly censured by many. Dennis, in a letter to Sir John Edgar, alias Sir Richard Steele, charges him with spitting at a picture of our Saviour at Bath. At Tunbridge, I have been informed by Dr. Johnson, Cibber entered into a conversation with the famous Mr. William Whiston, with a view to insult him; but Whiston cut him short, by telling him, at once, that he could possibly hold no discourse with him; for that he was himself a clergyman; and Cibber was a player, and was besides, as he had heard, a pimp.

"Cibber must have raised considerable contributions on the public by his works. To say nothing of the sums accumulated by dedications\*, benefits, and the sale of his plays singly, his dramatic works, in quarto, by subscription, published 1721, produced him a considerable sum of money. It is computed that he gained, by the excellent *Apology for his Life*, no less than the sum of 1500*l*.

"Pope's merciless treatment of Cibber was originally owing to the latter's attack upon the farce of *Three Hours after Marriage*, in the character of Bayes in the *Rehearsal*; and, though it is evident Pope severely felt the ridicule of the narrative in Cibber's *First Epistle*, the reader of his *Second Letter* will be convinced, that the laureat, notwithstanding his affectation of indifference, did not resist the being transmitted to posterity with Pope's indelible marks of infamy upon him.

"Though the superior spirit of Swift controuled the actions and regulated the politics of Pope, the latter had no influence of that kind upon the dean. He was not induced, by his friend's dislike to Cibber, to attack him in any part of his writings, except, I believe, in a short ridicule on his *Birth-day Odes*. As soon as Cibber's *Apology* reached Dublin, Faulkner, the printer, sent it to the Dean of St. Patrick's, who told him, next day, that Cibber's book had captivated him; he sat up all night to read it through. When Faulkner gave information of this to Cibber, he shed tears for joy.

"Cibber died in the eighty-seventh year of

his age, 1758. The money he had saved, in the latter part of his life, he left, with great propriety, to his grand-children.—— In person, he was of the middle size; and though frail, not well shaped. I have seen a mezzotinto of him, from a painting of Signor Amiconi, in the character of Lord Foppington, very like him.

"I must not forget to relate, that the comedy of the *Nonjuror*, written by Cibber, and acted in 1717, exposed the author to innumerable and virulent attacks from the high-tory and Jacobite parties. The generous principles of free government established at the coronation of King William and Queen Mary, had not, at that time, taken such deep root as they have since done. Many people then survived, who had been attached from education, and some perhaps from principle, to the exiled family. Prejudices imbibed in the early part of life, are not easily subdued; but, besides those who acted on these motives, there were many who were influenced from meaner inducements. Cibber's play was written with a view to justify the doctrines inculcated by the Revolution, and to open the eyes of the prejudiced in favour of the house of Hanover. The play met with applause and with much success. Cibber artfully transferred the odium of imposture from the nonjuring clergyman to the popish priest.

"In spite of his affecting to despise party-men and party-principles, Pope, in his letters to Jervas and Mr. Digby, discovered no little vexation at the success of the *Nonjuror*; for that was, with him, a terrible symptom of the decay of poetry.

"The play is a good imitation of Moliere's *Tartuffe*; and deserves commendation, if it were for the sake only of the fine portrait of an amiable young lady. There is not, in all dramatic poetry, a more sprightly, good-natured, and generous coquet, than Maria; which is admirably acted by Mrs. Abington, under the name of Charlotte, borrowed from the *Nonjuror* by Bickerstaffe in his *Hypocrite*.

"Cibber was violently attacked from the prints, chiefly on account of his politics, but pretendedly for his management of the theatre, his behaviour to authors, and for his acting. If we except the remarks on plays and players by the authors of the *Tatler* and *Spectator*, the theatrical observations, in those days, were coarse and illiberal, when compared to what we read in our present daily and other periodical papers. The prints of our days are generally conducted by men of education and well acquainted with the polite arts. Nor should the actor think himself

\* King George I. gave him a hundred pounds for his dedication of the *Nonjuror*



above condescending to hearken to their advice and to attend to their reprehension, or suppose himself or his art injured by their free examination of his merits.

“Sir Joshua Reynolds, in his excellent notes on Frefnoy, has generously admitted, that, if the painter was to be informed of the remarks every spectator would necessarily make on his picture, when exposed to public view, he would gain considerable advantage from them.—This may be applied to acting, *à fortiori*, as every man must be a more adequate judge of stage-representation than of painting. In every nation in Europe, the productions of art are open to examination. In a free country, like ours, the legislators, and the acts of legislature itself, are not exempt from discussion. A poem, a picture, a statue, a piece of music, the action of a player, are all offered to the public eye, and, from their approbation or censure, must stand or fall. The actor, while he continues to be of value, will be an object of criticism. It is, indeed, a test of his consequence; and, when that is withdrawn, he will sink to nothing. Parties there will be, and prejudices must exist; but the public is fair in its determination, and will not permit an artist of merit to suffer by unjust remarks or illiberal censures.

“Dr. Warburton affected to despise the learning of Magazines and Reviews. He might, perhaps, receive no addition to his acquirements by perusing them; but the good people of England, I will presume to aver, have been much improved, within these twenty or thirty years, by that variety of literature and science which has been every where disseminated in these vehicles; nor do I think all ranks of people could be more innocently or more profitably employed, than in acquiring knowledge so readily, and with such little expence of time and money.”

#### ANECDOTES of the AUTHOR.

Mr. Thomas Davies, as the title-page of

The History of the Flagellants: otherwise, of religious Flagellations among different Nations, and especially among Christians. Being a Paraphrase and Commentary on the Historia Flagellantium of the Abbe Boileau, Doctor of the Sorbonne, Canon of the Holy Chapel, &c. By one who is not Doctor of the Sorbonne. Robinson. 1783.

(Concluded from page 199.)

THIS author, in his commentary on the upper and lower discipline, writes thus:

“All the women (as the writer of this commentary has been told, when in Catholic countries) who make self-flagellation a part of their religious exercises, whether they live in or out of convents, use the *lower discipline*; their pious and merciful confessors having suggested to them, that the *upper discipline* may prove dangerous, and be the cause of hurting

the present entertaining performance tells us, is a bookfeller in Ruffel-street, Covent-garden. Though certainly possessed of no common share of literature, and though acquainted with books better than most of his brethren, he has been by no means successful in his business. The first notice we have of him is from the Dramatis Personæ of Lillo's celebrated tragedy of Fatal Curiosity, acted at the Hay-market in 1736. At that time he performed under the management of Henry Fielding, and was the original representative of Young Wilmot. He afterwards commenced bookfeller in Duke's-court, but met with misfortunes which induced him to return to the theatre. For several years he belonged to various companies at York, at Dublin, and other places, at the first of which he married his wife, Miss Yarrow, daughter of a performer there, whose beauty was not more remarkable than her private character has ever been unsullied and irreproachable. About 1752 he returned to London, and with Mrs. Davies was engaged at Drury Lane, where they remained for several years in good estimation with the Town, and played many characters, if not with great excellence, at least with propriety and decency. Churchill's indiscriminate Satire has endeavoured to fix some degree of ridicule on Mr. Davies's performance; but the pen of a satirist is not entitled to implicit credit. Our author quitted the theatre about 1762; and it would afford us satisfaction could we have recorded that his efforts in trade had been crowned with the success which his abilities in his profession merited. Besides the present work, and the Life of Mr. Garrick, Mr. Davies is generally supposed to be the author of some Anecdotes of Mr. Henderson, A Review of Lord Chesterfield's Characters, A Life of Massinger, Lives of Dr. John Eachard, Sir John Davies, and Mr. Lillo, and many fugitive pieces in prose and verse published in the News-papers.

their breasts, especially when they mean to proceed in that holy exercise with unusual fervour and severity. A few orders of friars, among whom are the Capuchins, also use the lower kind of discipline; but for what reason the commentator has not been as yet informed.

“Perhaps it will be asked here, how priests and confessors have been able to introduce the use of such a painful practice as flagellation,

lation, among the persons who choose to be directed by them in religious matters; and how they can enforce obedience to the prescriptions they give them in that respect? But here it must be remembered, that *penance* has been made a sacrament among Catholics, and that *satisfaction*, as may be seen in the books that treat of that subject, is an essential part of it, and must always precede the *absolution* on the part of the confessor. Now, as confessors have it in their power to refuse this absolution, so long as the penances or satisfactions of any kind, which they have enjoined to their penitents, have not been accomplished, this confers on them a very great authority; and though, to a number of those who apply to them, who care but little for such absolution, or in case of refusal are ready to apply to other more easy confessors, they scarcely prescribe any other kind of *satisfaction* than saying a certain number of prayers, or such like mortification; yet, to those persons who think it a very serious affair when a confessor in whom they trust continues to refuse them his absolution, they may enjoin almost what kind of penance they please. And indeed since confessors have been able to prevail upon kings to leave their kingdoms and engage in perilous wars and cruises to the Holy Land, and to induce young and tender queens to perform on foot pilgrimages to very distant places, it is not difficult to understand how they have been able gradually to prevail upon numbers of their devotees of both sexes, to follow practices which they had been so foolish as to adopt for themselves, and to practise, at their own choice, either the lower, or the upper, discipline."

On a revelation made by St. Bridget, that Jesus Christ had been flagellated with great cruelty, our author comments thus:

"Instances of revelations, like those of St. Bridget, concerning the person of Jesus Christ and his sufferings, are very frequent among Nuns: and, to say the truth, it is no wise surprising that they should, at times, have visions of this kind. As those women who are destined to live in the condition of Nuns, are commonly, not to say always, made to take their vows at an early age, that is, at a time when their passions are most disposed to be inflamed, and when an object of love may be looked upon as one of the necessities of life, this, together with the circumstance of their close confinement, induces a number of them to contract a real and ardent love for the person of Jesus Christ, whose picture they see placed almost in every corner, who is, besides, expressly called their Husband, whose Spouses they are said to be, and to whom, at the final and solemn closing of their vows, they have been actually betrothed,

by having a ring put on their finger. To the mind of such of those unfortunate young women as have once begun to indulge fancies of this kind, the image of their beloved Spouse is continually present, under some one of the figures by which he is represented in the above-mentioned pictures; and his flagellations, and other hardships he was made to undergo, are, among other things, the objects of their tenderest concern: hence the numberless visions and revelations which nuns, like St. Bridget, have at all times had upon those subjects; and several among them, whose love was more fervent, or who thought themselves intitled to some particular distinction from their Spouse, have even fancied, on certain occasions, that they had been favoured with a visible impression of his sacred *stigmata*, that is, of the marks of the five main wounds which he received when he was put to death. The idea of those visible marks or *stigmata* of Jesus Christ's wounds, we may observe, was, in the first instance, a contrivance of St. Francis, who pretended that they had been impressed on his body during a vision he had in a remote place; and he prevailed upon his monks, and other adherents, to consider them as emblems of a close affinity between him and our Lord, and as a kind of order of knighthood that had been conferred on him."

Speaking of the flagellatory power assumed by confessors over their penitents, our commentator tells us, on the express authority of *Abelard*, that the blows he gave *Heloise* "were such blows as friendship alone, not anger, suggested: he even adds, that their sweetness surpassed that of the sweetest perfumes,—*verbera quandoque dabat amor, non furor, gratia, non ira, quæ omnium unguentorum suavitatem transcederent.*"

"Father Girard, as is evident from the whole tenor of the declaration of Miss Cadiere herself, had as little intention as *Abelard*, to do any kind of injury to his pupil or penitent; and *Cornelius Adrianen*, as appears from *Meteren's* account, used to proceed with the same caution and tenderness for his disciples, as the two above-mentioned gentlemen, and contented himself, as the *Abbe Boileau* observes, with gently rubbing them with his instruments of discipline;—*molliter perfricabat.*

"That confessors should contract sentiments of friendship for their female penitents, like those mentioned by *Abelard*, is however no wise surprising. *La Fontaine* says, that

*Tout homme est homme, & les moines sur tous.*

"Every man is a man, and monks above all others." He might at least have said, "Every man is a man, and monks as well as others;" and to this have added, that their virtue, especially



pecially that of confessors, is exposed to dangers of a peculiar kind. In fact, the obligation which those who perform that office are under, to hear, with seeming indifference, the long confessions of women of every age, who frequently enter into numerous particulars concerning the sins which they have either committed, or had distant wishes to commit, is no very easy task for men who, as hath just now been observed, are after all nothing but men; and they are, under such circumstances, frequently agitated by thoughts not very consonant with the apparent gravity and sanctity of their looks. Nay, raising such thoughts in them, and in general creating sentiments of love in their confessors, are designs which numbers of female penitents, who at no time entirely cease being actuated by womanish views, expressly entertain, notwithstanding the apparent ingenuity of their confessions, and in which they but too often succeed, to their own, and their frail confessors, cost. Thus, it appears from Miss Cadriere's declarations, that she had of herself aimed at making the conquest of father Girard, though a man past fifty years of age, being induced to it by his great reputation both as a preacher and a man of parts; and she expressly confessed, that she had for a long while been making interest to be admitted into the number of his penitents.

"Indeed, these dangers to which confessors are exposed from their continual and confidential intercourse with the sex, (for, to the praise of women be it spoken, they are infinitely more exact than men in making their confessions) are much taken notice of in the books in which directions are given to such priests as are designed for that employment; and they are warned against nothing so much as an inclination to hear preferably the confessions of the other sex.—St. Charles Borromeo, as I have read in one of those books, prescribed to confessors to have all the doors wide open, when they heard the confession of a woman; and he had supplied them with a set of passages from Psalms, such as, *Cor mundum crea in me, Domine*, and the like, which he advised them to have pasted on some conspicuous place within their sight, and which were to serve them as ejaculatory exclamations by which to vent the wicked thoughts with which they might feel themselves agitated, and as kinds of *Abracadabras*, or *Retra Satanas*, to apply to, whenever they should find themselves on the point of being overcome by some too sudden temptation.

"Numbers of confessors, however, whether it was that they had forgotten to supply themselves with the passages recommended by St. Charles Borromeo, or that those passages really proved ineffectual in those instants

in which they were intended to be useful, have, at different times, formed serious designs upon the chastity of their penitents; and the singular situation in which they were placed, both with respect to the public, and to their penitents themselves, with whom, changing the grave supercilious confessor into the wanton lover was no easy transition, have led them to use expedients of rather singular kinds, to attain their ends. Some, like Robert d'Arbrissel (and the same has been said of Adhelm, an English saint who lived before the Conquest), have induced young women to lie with them in the same beds, giving them to understand, that, if they could prove superior to every temptation, and rise from bed as they went to it, it would be in the highest degree meritorious. Others, Menas for instance, a Spanish monk whose case was quoted in the proceedings against father Girard, persuaded young women to live with him in a kind of holy conjugal union, which he described to them, but which did not however end, at last, in that intellectual manner which the father had promised.—Others have persuaded women, that the works of matrimony were no less liable to pay tithes than the fruits of the earth, and have received these tithes accordingly. This scheme was, it is said, contrived by the friars of a certain convent in a small town in Spain, and La Fontaine has made it the subject of one of his *Tales*, which is entitled *The Cordeliers of Catalonia*, in which he describes with much humour the great punctuality of the ladies in that town, in discharging their debts to the fathers, and the vast business that was, in consequence, carried on in the convent of the latter.

"Lastly, other confessors have had recourse to their power of flagellation, as an excellent expedient for preparing the success of their schemes, and preventing the first suspicions which their penitents might entertain of their views.

"In order the better to remove the scruples which the modesty of these latter caused them at first to oppose, they used to represent to them, that our first parents were naked in the garden of Eden: they moreover asked, whether people must not be naked when they are christened? and shall not they likewise be so on the day of Resurrection? Nay, others have made such a state of nakedness, on the part of their penitents, a matter of express duty, and have supported this doctrine, as the author of the *Apologie pour Herodote* relates, by quoting the passage of Jesus Christ, in which he says, *Go, and shew thyself to the priest*.

"However, instances of the wantonness of priests like this latter, in which a serious

use was made of passages from the books on which religion is grounded, in order to forward schemes of a guilty nature, certainly cannot, in whatever light the subject be considered, admit of any justification: though on the other hand, when the national calamities produced by sophisms of this kind and the arts of men of the same cloth be considered, one cannot help wishing that they had constantly employed both these sophisms and their artifices in pursuits like those above mentioned, and that ensnaring a few female

penitents (who were not perhaps, after all, extremely unwilling to be ensnared), and serving flagellations, had been the worst excesses they ever had committed."

The fooleries of the Romish priests, and that farrago of legendary tales, which are illustrated and adorned with commentaries learned, humorous, and *delicately* bawdy, are calculated to afford an higher degree of entertainment in Roman Catholic countries than in England, where the people have almost forgot the existence of devils, monks, and nuns.

#### A System of Chronology: Containing,

- I. An Explanation of the Principles of this Science; together with an Account of the most remarkable Epochs, Æras, and Periods, the Dates and Extent of which are ascertained.
  - II. A Chronological History, which exhibits a connected View of the Time, Mode, and Circumstances of the Origin, Progress, Decline, and Fall, of every considerable Kingdom, from the earliest Period to the present.
  - III. A List of several Eclipses before the Christian Æra, observed by Astronomers, or recorded by Historians, and of all Eclipses from A. D. 1, to A. D. 1900, with an explanatory Preface.
  - IV. A Chronological List of Councils, in which the Date, Place, and Subject of every Council are specified.
  - V. Chronological Tables and Charts from B. C. 2300, to A. D. 1784, adapted to a Scale, and ascertaining the Duration of the Lives and Reigns of the most eminent Personages in all Ages.
  - VI. A List of remarkable Events and Occurrences relating to every Kingdom and Nation from the earliest Ages to the present Time; with the Dates of many Celestial Phenomena.
  - VII. Supplemental Tables illustrating the several Parts of the System.
  - VIII. A copious Biographical Index, in which the Dates of the Reigns of Kings, and of the Lives of remarkable Men in all Ages, are inserted, and concise Characters of both are occasionally given.
- By James Playfair, D. D. Member of the Antiquarian Society of Scotland. Edinburgh, Creech. London, Dilly, Walter, and Robson. 1784.

**T**HE vast importance of Chronology is universally allowed, and needs no illustration. It was unnecessary therefore to observe, that "without its aid, the obscure labyrinths of antiquity could not be pervaded, nor the materials of historical information, found in the records of time, be arranged and adjusted—That the chain of causes and effects, that reaches from the creation of the world to the present moment, would lie disjointed and broken before us—That the recital of complicated facts and occurrences would perplex and confound us, instead of informing our understanding, and regulating our conduct—And that all would be confusion and chaos." But, "when Chronology and History unite their efforts, in tracing the connection and dependence of events, and in distributing these into proper periods, light arises out of darkness; our knowledge of life is improved, our acquaintance with the world is cultivated, and our views of Providence are enlarged."

This work is divided into five Parts, which are arranged and treated in the following manner:

"1. The elements or principles of Chronology constitute the subject of the first

part. The various divisions of time, viz. the hour, the day, the week, the month, the year, the solar and lunar cycles, the æpact, the indiction, and the Julian period, are explained, and proper rules and examples are given under each head. Several remarkable epochs, æras, and periods, occurring in history, the dates and quantities of these are ascertained with accuracy; and they are treated in the following order: 1. The creation of the world. 2. The Jewish æra. 3. The patriarchal period. 4. The universal deluge. 5. The vocation of Abraham. 6. The sojourning of the Israelites in Egypt. 7. The Argonautic expedition. 8. The siege and destruction of Troy. 9. The period from the exit of the Israelites to the building of Solomon's Temple. 10. The period of the reigns of the kings of Judah and Israel. 11. The æra of the Olympiads. 12. The epoch of the building of Rome. 13. The Nabonassarean æra. 14. The date of the Babylonish captivity. 15. The foundation of the Persian monarchy. 16. The establishment of the Roman consular dignity. 17. The seventy weeks of Daniel. 18. The death of Alexander



Under the Great. 19. The æra of the Seleucidæ, or Syro-Macedonians. 20. The Spanish æra. 21. The true and vulgar Christian æras. 22. The epoch of the passion of our blessed Saviour. 23. The destruction of Jerusalem. 24. The æra of Dioclesian. 25. The æra of Constantinople. 26. The epoch of New Rome, or Constantinople. 27. The æra of Hegira. 28. The æra of Jefegeird. 29. The epoch of the reformation.

“ 2. Though the greater part of readers may have acquired a general acquaintance with history, yet the dates and material circumstances relating to kingdoms and empires, together with the connection and regular succession of the most striking events, are often lost sight of, or not properly attended to. In order to impress these particulars on the mind, I have exhibited, in the Second Part, a succinct and connected view of the time, mode, and circumstances of the establishment, progress, perfection, decline, and fall of every considerable kingdom in the world, from the earliest period to the present age. This part may serve, in some degree, as a compendium of universal history.

“ 3. As eclipses are essential to the adjustment and determination of many dates in chronology, I have inserted a correct list of several before the Christian æra, observed by astronomers, or recorded by historians, and of all, from A. D. 1. to 1900. These eclipses were calculated with infinite labour by Mr. Pingre, and published in *L'Art de verifier les Dates*. To this catalogue I have prefixed an explanation, containing some tables, by which the extent of the penumbra, and the quantity of an eclipse in any given latitude and meridian, may be known. As the history of the church bears a considerable proportion to that of the world, I have added, for the benefit of those who would be conversant in ecclesiastical affairs, a chronological list of councils, and I have fixed the date of every council, the city and province in which it was assembled, the person who presided, and the chief subjects of debate. These lists of eclipses and of councils constitute the third part of the following work.

“ 4. The chronological tables and charts are contained in the fourth part, and may be considered as the result of all that precedes. They commence B. C. 2200. The lists of Emperors, Kings, and Pontiffs, descend in a parallel direction; and the years of every reign may be known by the means of a marginal scale. The names of persons renowned in history are inserted; and the duration of their respective lives is marked by a line, which, when applied to the scale, will give the number of years. On the slightest inspection contemporaries are observed; an advantage not to be derived, in the same degree, from

tables differently constructed. These tables and charts are introduced by a circumstantial account of their construction and use.

“ 5. To aid the memory of ordinary readers of history, I have collected a considerable number of memorable events and occurrences (including many astronomical observations and celestial phenomena) relating to the several nations and kingdoms of the world, from the earliest ages, and have arranged them in chronological order. Not only the year, but frequently the month and the day of the event, are subjoined. As these have been extracted, for the most part, from genuine sources of information, the dates, I presume, will be found to be sufficiently accurate.

“ 6. In the Appendix are inserted many tables requisite to the illustration of several parts of the system. The titles of these tables are as follows: 1. The years of the Hegira, with the corresponding years of the Christian æra, and the Feriæ of these years to A. D. 1900. 2. The Olympiads, with the names of the Victors, and of the Archons of Athens. 3. The different computations of the age of the world. 4. The characters of the Arabian months. 5. A series of remarkable dates and epochs, from the creation of the world to the commencement of the Christian æra, with proofs from the sacred writings, ancient history, &c. 6. A list of Theban Kings, according to the chronicon of Eratosthenes. 7. Ptolemy's canon of the Chaldean, Persian, Grecian, and Roman Kings. 8. The months of many nations adjusted to those of the reformed Julian year. 9. The Jewish common and embolismal years compared. 10. The dates of many remarkable epochs, æras, and periods, in the order of the Julian months. 11. The days of the Julian year reckoned from January, and those of the Egyptian year from Thoth. 12. The Nabonassarean and Julian years compared. 13. A table of lunations, from one to 10,000. 14. The number of days, hours, and sidereal, solar, and Julian years, from one to 10,000. 15. The golden number from one to 4000. 16. A table shewing the days of the months by the dominical letter. 17. The number of direction for finding Easter Sunday by the golden number and the dominical letter. 18. The dominical letters from B. C. 4200, to A. D. 4000, for old and new styles. 19. The Paschal limits from A. D. 1583, to A. D. 1900, old and new styles. 20. The day of the week, which answers to any day of the month. 21. A table of epacts. 22. A requisite table to that of epacts. 23. A table for the reduction of parts of the equator into mean solar hours, and *v. v.* 24. A table for the reduction of time into parts of the equator, and

v. v. 25. The limits of solar eclipses. 26. A table of the latitudes of places, and the differences of meridians. 27. The number of lunations and decimals in any given time, &c. The use of each of these tables is shown and illustrated.

“ 7. *Lastly*, As many persons, distinguished by abilities, natural or acquired, could not find a place in the tables or charts, I have annexed a copious biographical index, in which the dates of the reigns of Kings, and of the lives of remarkable men, are inserted, and concise characters of both are occasionally given.”

It is evident that Dr. Playfair, in the composition of this work, has bestowed great care and attention, the chief requisite in works of this kind. It is only justice to say, that his System of Chronology is more simple in its form, more extensive in its plan, and better adapted to the study of history, than any that has yet been given to the public.

#### ANECDOTES of the AUTHOR.

James Playfair was born, of honest parents, on the banks of the Ilay, in the parish of Bendochy, and county of Angus. After the common course of school-education, which is easily obtained in almost every village of note in North Britain, he went to study at the University of St. Andrews. Here he made so great proficiency in knowledge, that after ten years study he was admitted a probationer, or preacher at large, that is, without any cure, by the presbytery of Meigle. He was promoted to the church-living of New-Tile by Mr. Stuart Mackenzie, and afterwards to that of Meigle; near which village Mr. Mackenzie resides, in a place called *Kirk-bill*, alias *Bell-mount* \*. As this gentleman amuses his leisure with the more simple experiments in Natural Philosophy, and observations in Geometry, and is fond of the reputation of being a Philosopher, Mr. Playfair, his parish minister, confounded his congregation, whenever his patron attended, with great learning, and seemed to imagine that there was nobody who had a soul to be saved but the Laird. The same desire of accommodating himself to the taste of Mr. Mackenzie, induced him to enter on the study of mathematicks, in which study he has made some proficiency, as appears from the publication we have just reviewed.

This aptitude of suiting himself to his company, this happy versatility of mind, to which we are ultimately indebted for this excellent System of Chronology, is, in truth,

the most striking feature in Dr. Playfair's character. It is well known, that the clergy and people of Scotland are divided into the Liberal and the Fanatical. With those of the first class, Mr. James Playfair appeared a gay, free, and, what they called, an *honest* man: with those of the second, a man of laudable bigotry, enthusiasm, and moroseness and severity towards all who did not profess the highest doctrines of the Genevan church. *Cujus rei libet simulator ac dissimulator*, He became all things to all men. When he preached in Dundee, he blew the trumpet in Zion, asserted that the Ministers of the Gospel, like the Prophets of old, were divinely commissioned to inspect and controul public measures, and hesitated not to speak evil of dignities. But, when it was his lot to preach before the Great, Paul pleading his own cause before *Agrippa* and *Festus* was not more polite, nor half so studious of giving no offence. And it is here that we have chosen to take notice of that Dedication which is prefixed to this work, and which does so little honour to Dr. Playfair either as a man of genius, a gentleman, or a Christian divine. The very first sentence is evidently an imitation of what Dr. Robertson says, so handsomely, in his celebrated Dedication of his History of Charles V. to his present Majesty. He goes on to praise Mr. Mackenzie for his knowledge of science, his attention to literary merit, and above all (for it is this that is made to complete and crown the climax)—above all, for the many signal favours he had been pleased to confer on him. This, it must be owned, except a few dinners to Abbe Denina at Turin, is the only mark of attention to literary merit, that has ever, as far as we have been informed, been imputed to Mr. Mackenzie. Nor is this any reflection on that gentleman. He is not a prince, or minister of state, that the world should look up to him for patronage to men of letters.—The Rev. Dr. Playfair proceeds, after such gross adulation, to apologize to his neighbour, the laird of *Kirk-bill*, for “approaching his LORDSHIP \*.” Is this the language of one gentleman, of one mathematician to another? The term “approach” excites indignation and disgust when applied to kings and emperors. It is consecrated to devotion, and ought not, by any means, to be adopted in the mutual complimentary addresses of vain, sinful, wretched, and corruptible mortals.

We have not been able to discover from what University Mr. Playfair obtained the degree of doctor of divinity. It was probably from that of *Aberdeen* or *St. Andrews*.

\* The kirk-bell was formerly hung up there.

† In Scotland, where there be “Gods many, and Lords many,” Mr. Mackenzie is called my Lord, because he holds the office of Privy-seal.



So closely however is evil linked with good, that the literary honour conferred on Mr. Playfair rather diminished than extended his fame in his own country.

In the same county, and at the distance of only a few miles from our author, lived Mr. John Playfair, a clergyman, a man of profound genius, great friendship, and strict integrity and honour. The circumstances of name, vicinity, and profession, confounded

the two reverend brethren in the imaginations of many of their countrymen, until the apostle James was unfortunately distinguished from the apostle John by the degree of doctor of divinity.

Dr. Playfair having, among other antiquities, given a list of eclipses from the first year of our Lord down to the year 1900, naturally became a member of the Antiquarian Society of Scotland.

Anecdotes of the Russian Empire; in a Series of Letters, written a few Years ago from St. Peterburg. Cadell. 1784.

**M**R. Richardson, who accompanied Lord Cathcart in his embassy to the Russian Court, and who passed his time in Russia during the space of four years, had opportunities of observing many circumstances that appeared to him remarkable in the manners of the Russians; and of knowing some particulars that seemed to him interesting in the characters of eminent persons. With great good sense, and regard to truth, he has only mentioned such facts as he had occasion to witness, or such as had been communicated to him by persons on whose information he could depend.

Several of the letters contained in this volume have little relation either to the manners of the Russians, or to the characters of eminent co-temporaries. Some of them contain enquiries suggested to the author, or his correspondents, concerning facts or events, which he has taken occasion to mention. Others have a connection still more remote; and are scarcely any otherwise related to his subject, than that they were written during the time he remained in Russia.—This conduct, it must be owned, favours somewhat of book-making: but as the matter, though extraneous, is yet very interesting, we readily excuse it.

As a specimen of this amusing publication, we shall lay before our readers the following account of an excursion into Carelia, and of the state of the Finlanders:

“ I am just returned from a very agreeable excursion into the province of Carelia. The appearance of the country at this season is remarkably pleasant. It rises in little hills, and is a good deal covered with birch, fir, alder, and other trees. In the woods there are a number of huckleberries, cranberries, and wild strawberries. The soil is in general light and sandy, and the country is diversified with little green lawns, meadows, and corn-fields. I was surprized at the size of the grasshoppers; they are at least an inch and an half in length. The houses in the villages are constructed of wood; and the inhabitants of this country are chiefly Fins.

“ The Fins are neither so tall nor so handsome as the Russians. Their hair is light-co-

loured, and their complexions fair; so that though their children are very comely, the poorness of their diet, and the inclement weather to which they are so much exposed, give them, when grown up to youth and manhood, even a miserable appearance. Their language is totally different from that of the Russians: being chiefly Lutherans, they are also of a different religion; and though all the subjects of this empire may be considered on an equal footing in regard to freedom, yet having been conquered by the Russians, they are considered as their inferiors. They are accordingly treated with the utmost insult and abuse.

“ Nothing indeed can be more deplorable than the condition of a people reduced by, and constituting a part of, another nation, but differing from them in language, customs and religion. Such differences will expose them to contempt; the contempt they meet with will in time make them deserve it: treated with no respect by others who have power over them, they will lose all sense of character, and have no respect for themselves:—thus, not daring to express their resentment in a resolute and manly manner, they will harbour sentiments of latent malice; they will indulge ignominious vices; become mean, insidious, and deceitful. Perhaps circumstances of this sort may account for the character of many modern Jews; and, so long as these circumstances continue, they will always be a separate people. On the dispersion of that famous nation, many things concurred to keep them distinct from the other nations among whom they dwelt, and to render them even objects of their aversion. This was particularly the case in Europe. Among the European states the manners and maxims of chivalry were about to commence: men subsisted by war and agriculture; commerce and manufactures were not held in esteem. But the Jews were neither proprietors of land nor retainers on great men; they no longer made use of the sword; and subsisted neither by agriculture nor military depredation.—Contemned and detested for their origin, their religion, their hatred of Christianity, and their persecution

persecution of its holy author, they felt that they had no character to lose, and betook themselves for subsistence to such employments as the Europeans despised. They earned a livelihood by traffic; and by such occupations as among the Romans, and the northern nations who rose on the ruins of Rome, were never practised but by the dregs of the people. This therefore added to the contempt and hatred of their condition; and contributed, by a corresponding process, to render them really base and despicable. Perceiving and feeling that they were already hated and despised, they had not sufficient fortitude to contend with, and overcome the miserable influences of situation; they suffered themselves to deserve both contempt and aversion, and not only engaged in employments which were held dishonourable, but acted dishonourably in such employments. They not only practised commerce, but were guilty of fraud. As Europe became civilized, they found that they were enabled, by their occupations, both to subsist and become wealthy. Their situation, therefore, however despised by the Gentiles, had considerable advantages, which compensated for the contempt they suffered, and reconciled them to their condition. It ought also to be remarked, that the opportunity which fraud and deceit gave them of retaliating in some measure the injuries they underwent, as it gratified their resentment, tended to darken their understandings, and hindered them from discerning the atrocity of their conduct. Upon the whole of this digression, it may not be improper to remark, that those who enjoy pre-eminence, and treat their inferiors with contempt, merely on account of difference of situation, trespass against the interests of society, by compelling men to become worthless. It may also be mentioned, that as situations of this sort are of such powerful, as well as of such malignant influence, if there are persons who, in defiance of them, assert the dignity of human nature by the inflexible dignity of their own conduct, they do honour to the species.

"In returning from my excursion I saw some very beautiful landscapes. Travelling through a thin wood of birch and alder, I had a fine view to the south of the gulph of Finland, bounded by *Æstthonia*, which presented the palaces of Peterhoff and Oranibaum, and was diversified by a number of vessels that lay at anchor. Towards the east was a green and bushy wilderness; the numerous islands of the Neva adorned with wood; the river flowing around them in different channels; and the gilded or painted spires of the city rising, as it were, from the midst of a forest. The sun setting bright in the west, and pouring a blaze of radiance on the gulph, heightened in

a remarkable manner the beauty of the landscape. I went into a barge at the mouth of the Neva; the course of the stream was perfectly smooth; the banks and borders of the fragrant and green islands, as I was rowed along, were for ever changing their appearance; and the bargemen struck their oars according to the cadences of their vocal concert. The moon, shining over the whole with temperate but unclouded radiance, rendered the scene very soft and solemn."

Let the English farmer, merchant, and mechanic felicitate himself on his own lot, while he reads the following account of the slavery of the Russian peasants:

"I will endeavour, in so far as my own observation extends, and in so far as I may depend on the information I have received from others, to satisfy your enquiries concerning the political situation and national character of the Russians. On this subject I shall lay the facts and observations before you in the order in which they occur; and with such occasional incidents or anecdotes as may tend to illustrate any general remark. Nor will I trouble you with any apology for a method, if it may be termed method, so very desultory. In truth, I want leisure, and, perhaps, many other requisites, for composing a formal treatise. I will therefore console myself, and endeavour to satisfy you, by observing, that, for the purposes of mere amusement, the arrangement I have chosen is perhaps as proper as any other. I have also to premise, that if any thing severe shall happen to escape me concerning the form of the Russian government, it can only be concerning the *form*, and without any view to the present administration. I believe sincerely that no despot, or, if you like the term better, no absolute monarch, ever ruled with more prudence, or studied the welfare of his people with more rectitude of intention, than the present Empress of Russia. Yet it is impossible for a native of Britain, giving an account of this country to an Englishman, not to express such feelings and reflections, as a comparison between the British government, and that of other nations, must naturally suggest.

"The peasants in Russia, that is to say, the greatest part of the subjects of this empire, are in a state of abject slavery, and are reckoned the property of the nobles to whom they belong, as much as their dogs and horses. Indeed, the wealth of a great man in Russia is not computed by the extent of land he possesses, or by the quantity of grain he can bring to market, but by the number of his slaves. Those belonging to prince Sherebatoff, and constituting his fortune, are said to



be no less in number than a hundred and twenty-seven thousand.

"Every slave pays about a ruble \* yearly to his owner; and if he be in the way of making money, the tribute he pays is augmented. In general, every Russian nobleman allots to the peasants that belong to him, a certain portion of land to be cultivated by them, the produce of which, excepting what suffices for their own maintenance, is paid to the proprietor. Sometimes those slaves practise trades, or engage in traffic; and all such persons pay a much greater sum yearly to their owners, than is done by the labourer of the ground. In fact, a Russian peasant has no property; every thing he possesses, even the miserable raiment that shelters him from the cold, may be seized by his master as his own.—A carpenter, being known to have made some money, was commanded by the rapacious steward of a rapacious Knaez, to give two hundred rubles to his owner. The man obeyed, and brought the money in copper. "I must have it in silver," said the steward. The slave, denying that he had so much, was instantly scourged till he promised to fulfil the demand. He brought the silver, and the covetous superior retained both the silver and copper.—You will easily conceive, that men in this situation, if they are ever enabled to improve their fortunes, will conceal their wealth, and assume an external appearance of indigence and misery.

"The owner has also the power of selling his slave, or of hiring his labour to other persons; and it happens sometimes, that a Knaez, or Boyard, shall give a slave to a neighbouring Boyard in exchange for a dog or a horse. The owner may also inflict on his slaves whatever punishment he pleases, and for any sort of offence. It is against law, indeed, to put any of them to death; yet it happens, sometimes, that a poor slave dies of the wounds he receives from a passionate and unrelenting superior. I have heard, that not long ago a lady at Moscow, the sister of Marischal S——, was convicted of having put to death upwards of seventy slaves, by scourging, and by inflicting upon them other barbarous punishments. It was a matter of amusement with her to contrive such modes of punishment as were whimsical and unusual. Such enormity, however, notwithstanding her rank, and the great power which the nobility have over their slaves, was not to pass with impunity. She was tried, was found guilty, and condemned to stand in the market-place, with a label on her breast declaring her crime, and to be shut up in a dungeon. But she, who

had felt no reluctance in making her fellow-creatures suffer the most inhuman torments, and had even amused herself with the variety of their sufferings, had such a sense of her rank, and such lively feelings of her own disgrace, that pride, shame, and repentment deprived her of her reason. In truth, both the crime and the punishment seem to me strongly marked with the characters of barbarity.

"As a Russian peasant has no property, can enjoy none of the fruits of his own labour more than is sufficient to preserve his existence, and can transmit nothing to his children but the inheritance of wretched bondage, he thinks of nothing beyond the present. You are not, of consequence, to expect among them much industry and exertion. Exposed to corporal punishment, and put on the footing of irrational animals, how can they possess that spirit and elevation of sentiment which distinguish the natives of a free state? Treated with so much inhumanity, how can they be humane? I am confident, that most of the defects which appear in their national character, are in consequence of the despotism of the Russian government.

"I mentioned that the revenue of a Russian nobleman arises from those lands which are cultivated by his slaves; and sometimes in their being employed in other occupations than tillage. They often come from distant provinces, and are either employed as domestic slaves, mechanics, or as day-labourers, at Moscow, Peterburgh, and other cities. In these cases they must have certificates and a written permit, specifying their names, owners, and the time they are allowed to be absent. When they come to any great town, with a view of remaining there, and engaging themselves in any work, the person who employs them must lodge their certificates with the master of the police, in the place where they are about to reside. After remaining their allotted time, they must return to their former owners, and must be accountable to them for every thing they have earned.—To these practices the Empress alludes in the following passages, in her instructions to the deputies assembled for making laws:—"It seems, too, that the method of exacting their revenues, invented by the lords, diminishes both the inhabitants, and the spirit of agriculture, in Russia. Almost all the villages are heavily taxed. The lords, who seldom or never reside in their villages, lay an impost on every head, of one, two, and even five rubles, without the least regard to the means by which their peasants may be able to raise this money. It is highly

\* Four shillings.

"necessary

"necessary that the law should prescribe a rule to the lords, for a more judicious method of raising their revenues; and oblige them to levy such a tax as tends least to separate the peasant from his house and family: this would be the means by which agriculture would become more extensive, and population more increased in the empire. Even now, some husbandmen do not see their houses for fifteen years together, and yet pay the tax annually to their respective lords; which they procure in towns at a vast distance from their families, and wander over the whole empire for that purpose."

"Another hardship to which the Russian peasants are exposed, is, that they are obliged to marry whatsoever persons, or at what time, their superiors please. Every slave who is a father, pays a certain tax to his owner for each of his children; and the owner is therefore solicitous that a new progeny be raised as soon as possible. Marriages of this sort must produce little happiness; neither husband nor wife are very studious of conjugal fidelity: hence the lower classes are as profligate as can possibly be conceived; and, in such circumstances, we cannot expect that they will have much care of their children.

"The condition of those peasants who are immediate slaves of the crown, is reckoned less wretched than the condition of those who belong to the nobility; and they are of three kinds: The first are those who, having either secretly, or by the favour of a humane superior, been able to procure as much money as may enable them to purchase their freedom, have also the good luck to live under a superior who is equitable enough to free them for the sum they offer. Such persons, and their children, are ever after immediate slaves of the crown. On the same footing are all priests and their children; though the dependance of the inferior upon the superior clergy, is sometimes as grievous as the most painful bondage. Soldiers also, and their children (and this class includes the whole body of the nobility) are immediate slaves of the crown.

*O fortunatos nimium, sua si bona norint,  
Britannos!"*

In the thirtieth letter we have, among other curious particulars, a very ingenious and, we doubt not, just representation of the national character of the Russians:

"In my last, I gave you some account of the persons, food, dress, houses, and names of the Russians. The circumstances I shall now mention, concerning their salutations, quarrels, and amusements, may give you a

more particular view of their manners and national character.

"Two Russian peasants, meeting each other, take off their caps, bow most profoundly, shake hands, wipe their beards, kiss one another, and, according to their different ages, call one another brother or father, or by some appellation that expresses affection. Both men and women in their salutations bow very low. I was much struck with this circumstance; and soon found, that, in their obedience to the great, and in the worship of their saints, they were early trained to prostration and pliancy of body. Indeed, the fervile submission they testify to their superiors, can only be equalled by the haughty usage they meet with in return.

"Two Russian peasants, if they should happen to quarrel, seldom proceed to blows, but they deal abuse with great profusion; and their abusive language consists of the basest allusions, and the most shocking obscenity.—This can scarcely be exemplified in the manners of any other nation. If ever they come to blows, the conflict has a most ludicrous appearance; they know nothing of the clench'd fist of an Englishman; but lay about them most uncouthly with open hands and extended arms.

"I know no circumstance by which the national character of any people may more easily be detected, than their amusements.—When men divert themselves, they are careless, unguarded, and unreserved: then the heart, and all its latent tendencies, disguised inclinations, and indulged habits, appear.—Nor am I acquainted with any circumstance by which national characters are more diversified. The Romans were a less refined people than the Greeks; their amusements accordingly were coarser and more sanguinary. In like manner the diversions of the French and Spaniards mark the difference of their national character. The pastime of the Spaniards, without doors, is fierce and bloody; nor is the Toros, or bull-fight, of which they are so passionately fond, the amusement of men only, but has its admirers also among the women. Hence Butler has said of them,

That Spanish heroes, with their lances,  
At once wound bulls and ladies' fancies:  
And he acquires the noblest spouse  
That widows greatest herds of cows.

"Chess, and the other amusements to which a Spaniard has recourse within doors, are certainly very grave and solemn. How different from the gaiety, sprightliness, good humour, and seeming levity of a Frenchman!

"The diversions of an Englishman exhibit strength, agility, and the love of exertion. Those of a Russian exhibit sloth, inactivity,  
and



and the love of pleasure. The Russians, in their amusements, are indeed extremely social. They assemble in crowds, sing, drink, swing on seesaws, are drawn up and down and round about in flying chairs fixed upon wheels, some with a perpendicular, and some with a horizontal motion.

"In the winter season, they are pushed down ice-hills and glissades. Those ice-hills are raised upon the river, and are constructed of wooden frames. They are very high; so that you ascend fifty or sixty steps on the side behind what is properly called the glissade. The summit is flat, and enclosed with a rail, in order that those who indulge themselves in this amusement may have room to stand and suffer no inconvenience in the descent. The side by which they go down is so steep, as to be just not perpendicular.—Upon this snow having been piled, and water poured, it becomes a precipice of the smoothest ice. In descending, you sit upon a small wooden seat made for the purpose, and generally in the lap of a Russian, who sits behind to direct your course, having his legs extended on each side of you. In this posture you are pushed down the hill, and slide with such velocity, that for some seconds you cannot breathe; and after reaching the bottom, the impulse you have received carries you forward some hundred paces. There are commonly two of these glissades erected almost, but not quite, opposite to each other; and at such a distance, as that you are carried along the ice from one to another. Thus you may go down the one hill and up the other, alternately, as often as you please.—Skating is not a common diversion, because the ice, where it is not swept, is usually covered with snow.—The Russians are also fond of dancing; yet their dancing does not display so much nimbleness, agility, and liveliness, as it expresses the same tainted imagination, which assumes a less seducing and more boisterous form in their quarrels and abuse.

"I believe I may reckon their bathing rather an amusement than a religious practice. In every village, especially in those by the side of rivers, where they are generally built, there is a steam-bath, constructed usually of wood, to which all the inhabitants, both male and female, repair regularly once a week. The place is so insufferably hot, that a person who is not accustomed to it cannot remain in it above a few minutes. But those to whom it is not unusual, sit quietly for a long time on the heated bricks, without any covering whatsoever, excepting some branches of birch, of which, however, they hardly make any other use than to scrub themselves.

After they have sat in this situation till they have perspired abundantly, they run out, and plunge headlong into the river. They are excellent swimmers; but instead of swimming like frogs, as we do, they imitate rather the motion of dogs. I once saw one of those baths catch fire; the weather was dry; it blazed up in a moment, and the whole bevy it contained, ran with the utmost consternation into the water, screaming and plunging, and looking back as if they thought the flames were pursuing them.

"You will perhaps imagine, that the practice of using the bath, as described above, contributes to the licentiousness of manners so remarkable in the lower classes among the Russians. No doubt it does; but some other circumstances, formerly mentioned, have the same tendency. The power possessed by superiors of compelling their slaves to marry as they shall direct, if ever exerted, must be completely destructive of domestic happiness and fidelity. The practice so common among the nobles, of removing their slaves from one place to another, and of keeping them a long time separated from their families, has also the same effect. You will readily perceive that this must be very much the case, when they are sent from the country villages, to earn their wages in Moscow and St. Petersburg.

"You will have remarked too, in the accounts I have given you, that the lower classes here are very social, and much addicted to merriment. They are even infantine in their amusements. Old, bearded boors divert themselves with such pastime and gambols, as in our grave country we should think too trifling for a child. The truth is, that, beyond the present moment, they have nothing either to think about, or care for; and, of consequence, they are perfectly thoughtless and careless. In the country they live chiefly in villages; when they come to the great towns, many of them having no houses of their own, pass most of their time, when they are not employed in labour, in their cabecks\*, where they drink, talk, and sing till they fall asleep; and on holidays they assemble in vacant places in or near the city, for their customary exercises and amusements. Those two circumstances, therefore, namely, their social dispositions, promoted in the manner now mentioned, and their total want of care or concern about the future, give them the appearance of having great sprightliness and good humour, and of possessing no inconsiderable share of enjoyment. Persons of high rank, though their situations must occasion some variety in the circumstances

\* Public-houses.

that influence their manners, are subject to the same effects, and exhibit a similar appearance. If you call such enjoyment happiness, or such social dispositions virtuous, you may: I own I cannot agree with you. Russians of all ranks are most ardent in their expressions of friendship; but I suspect the constancy of their attachments is not equal to the fervency of their emotions. They have more sensibility than firmness; they possess a temper and dispositions, which, properly improved, and with the encouragements held forth by freedom, might render them a worthy, as, in some cases, they are an amiable, and in many, an amusing people.

"Consistently with this account, the Russians, though they have great quickness in learning the rudiments of art or knowledge, seldom make great proficiency. They soon arrive at a certain degree of excellence; there they remain; they tire; become listless; entertain disgust; and advance no further. In this particular, also, if they enjoyed the incitements afforded by a free government, their national character might improve, and they might be rendered capable of more perseverance. After the wishes of novelty cease, men engaged in arduous pursuits must be carried on by a steady regard to their own interest and honour. Where their honour and

interest are not much concerned, how can they persevere?"

In this collection we are entertained with a very amusing and eloquent account of the abdication of Victor Amadeus, king of Sardinia, in the year 1730. This piece is written very much in the manner of the Abbé St. Real. Mr. Richardson informs his readers that it was written originally in Italian. As it was never published, to his knowledge, in Britain, either in the original or in any other language, he rightly judged that an English translation of it would afford some entertainment.

In letter fifty-fifth, we are amused and instructed by various ingenious remarks on the present situation of the Jews; a curious subject, and which, though occasionally touched on in the writings of philosophers as well as theologians, is so far from being exhausted, that it is yet almost entire. A philosophical history of the Jews is still a desideratum in literature.

The publication which we have thus reviewed, discovers many traits of a humane and philosophical mind; and has the singular merit of exhibiting a juster picture of Russian manners than has ever yet been given to the public.

A Letter to the *Earl of Effingham*, on his lately proposed *Act of Insolvency*. By James Bland Burges, Esq. of Lincoln's Inn. Cadell, London. Price 2s.

THE author sets out with remarking the high importance of the subject on which he is about to write. There is hardly any topic, he observes, which is so little understood, as the doctrine of Insolvent Acts; and, what is peculiarly unfortunate, those who are most materially interested are generally the least qualified to elucidate the subject. Members of Parliament are prevented from lending their aid, by necessary researches into politics, or the irresistible influence of party; and lawyers are either too dissipated, or too avaricious, to dedicate their time to a cause that has nothing but compassion, or the love of mankind, to recommend it.

It had been objected to Insolvent Acts, that they give encouragement to frauds. This objection the author has not attempted to disprove: and he acted wisely in not attempting it. For it is certain, that the prospect of an Act of Insolvency must tend to promote fraud by affording hopes of a speedy dismissal from confinement. But it is also certain, as the author has clearly shown, that the suppression of such Acts produces evils more than equivalent to those which arise from their being passed: and as the least of two evils ought always to be chosen, an Act of Insol-

veny is certainly a thing to be desired.

Second objection. "Insolvent Acts bear exceedingly hard upon creditors."

"Of all the objections made against Insolvent Acts, says the author, this is the most forcible, and demands the most serious attention." It was to be expected, after such a concession, that some pains would be taken to show that such Acts do either bear hard upon creditors, or that they do not. But these investigations seem to have been very far from the author's purpose. He shows that imprisonment for debt, and the paying of excise duties, bear as hard upon the debtor and the citizen, as Insolvent Acts do upon creditors. And then he says, "It is neither argumentative nor candid, thus concisely to assert that insolvent laws bear exceedingly hard upon the creditors, without enquiring whether they are not in other respects beneficial, and whether their advantages may not counterbalance this alledged defect." To whom, let us ask, are they beneficial? or to whom are the defects in question to be counterbalanced? Is it the creditor who is to receive the advantage? No: it is the state.—For it is the return of banished men, &c. that are to constitute the advantages. This is all well. It



is proper that the common weal should be the first concern : but if the author wished to prove that, he should have chosen a different text. If the oppression of creditors was to be the subject, he should have mentioned something or other that respected them. He afterwards observes, that before a debtor can avail himself of an Insolvent Act, he must surrender all his property on oath. This is a consolation to the creditor. But if the debtor used artifices to obtain a large sum, and then squandered it away in a wanton manner, in hopes of being by and by acquitted by an Act of Insolvency, surely that Act may justly be said to bear hard upon the creditor. We have known instances of such an infamous procedure.—The author goes on to answer other objections.—

This writer has great command of words, and a sufficient variety of sentiments ; but then, he is defective in point of closeness of reasoning, and soundness of argument. He aims at influencing the judgement more by sophistry, than by candid appeals to the common sense of mankind.

We are far from disapproving of the author's zeal. His cause is the cause of humanity : and the higher virtues of christianity bid us join in promoting it. It is a maxim in law, that it is better that ninety-nine guilty persons should escape, than that one innocent person should suffer. It was the spirit of justice and compassion that dictated the maxim. But would the observance of it

promote the good of the state ?—which is the author's chief object : or, Would the industrious citizen suffer less inquietude by seeing himself, and ninety-eight of his fellow-subjects ruined, than by hearing of the unjust fate of one fellow-creature ? The contrary is to be apprehended. The grand desideratum, in the case of imprisonment for debt, is, some respectable tribunal, in which the merits and demerits of debtors may be inquired into ; in order that punishments might be inflicted in proportion to the crimes. It is certainly a reproach upon the laws of Great Britain, that the sober, honest citizen who borrows ten pounds to answer some pressing emergency, and with a full intention to restore it, should be consigned to the same fate with the unprincipled vagabond, who borrows ten thousand pounds to promote the purposes of his own extravagance, or of extending his fraud, and with a determined resolution never to refund a single farthing. This imperfection in our laws cannot escape the notice of a very superficial observer ; and if the author had turned his whole attention to the removal of it, he would perhaps have rendered society a more essential service than he has been able to do otherwise. In the mean time his endeavours deserve commendation ; and we flatter ourselves, that the noble lord to whom he has submitted his sentiments, will be more successful in his next attempt to move the legislature in behalf of the poor and oppressed.

The proper Limits of the Government's Interference with the Affairs of the *East India Company*, with new Reflections distorted by and on the Distracted State of the Nation : by John, Earl of Stair. London, Stockdale. One Shilling.

THE noble author of this work, alluding to a former publication of his own, directs the reader's notice to the present miserable state of the British finances. The annual receipts, he observes, “ do not much exceed *twelve millions sterling* ; whereas it would require *eighteen millions* to provide decently for the annual peace expenditure.” This position being stated, he goes on to show, in an ironical manner, the extreme folly and absurdity of ministers bringing farther distress on the nation, by encountering the difficulties of the East India Company also. The French ministry, he says, have sometimes interfered with their India Company's affairs : but then it was necessity that compelled them to do so ; and they were always losers by their interference. His lordship takes up the arguments that were used in Parliament against the Company. The chief of these are *bankruptcy*, and *want of humanity* in the Company and their servants. On the first of these he observes, that the sum wanted by the Com-

pany to put their finances in a promising train, is *one million* ; and that they ask, in “ a forbearance of duties that are due.” It would, he thinks, be the height of folly in government, to refuse them that moderate sum, as they have hitherto been good payers ; and as their affairs, under the conduct of Mr. Hastings—that genius of resource—may very soon be made to flourish.

On the subject of *inhumanity* in the Company's servants, he is of opinion, that the accounts which have been given on that topic, are, in general, as little allied to truth as the strangest fiction in the Arabian Nights Entertainments. If the Company's servants did exercise violence to save their possessions from instant ruin, that, he says, was not so bad “ as the smooth swindling methods of funding,” sometimes used by this country. His lordship grants, that the directors are too much under the controul of the proprietors. He thinks it very requisite, that commissioners should be sent out to India to inspect the

Company's possessions there; and he regrets the annihilation of the Board of Trade. His lordship says many severe, and at the same time, just things of the late Cabinet. He promises to support the present ministry so long as they shall continue to merit his support. He approves of those friends to the constitution, who lately interposed with their advice to their sovereign, when a dark and

dangerous faction were aiming at the destruction of the dearest and most sacred rights of British subjects. He rejoices that his majesty listened to their reasonable advice; and hopes he will never lose sight of the preservation of his own honour and dignity. This pamphlet is written in a manly style; and must be an advantage to the cause which its noble author has espoused.

Thoughts on East-India Affairs; most humbly submitted, at this critical Conjunction, to the Consideration of the Legislature, and the Proprietors of East-India Stock. By a quondam Servant of the Company. J. Wallis, Ludgate-hill, J. Debrett, Piccadilly, and L. Bull, Bath. 1784.

**P**REFIXED to the *Thoughts, or Remarks*, which compose the main body of this performance, is an Address to the noble Lord who was at the head of the Ministry in 1773. The address was sent up to him at that period; and was intended to throw some light on the bill that was then framing for the better government of the Company's territorial and commercial concerns. The object of that address was to lead to the correction of these three capital errors in the conduct of the Company's affairs; their aiming at new territorial acquisitions; the advantages they had omitted to take, in a treaty with the Mogul; and their unworthy treatment of the Emperor, in obliging him to accept of a small stipend for the grant of the Dewannee. On these heads he makes several pertinent observations. In the beginning of the *Remarks*, (which were written in 1783) he complains that his address was not duly attended to; if it had, he doubts not but the affairs of the East would have worn a very different aspect from what they do at this day: for the Mahratta war, the invasion of the Carnatic, and many other cala-

mities, have arisen from a neglect of the objects to which he pointed. It is worth noticing, that this author starts an idea, on which was founded one of the chief excellencies of Mr. Pitt's India bill. We mean—the idea of *gradation and succession* among the Company's servants. He wishes the President of the Board of Trade to succeed invariably to the Governor-generalship. The Board of Trade, he thinks, should be quite independent of the Supreme Council, as that Council has sufficient employment otherwise: the Supreme Court of Judicature should be *abolished*; and the charter obtained during Mr. Pelham's ministry, re-adopted. He recommends a reduction of the salaries of the Company's principal servants abroad; and he states the sums which each ought to be allowed.—He acknowledges that there is a necessity for a reform of the government of the Company's affairs; but thinks that may be done without touching their copyhold. His hints and observations are, in general, very judicious and manly; and they are delivered in a style that does him credit as a writer.

Serious Considerations on the political Conduct of Lord North, since his first Entry into the Ministry: With a Deduction of positive Facts, shewing clearly, that his Lordship's System was, and is, not only the best, but the only one, which could, or can be pursued, &c. &c. By Nathaniel Buckington, Esq. Barrister at Law. London. Stockdale. Price 2s.

**O**N our first opening of this pamphlet, we were disposed to conclude, (from the passage that presented itself, p. 6.) that the author must be some *perverted* methodist preacher; but finding him use Eve with little ceremony, and now and then interlard his sentences with the peculiar expressions and sentiments of scripture, we discovered our mistake.

The object of the work is stated at length in the title: But that the reader may be under no deception, we think it proper to inform him, that the whole work is *ironical*, and that the author means the very contrary of what he professes in the title page, and in

every other subsequent one.

The author is rather slow in his motions to the point at which he means to make his observations; but in the way he makes several shrewd remarks on the *rise of national debt, national corruption, &c.*

His style is sometimes flat, and rather vulgar; but he seems to have been industrious, and does not want for *fly wit*.

Lord North is the mark at which his chief aim is directed. But his colleagues in office, particularly Mr. Burke, are now and then roughly handled; in some instances with justice and propriety.



Thoughts on the Idea of another Coalition. R. Faulder, New Bond-street. London, 1784. Price One Shilling.

THE writer of this little Tract sets out with stating the surmises that have existed, of Lord North's being called up to the House of Peers, by writ, as a mean of gratifying his ambition, in the case of a coalition. He allows that the people have a right to call for the services of the ablest and most powerful men in the kingdom; but then he asserts, that the services of all the ablest men cannot be obtained at once. "The country gentlemen, with Mr. Powys at their head, have been exerting themselves to promote such a coalition. Honest and worthy well-wishers to their country! good but mistaken Utopians! unacquainted with human nature, you are yet to be taught, that *interest* is the only band by which old and hackneyed politicians can be held together." The author thinks, that a coalition between Mr. Pitt and Mr. Fox would be destructive to the honor and reputation of the former; for it could not be formed without Mr. Pitt's falling in with all the absurdities of Mr. Fox's "tyrannical and

fraudulent East-India bill." "Mr. Pitt's chief support at present is his character; for, as a minister, he has not been fairly tried.— Were he to coalesce with Mr. Fox, he must be content to become one of his dependents, and to grace his triumph over the constitution and the liberties of his country." This country, the author says, would purchase a coalition at a vast expence. "A coalition would drive Lords North and Shelburne into a junction for their mutual security; and it would entail upon this country all the miseries and calamities of a most unjust and dangerous East India bill; by which the House of Commons would be under the direction of one man, and the nation in perpetual apprehension of being enslaved." He wishes to see Mr. Pitt's abilities and virtues put to trial; and rather than coalesce with Mr. Fox, he would have him appeal to the people, by a dissolution of parliament. The style of this little work is full and flowing.

Address to the Annual Meeting of the Scots Society in Norwich, on the 30th of Nov. 1779. General Instructions for the Agents of the Scots Society at Norwich, and the Branches thereof.

1780.

An Abstract of the Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Scots Society in Norwich, on the 30th of November, 1780.

An Account of the Scots Society in Norwich, in Great Britain, founded in 1775. 1783. Norwich. Chase.

THERE is no country in the world, we believe, where so liberal a provision is made for the poor, as in England. We do not at present recollect the precise sum that is annually raised for this purpose: perhaps, it is difficult, and even impossible, to ascertain it exactly; as, if we do not mistake, it is continually varying, according to the exigencies of the poor, and the discretion of those who have a right to assess it. We imagine, however, that it does not fall greatly short of, if it does not even exceed, three millions a-year; an immense sum! superior to the revenues of many a sovereign state, and even amounting to one million more than the revenues of this very kingdom at the time of the Revolution.

That some abuses may be committed by such as are intrusted with the distribution of this large sum, as well as some impositions practised by those who apply for a share of it, cannot be denied; but on the whole, perhaps, it may be affirmed, that, all circumstances considered, it is as justly and as economically laid out as the frailty of human nature will admit.

Such, however, is the nature of this fund, that none have a right to partake of it, but those who are entitled to do so by birth, marriage, servitude, or very long residence. As to all others, that is to say, all foreigners residing in England, Mr. Burn has clearly given it as his opinion, and has laid it down as a position in the English law,—“That a stranger coming into England, and not having obtained a proper parish settlement, is not entitled to parish relief; that nobody is obliged to relieve him; but that they may let him starve.”

To remedy this defect in the English law, was the original design of the Scots Society at Norwich. The charity was at first confined to the poor natives of Scotland residing in England: but as the funds of the society increased, their views likewise began to enlarge; and they now wish, and are endeavouring to afford relief to the poor of Ireland, America, France; in a word, to poor persons residing in England, from whatever country they come, if they are not entitled to support from any particular parish. The design is certainly of a most humane and benevolent nature,

nature, and therefore we doubt not but it will meet with every encouragement from the public.

Many political writers, and some of them too of no mean note, have questioned whether poor's rates of any kind are beneficial to the community. They say, they naturally tend to promote idleness, and therefore are not useful in a commercial view. They further add, that as the poor's-rate is exacted

like other taxes, and may even be levied by distress, it is always paid with as much reluctance as any other tax; and therefore, instead of humanizing, it only serves to harden the hearts of those who pay it. But this is a wide field, into which we have not now time to enter. We may, however, safely affirm, that against such charities as are recommended by the Scots Society at Norwich, there lies no objection.

*The Protestant's Prayer Book: or, Stated and occasional Devotions for Families and private Persons, and Discourses on the Gift, Grace, and Spirit of Prayer; together with Essays on the Christian Sabbath, Baptism, and the Lord's Supper.* To which are added, *Hymns* adapted to Secret or Social Worship. By J. M. Mosst—R. Baldwin, J. Buckland, C. Dilly, &c. London. 1783.

**T**HIS performance possesses much merit. It professes to treat of some of the most important doctrines of the christian religion; and we find a pleasure in saying, that it does so in such a manner as, at once, to evince the utility and to enforce the practice of them. The author has some little peculiarities in his style; but when we say that the *holy scriptures* are the model both of his style and of his sentiments, a person of good sense will be disposed to over-look inconsiderable defects. Plainness and unaffected piety are the characteristics of the work. To a serious and sincere lover of the gospel, it must prove the mean of much valuable instruction; and, with this object in view, we cheerfully recommend it to the world.

On the subject of *prayer* the author is very full. The lessons he gives have a manifest tendency to promote improvement, both in the *feelings* of true devotion, and in the expressions which answer best as the signs of such feelings. To protestants he holds forth one very necessary doctrine—that of *abbreviating their social prayers*; and to episcopalians he gives some hints with respect to the

decency and the propriety of being able to pray extempore.

In the essays on the *Christian Sabbath*, *Baptism*, and the *Lord's Supper*, the author makes many very judicious observations: he clearly demonstrates the propriety and the necessity of dedicating the Sabbath-day to the service of the Almighty. He shews all mankind in general, and youth in particular, the imminent danger they expose themselves to, by neglecting to attend frequently and devoutly at the table of the Lord.

We shall conclude our observations with a sentence or two from the author which tend to show the scope of all that he has written: "Having gone through the proposed hints, I shall finish with earnestly entreating every reader, vigorously to pursue the interest of the soul, for *this is the one thing needful*—needful to our true peace in life, needful to our comfort when death makes his speedy approach, needful to guide us through the valley of the shadow of death, and needful to secure our happiness throughout the endless ages of eternity."

A Letter to Dr. Priestly, occasioned by his History of the *Corruptions of Christianity*; wherein his *Socinian Errors* are fully confuted by Arguments drawn from the Holy Scriptures. By Edward Sheppard, A. B. Rector of Berriscomb, Dorset. S. Hazard, Bath; T. Mills, Bristol, &c. 1783.

**T**HE author of this Letter asserts, and endeavours to prove, that *Socinianism* is nothing but *Deism* in disguise. He denies that the primitive christians disbelieved in the doctrine of atonement, the divinity of Christ, &c. For that position, Dr. Priestly brings no shadow of proof; his own *ipse dixit* is the only corroborating circumstance; against which there is the authority of the Acts of the Apostles, and the apostolic epistles. In the overflowing of his zeal, the author quotes the words of St. John, which say, *That many false prophets shall arise, and that*

*Antichrist shall go out to interrupt the advancement of the true religion*:—he then adds, "Your writings, sir, are an evident fulfilment of those prophecies." He arraigns the Doctor warmly for the little weight he allows to such passages of scripture as do not suit his own purposes; and he seems to have a good title to do so, as he himself, every-where, pays the utmost respect to the authority of sacred writ; and assumes it as the support of his reasoning, in preference to the opinions of fathers, and popes, and councils, which are too often the oracles of Dr. Priestly.

Mr.



Mr. Sheppard comes at length to the main topic of his Letter, which is to prove, "that Dr. P.'s sentiments concerning the *fall of man*, the *atonement* and the *trinity*, are diametrically opposite to the spirit of the sacred scriptures." In trying to accomplish the end proposed, Mr. Sheppard does not reject the aid of reasoning; but then he wisely makes it but a secondary kind of aid. The scriptures are the weapons he uses most; and as he is more dextrous in using the scriptures, so he is more successful with them. In this pamphlet he has contributed pretty largely to the overthrow of the Doctor's heterodoxes: he calls him *animal rationale*, and thinks that may be one reason why he has so grossly perverted the holy writings; for *the natural man understandeth not the things of the spirit of God, neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discern-*

*ed.* Dr. Priestly had said, that, if his doctrines were received among christians, both Mahometans and Jews would become professytes. On these heads the author offers several ingenious remarks. We shall close our observations in the author's own words: "You, sir, (speaking to Dr. Priestly) find so many truths asserted in the holy scriptures, which do not square with your reason (the only God you worship), that I am not surprised to find you desire to lessen their authority; but know, sir, your attempts are as vain as those of Julian, Cebus, or Porphyry, of old times; or Hobbs, Mandeville, Bolingbroke, Hume, or Voltaire, of later date. You may possibly be displeased that I rank you with infidels; my reason for so doing is, because I look upon you to be as great an enemy to true christianity as they."

A Friendly Dialogue between a Common Unitarian Christian and an Athanasian; occasioned by the former's Behaviour during some Part of the Public Service; or, an Attempt to restore Scripture Forms of Worship. Johnson. Price 3d. 1784.

THE Athanasian in this Dialogue makes I but a sorry figure: he hardly attempts a defence of his opinions: his adversary, of course, obtains an easy victory. The reasoning of the Unitarian is superficial, but popu-

lar; and if it make any converts, it must be among those readers who take opinions upon trust, rather than enquire into the evidence which is brought to support them.

Sermons on various Subjects. By the Reverend Mr. Edward Arthur, Minister at Baremoor, Etall, and last at Swalwell, near Newcastle. Law, Ave-Maria-lane. 1783.

THE editor of these Sermons acquaints the candid reader, that they are, by the desire of the author's friends, published for the benefit of his two daughters, who live at Etall in Northumberland. "The heterogeneous state of the manuscripts, he says, and incorrectness of the language, are, by the author's being called off this stage of life before they were prepared for the press, much against them; especially at this period, when the propriety of language is more studied than the truths of the gospel: nevertheless, when external ornaments, and ostentatious accom-

plishments, are the objects of attention in some, (he hopes) there are still many in Great Britain who will read the following discourses with pleasure, and with benefit to their immortal souls."

Mr. Arthur is, in truth, no elegant writer, any more than his editor.—The pious christian, however, will find in his Sermons much to arouse and to convince him, and to direct and comfort him in the paths of religion. And as they are published for the benefit of his daughters, moral goodness may be mixed with piety, by purchasing them.

## FOREIGN LITERATURE.

Histoire de Francois II. Roi de France, suivie d'un Discours traduit de l' Italien de Michel Suriano, Ambassadeur de Venise en France, sur l' Etat de ce Royaume de l' Avènement de Charles IX. au Trône. A Paris chez Bâlin. 2 Vol. 12mo.

THIS History is extremely interesting to readers of all descriptions, since it presents a variety of great events, great men, and the greatest of crimes. The progress of Calvinism, the ambition of the Guises, the pretensions of the different orders of the State, together with the imbecility of the reigning prince, prepared a scene of horror, blood, and confusion. *Madame la Presidente d'A,*

who has already distinguished herself in the republic of letters by her Samiens, l'Histoire de St. Kilda, and the Life of the Cardinal d'Osât, has, after a close investigation of above eighty different works, produced this *morceau* of valuable history.

As the events of this short reign of Francois II. had their origin in the last year of his father, Henry II. *Madame la Presidente* begins

begins her narrative from that period, and enters into a large variety of curious particulars. Henry was a prince by no means cruel; but the dukes of Valentinois, avaricious and selfish (as is generally the case with the mistresses of sovereigns) hoped to have enriched herself by the spoils of the Huguenots, while the Guises, who sought after popularity and to encrease their partisans, never ceased from inciting the monarch to rigorous measures against the whole body of protestants.

François II. at the age of sixteen years was declared major; but nature and a feeble constitution shewed him to be incapable of the reins of government. The sovereign authority, therefore, passed into the hands of the duke de Guise and the cardinal de Lorraine. The constable and all the Montmorencys were disgraced. The former requested to retire from the busy world, and it was granted. Catharine de Médicis had so little share in the affections of Henry, that she was constrained, for preserving appearances, to live upon terms with her rival, and to conceal in her own bosom her hatred, her jealousy, and her revenge. But the monarch was scarcely dead, when the woman he preferred was ignominiously driven from Court, her effects were taken away, and, according to custom, she neither found a friend nor a single person to commiserate her unhappy situation; while the Guises (to whom they were indebted for their elevation) tamely suffered her to be sacrificed to the queen mother's resentment.

Madame la Présidente has thus portrayed Catharine de Médicis:

« Cette femme sans caractère, mais qui réunissoit les faiblesses et même les vices de tous les caractères différens, les fit servir tour-à-tour à son insatiable ambition, et se permit tout pour la satisfaire. Comme elle n'avoit d'autre plan que celui de conserver le pouvoir absolu à quelque prix que ce fût, que d'ailleurs son esprit, trop inférieur à ses vues, ne pouvoit lui fournir un assez bien combiné pour le suivre sans s'en écarter, on la vit toujours inconséquente, floter sans cesse entre les partis les plus opposés, caresser le soir celui dont elle avoit juré la ruine le matin, faisant donner de faux avis à qu'elle vouloit perdre, pour qu'ils tombassent dans ses pièges, signant dans le même jour des traités contradictoires avec les Guises et avec leurs ennemis, les trompant tous également, fourbe par petitesse, intrigante par incapacité, froidement cruelle quand les autres ressources lui manquoient pour arriver à ses fins, et voyant sans remords couler des flots de sang par ses barbares conseils. Son génie étroit la rendoit incapable d'aucun acte mâle et vigoureux; et quoiqu'on l'ait accusée d'avoir empoisonné le Dauphin, frère aîné de Henri II. avancé les jours de son fils Charles IX. et qu'elle ait été la principale

instigatrice de la St. Barthelemi, la postérité ne la rangera jamais dans la classe de ces souverains malheureusement trop célèbres, qui par leurs vues sublimes et le grand art de régner, ont su ennoblir leurs forfaits. »

This vicious princess, by dint of intrigue and dissimulation, preserved a power in the state, amid the contending factions of the nobles, whose ambition (masked under a pretence of serving the cause of the established church) disgraced the annals of French history, by their sanguinary proceedings against the Huguenots. During the king's residence at Fontainebleau, a vast number of people arrived to solicit the payment of their pensions. The queen mother and the Guises fell upon a singular expedient of quieting these claimants, which was by erecting a gallows at the avenue of the palace, to hang up every one who dared to visit Fontainebleau upon this errand. Thus the administration became odious, and the Huguenots were not the only persons who united against the cruelties of the Guises, and demanded an assembly of the states, which Catharine and the princes equally dreaded. They concluded that this measure solely originated from the Huguenots, and in order to make them desist from their projects, multiplied their processes and their executions. That they might the more easily discover who were protestants, they caused little images to be fixed up in all the cities of the kingdom, and particularly at Paris, and the rabble were paid to sing *Salve Regina* and the Canticles before them. Those who were engaged in this vile employ, stopped catholic or protestant who did not join in the chorus; and those who refused to submit were insulted, covered with mud, stoned, or dragged to prison, under pretence that they were Huguenots. This persecution hastened the conspiracy of Amboise. A certain number of gentlemen belonging to the Calvinists were to present an address, to solicit the king to grant them liberty of conscience, and leave to build churches; they expected a refusal, and immediately after several bodies of protestants, conducted by experienced officers, were to appear in arms, seize upon the city, put to death the princes of Lorraine, and compel the king to declare the prince of Condé for his lieutenant-general. This project, undertaken by so many persons, remained a profound secret for near two months, and would have succeeded, had it not been for the indiscretion of Renaudie, who confided the secret to Pierre Avenelles, a protestant and celebrated pleader: this man, to secure his own safety, informed Government. The Guises were not intimidated; and as they had been sworn enemies to moderation, they devoted every one of the conspirators to destruction. These unfortunate men fell into the same snare



share they had provided for others, and were massacred as they arrived by different roads. Numbers were hanged up about the palace booted and spurred; and for twelve miles round they cut the throats of every one, without any process, that were even suspected. In order to conceal the horror of this carnage, they at last drowned the remainder that fell into their hands, and the Loire was covered with dead bodies.

The Guises having an ascendancy over the king and the queen-mother, they invited the king of Navarre and the prince of Condé to court: the latter, on his arrival, was immediately arrested, and commissioners appointed to try him, which they did, and condemned him to lose his head. On the fixed day for

his execution the king died, and this event restored the prince of Condé to his unexpected liberty. The reign of this monarch ought to be called that of the Guises; and by some he was surnamed *The Innocent sans Vices*. Charles IX. was then an infant, and the queen-mother proclaimed regent.

The discourse of Michel Suriano, the Venetian ambassador at the court of Charles IX. presents the state of the kingdom under this prince, and that of François II.; but his attachment to the catholic party has induced him to gloss over the conduct of the Guises, and to exhibit them in a more favourable point of view than they really merited; since with them religion was only a pretext for their lust of power and sanguinary measures.

### STATE PAPERS.

ADDRESSES and REPRESENTATION of the HOUSE of COMMONS to the KING, with His Majesty's ANSWERS, previous to the late Dissolution of Parliament.

FEBRUARY 25th, 1784.

**A**T about three o'clock, the Speaker, attended by a numerous body of the Members of the House of Commons, went in procession to St. James's, and being introduced to his Majesty, seated on his Throne, in the Council Chamber, the Speaker read and delivered the following Address to His Majesty:

To the KING's Most Excellent Majesty.

"WE your Majesty's most faithful Commons, impressed with the most dutiful sense of your Majesty's paternal regard for the welfare of your people, approach your Throne, to express our reliance on your Majesty's paternal wisdom; that your Majesty will take such measures, by removing any obstacle to forming such an Administration as the House has declared to be requisite in the present critical and arduous situation of affairs, as may tend to give effect to the wishes of your faithful Commons, which have already been most humbly represented to your Majesty."

To which his Majesty was pleased to return an Answer, as follows:

"Gentlemen,

"I am deeply sensible how highly it concerns the honour of my Crown, and the welfare of my people, which is the object always nearest my heart, that the public affairs should be conducted by a firm, efficient, united, and extended Administration, entitled to the confidence of my people, and such as may have a tendency to put an end to the unhappy divisions and distractions in this country.—Very recent endeavours have already been employed, on my part, to unite in the public service, on a fair and equal footing, those whose joint efforts appear to

me most capable of producing that happy effect: these endeavours have not had the success I wished. I shall be always desirous of taking every step most conducive to such an object; but I cannot see that it would, in any degree, be advanced by the dismissal of those at present in my service.

"I observe, at the same time, that there is no charge, or complaint, suggested against my present Ministers, nor is any one or more of them specifically objected to; and numbers of my subjects have expressed to me, in the warmest manner, their satisfaction in the late changes I have made in my Councils. Under these circumstances, I trust, my faithful Commons will not wish that the essential offices of executive Government should be vacated, until I see a prospect that such a plan of union as I have called for, and they have pointed out, may be carried into effect."

MARCH 2d.

The Speaker, attended by a numerous body of the Members of the House of Commons, waited on his Majesty with the following address:

TO THE KING.

"SIRE,

"WE, your Majesty's faithful Commons, approach your Throne, most humbly to represent to your Majesty the satisfaction your faithful Commons derive from the late most gracious assurances we have received, that your Majesty concurs with us in opinion, that it concerns the honour of your Crown, and the welfare of your people, that the public affairs should be conducted by a firm, efficient, extended, united Administration entitled to the confidence of your people, and such

may have a tendency to put an end to the unhappy divisions and distractions of this country.

"We acknowledge your Majesty's paternal goodness in your late most gracious endeavours to give effect to the object of our late dutiful representation to your Majesty.

"We lament that the failure of this your Majesty's most gracious endeavours should be considered as a final bar to the accomplishing so salutary and desirable a purpose, and to express our concern and disappointment, that your Majesty has not been advised to take any farther step towards uniting in the public service those whose joint efforts have recently appeared to your Majesty most capable of producing so happy an effect.

"Your faithful Commons with all humility claim it as their right, and on every proper occasion feel it to be their bounden duty, to advise your Majesty touching the exercise of any branch of your Royal prerogative.

"We submit it to your Majesty's Royal consideration, that the continuance of an Administration which does not possess the confidence of the Representatives of the people must be injurious to the public service.

"We beg leave further to say, that your faithful Commons can have no interest distinct and separate from that of our constituents, and that we therefore feel ourselves called upon to repeat those loyal and dutiful assurances we have already expressed of our reliance on your Majesty's paternal regard for the welfare of your people, that your Majesty would graciously enable us to execute those important trusts which the Constitution has vested in us, with honour to ourselves, and advantage to the public, by the confirmation of a new Administration, appointed under circumstances which may tend to conciliate the minds of your faithful Commons, and give energy and stability to your Majesty's Councils.

"Your Majesty's faithful Commons, upon the maturest deliberations, cannot but consider the continuance of the present Ministers as an unwarrantable obstacle to your Majesty's most gracious purpose, to comply with our wishes in the formation of such an Administration as your Majesty, in concurrence with the unanimous Resolution of your faithful Commons, seems to think requisite in the present exigencies of the country. We feel ourselves bound to remain firm in the wish expressed to your Majesty in our late humble Address, and do therefore find ourselves obliged again to beseech your Majesty, that you would be graciously pleased to lay the foundation of a strong and stable Govern-

ment, by the previous removal of your present Ministers."

To which Address his Majesty returned the following Answer:

"Gentlemen,

"I have already expressed to you how sensible I am of the advantages to be derived from such an Administration as was pointed out in your unanimous Resolution; and I assured you that I was desirous of taking every step most conducive to such an object—I remain in the same sentiments—but I continue equally convinced, that it is an object not likely to be obtained by the dismissal of my present Ministers.

"I must repeat, that no charge or complaint, nor any specific objection, is yet made against any of them. If there were any such ground for their removal at present, it ought to be equally a reason for not admitting them as a part of that extended and united Administration which you state to be requisite.

"I did not consider the failure of my recent endeavours as a final bar to the accomplishment of the purpose which I had in view, if it could have been attained on those principles of fairness and equality, without which, it can neither be honourable to those who are concerned, nor lay the foundation of such a strong and stable Government as may be of lasting advantage to the country. But I know of no further steps, which I can take, that can be effectual to remove the difficulties which obstruct that desirable end.

"I have never called in question the right of my faithful Commons to offer me their advice on every proper occasion, touching the exercise of any branch of my prerogative: I shall be ready at all times to receive it, and give it the most attentive consideration: And they will ever find me disposed to shew my regard to the true principles of the Constitution, and to take such measures as may best conduce to the satisfaction and prosperity of my People."

MARCH 8th.

In consequence of his Majesty's Answer to the Address of the House of Commons presented the 2d instant, Mr. Fox moved, that a Representation, expressing the sentiments of that House, be laid before the King; which, after a long debate, was agreed to by a majority of ONE, and was couched in the following terms:

RESOLVED,

"That an humble Representation be presented to his Majesty, most humbly to testify the surprize and affliction of this House, on receiving the Answer which his Majesty's Ministers have advised



to the dutiful and seasonable Address of this House, concerning one of the most important acts of his Majesty's government.

"To express our concern, that when his Majesty's paternal goodness has graciously inclined his Majesty to be sensible of the advantage to be derived from such an Administration as was pointed out in our Resolution, his Majesty should still be induced to prefer the opinions of individuals to the repeated advice of the Representatives of his people in Parliament assembled, with respect to the means of obtaining so desirable an end.

"To represent to his Majesty, that a preference of this nature is as injurious to the true interests of the crown as it is wholly repugnant to the spirit of our free constitution; that systems founded on such a preference are not in truth entirely new in this country; that they have been the characteristic features of those unfortunate reigns, the maxims of which are now justly and universally exploded, while his Majesty and his Royal progenitors have been fixed in the hearts of their people, and have commanded the respect and admiration of all the nations of the earth, by a constant and uniform attention to the advice of their Commons, however adverse such advice may have been to the opinions of the executive servants of the Crown.

"To assure his Majesty, that we neither have disputed, nor mean in any instance to dispute, much less to deny, his Majesty's undoubted prerogative of appointing to the executive offices of State such persons as to his Majesty's wisdom shall seem meet. But, at the same time, that we must, with all humility, again submit to his Majesty's royal wisdom, that no Administration, however legally appointed, can serve his Majesty and the public with effect which does not enjoy the confidence of this House. That in his Majesty's present Administration we cannot confide: the circumstances under which it was constituted, and the grounds upon which it continues, have created just suspicions in the breasts of his faithful Commons, that principles are adopted and views entertained unfriendly to the privileges of this House, and to the freedom of our excellent constitution. That we have made no charge against any of them, because it is their removal and not their punishment which we have desired: And that we humbly conceive we are warranted, by the ancient usage of this House, to desire such removal, without making any charge whatever. That confidence may be very prudently withheld, where no criminal process can be properly instituted. That although we have made no criminal charge against any individual of his Majesty's

Ministers, yet, with all humility, we do conceive, that we have stated to his Majesty very distinct objections and very forcible reasons against their continuance. That, with regard to the propriety of admitting either the present Ministers, or any other persons, as a part of that extended and united Administration which his Majesty, in concurrence with the sentiments of this House, considers as requisite; it is a point upon which we are too well acquainted with the bounds of our duty, to presume to offer any advice to his Majesty; well knowing it to be the undoubted prerogative of his Majesty, to appoint his Ministers without any previous advice from either House of Parliament; and our duty humbly to offer to his Majesty our advice, when such appointments shall appear to us to be prejudicial to the public service.

"To acknowledge, with gratitude, his Majesty's goodness in not considering the failure of his recent endeavours, as a final bar to the accomplishment of the gracious purpose which his Majesty has in view; and to express the great concern and mortification with which we find ourselves obliged to declare, that the consolation which we should naturally have derived from his Majesty's most gracious disposition, is considerably abated by understanding that his Majesty's advisers have not thought fit to suggest to his Majesty any further steps to remove the difficulties which obstruct so desirable an end.

"To recal to his Majesty's recollection, that his faithful Commons have already submitted to his Majesty, most humbly, but most distinctly, their opinion upon this subject; that they can have no interests but those of his Majesty and of their Constituents; whereas it is needless to suggest to his Majesty's wisdom and discernment, that individual advisers may be actuated by very different motives.

"To express our most unfeigned gratitude for his Majesty's royal assurances, that he does not call in question the right of this House to offer their advice to his Majesty on every proper occasion, touching the exercise of any branch of his royal prerogative; and of his Majesty's readiness at all times to receive such advice, and to give it the most attentive consideration.

"To declare that we recognize in these gracious expressions, those excellent and constitutional sentiments which we have ever been accustomed to hear from the Throne since the glorious era of the Revolution, and which have peculiarly characterized his Majesty and the Princes of his illustrious House; but to lament that these most gracious expressions, while they inspire us with additional affection

and gratitude towards his Majesty's Royal Person, do not a little contribute to increase our suspicions of those men who have advised his Majesty, in direct contradiction to these assurances, to neglect the advice of his Commons, and to retain in his service an Administration whose continuance in office we have so repeatedly and so distinctly condemned.

"To represent to his Majesty, that it has anciently been the practice of this House to withhold Supplies until grievances were redressed; and that if we were to follow this course in the present conjuncture, we should be warranted in our proceeding as well by the most approved precedents as by the spirit of the Constitution itself; but if in consideration of the very peculiar exigencies of the times we should be induced to waive, for the present, the exercise in this instance of our undoubted legal and constitutional mode of obtaining redress, that we humbly implore his Majesty not to impute our forbearance to any want of sincerity in our complaints, or distrust in the justice of our cause.

"That we know and are sure that the prosperity of his Majesty's dominions in former times has been, under Divine Providence, owing to the harmony which has, for near a century, prevailed uninterruptedly between the Crown and this House. That we are convinced that there is no way to extricate this country from its present difficulties, but by pursuing the same system to which we

have been indebted at various periods of our History, for our successes abroad, and which is at all times so necessary for our tranquillity at home. That we feel the continuance of the present Administration to be an innovation upon that happy system. That we cannot but expect from their existence under the displeasure of this House, every misfortune naturally incident to a weak and distracted Government. That if we had concealed from his Majesty our honest sentiments upon this important crisis, we should have been in some degree responsible for the mischiefs which are but too certain to ensue.

"That we have done our duty to his Majesty and our Constituents in pointing out the evil, and in humbly imploring redress; that the blame and responsibility must now lie wholly upon those who have presumed to advise his Majesty to act in contradiction to the uniform maxims which have hitherto governed the conduct of his Majesty, as well as every other Prince of his illustrious House; upon those who have disregarded the opinions, and neglected the admonitions, of the Representatives of the People; and who have thereby attempted to set up a new system of executive Administration, which, wanting the confidence of this House, and acting in defiance to our Resolutions, must prove at once inadequate by its inefficiency to the necessary objects of Government, and dangerous by its example to the liberties of the People."

#### TO THE PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Dean TUCKER'S OPINION on the present most interesting DISPUTES.

THE cardinal point, on which the question between the King and the House of Lords on the one side, and the present House of Commons on the other, really hinges, appears to be this:

The King has, by the Constitution of this country, the sole right of nominating or appointing the great *responsible* officers of the Crown. This is confessed and allowed by all; and, indeed, the appointment of such Ministers is a trust, which could not be lodged in any hands with so much safety as with the Crown.

The House of Lords ought not to be in possession of it; because the Constitution has already made them the judges in the *dernier resort* of all Ministers, whenever any complaint or impeachment shall be brought against them. Were they, therefore, to sit in judgment on such persons for mal-administration, whom they themselves had chosen and appointed, this, in fact, would be sitting in judgment on their own actions.

The House of Commons ought not to

enjoy the privilege of nominating Ministers, or even of recommending them; because they are the *Constitutional Watchmen* of the State, whose peculiar province it is, to keep the public purse; and, when they make grants out of it, to inspect and examine the application of such grants with the utmost care. Consequently they are to accuse, to prosecute, and impeach, every responsible Minister, whenever they apprehend him to be guilty of abuses or mismanagement in the discharge of his office. Hence, therefore, it must follow, that it is repugnant to common sense, that the House of Commons should be allowed to nominate or recommend those persons whom afterwards it may be their duty to prosecute. The ideas are repugnant to each other; at least they appear to be so, in a moral and judicial view; for, were culprits always to have the liberty of choosing their own prosecutors, what impartial justice could be expected from such *stram prosecutions*? The unjust Steward, mentioned in a book to which modern politicians pay no regard,



gard, had little cause to fear the loss of his stewardship, for having wasted his master's goods, could he have had the appointment of his own friends and recommenders to be his only examiners and accusers.

To revert, therefore, to the point from which we set out—The Crown alone is entrusted by the Constitution with the appointment of all its responsible Ministers. The reason is obvious. After such appointment they are to answer for their conduct to disinterested, impartial prosecutors, and before impartial, disinterested judges, in case they should act amiss. The Crown, therefore, ought never to seek previous consent of either House, in the choice of its Ministers: for, provided the choice is such that no natural incapacity, no moral nor mental disqualification can be objected, it is enough; the Constitution requires no more; the responsible Minister therefore, whoever he may be, is legally and constitutionally appointed. As he thus stands upon his good behaviour before the House of Commons as his prosecutors, and before the House of Peers as his judges, he ought not to be prejudged by them either way; that is, he ought to be neither applauded nor condemned, 'till his own conduct, and his personal merit or demerit, in his office, shall have rendered him worthy either of their praise or censure.

This, undoubtedly, being the true state of the case, let us now see how the House of Commons have acted, and still continue to act, in these matters. Instead of keeping within the bounds of their duty, as the watchmen of the state, and the guardians of the public treasure, they have created for themselves a new office, totally unknown to the Constitution, and utterly subversive of it, when pursued to all its fatal consequences. Though they do not object to the choice which his Majesty has made, as a choice intrinsically bad; nay, though they applaud it, as being in itself a very good one, such as they themselves would have made; yet they bring a most formidable objection against his Majesty for making this choice, without their previous consent. For it seems a man, *who has not the confidence of their House*, however well qualified himself, ought not to be chosen; and, if chosen, he ought to be compelled to resign, in order to obtain their approbation before his election. In fact, according to this position, no man is eligible 'till the House of Commons have

given their *fiat*. This new doctrine was first broached by a desperate faction in the reign of George the Third; but a strange one surely it is, more strange, if possible, than that famous case of *Ashby and White* in the year 1704. If those only are to be deemed eligible, who are the declared favourites of the House of Commons; what kind of guards and sentinels will our representatives become, in watching over the conduct of their own favourites, their own creatures? *Et quis custodes custodiet ipsos?*

Besides, there is another most alarming consideration, which seems to be too much overlooked. According to these *new* regulations, no man ought to be made Prime Minister, who has not acquired the confidence of the House of Commons. Be it so: but then, How is this confidence to be obtained?—What measures is the candidate to pursue, for obtaining an influence so preponderating as to secure his election? The true answer to which question is this, He must make interest with, he must study to oblige (soft words in the present case for flattering, bribing, and corrupting) 'as many leading Members as he can, to espouse his cause; he must, and he will, make large promises, that, as soon as he shall come into power, he will gratify these with honours, titles, stars, and ribbands; those with places, pensions, or lucrative jobs, and contracts. In short, he must know every man's price, and act according to this plan of iniquity.

Thus, by the great innovation now attempted to be introduced into the Constitution, the British empire will be as surely overturned, and as truly set to sale to the highest bidder within the walls of the House of Commons, as the Roman empire was by the Prætorian guards during the declension of that unwieldy falling state.

If rumour is to be credited, the price of several capital leaders is already fixed. Whether this be true or false, the system tends to corruption, and cannot be supported on any other principles;—a circumstance sufficient to render it detestable in the eyes of every sincere lover of his country.

As such, the writer of this paper, who never prostituted his pen to any party, nor wrote against the conviction of his conscience, wishes now to bear his public testimony against it.

JOSIAH TUCKER.

*Gloster, March 1, 1784.*

## P O E T R Y.

V E R S E S

Written in the DARGLE, in the County of  
WICKLOW.

**H**AIL, fairy scenes! hail, haunted  
ground!  
Where elves and genii sport around,  
And hear the rushing waters fall,  
Or echo to their revels' call.

Oft will I to the haunts repair,  
Where wild flow'rs scent the balmy air;  
Where oaks adorn the shaggy brow,  
And torrents murmur hoarse below,  
Now white with foam, and bursting loud,  
Now dash'd to many a misty cloud:  
Or where the glassy surface sleeps,  
That blackens with o'er-hanging steep;  
And many a tree that downward bends,  
And from the parent rock impends,  
Appears to woo with eager arms  
The river's coy disdainful charms.

The hills their waving line unfold,  
Retiring soft and swelling bold,  
In many a shape fantastic rise,  
And melt in azure to the skies.—  
Here Phœbus, with a lover's heat,  
Affails the Naid's coy retreat;  
Between the mountains slopes his beam,  
And plays in gold along the stream;  
His vagrant light bewilder'd roves,  
Or sleeps insuar'd among the groves.

'Twas here, perhaps, some chieftain bold,  
Some mighty man, in years of old,  
(Profaning friendship's hallow'd name  
When England's sons insidious came)  
Beneath the free-born oaks, defy'd  
The fierce invaders' tyrant pride,  
And heard, in ev'ry breeze, from far  
The shrieks of woe, the shouts of war,  
And saw from far the signal fire  
On many a mountain's top aspire.—  
Around the chief, a hardy band  
Of fearless heart and puissant hand  
(When pealing on the watch of night  
Loud came the roar of distant fight)  
Have sternly clasp'd the spear and shield,  
And fiercely claim'd the promis'd field;  
Then rush'd, a headlong torrent, down  
To spoil the vallies once their own.—  
Returning red with English blood,  
Beneath these shades perhaps they stood,  
Spread the rude feast and shar'd the prey,  
And heard the minstrel's solemn lay,

Recount the prodigal of breath,  
The martial pride, the illustrious death.

For here, in old heroic times,  
The minstrel wak'd his lofty rhymes;  
He tun'd the harp, he bade them flow,  
Attempter'd to the streams below.—  
When England would a land enthral;  
She doom'd the muses' sons to fall,  
Left virtue's hand should string the lyre,  
And feed with song the patriot's fire.  
Lo! *Cambria's* bards her fury feel;  
See *Erin* mourns the bloody steel.  
To such a scene, to such a shade,  
Condemn'd, proscrib'd, the poet stray'd;  
The warrior rais'd his buckler high,  
To shade the son of harmony;  
And while he sung with skill profound,  
A grove of lances bristled round.

Oh! still, methinks, these wilds retain  
The tokens of th' heroic train.  
On ev'ry rock, below, above,  
Engrav'd I read the patriot love;  
And hear in ev'ry waving tree  
A voice that whispers Liberty.  
I read in ev'ry plant and flow'r,  
" 'Tis base to own a tyrant's pow'r."—  
The stream that loudly roaring flows,  
And o'er the rocks impetuous goes,  
Would seem to chide, in Fancy's ear,  
The selfish aim, th' enervate fear.

A grateful horror dwells around,  
The pow'rs are near—that awful sound!—  
And now, the mystic forms I see;  
The genius of each sacred tree.  
And you, ye softer tribes below,  
That teach the bursting stream to flow,  
I see you shoot athwart the glade,  
Where moon-light breaks the chequer'd shade.

Sweet rural pow'rs, be ever near;  
With awful murmurs soothe mine ear.  
So ne'er may gothic art invade,  
So, av'rice ne'er profane the shade;  
But taste preserve each sacred oak,  
Unconscious of the woodman's stroke;  
And Flora so perfume the plain,  
And bring her sweet tho' lowly train;  
Not those array'd in gaudy dyes,  
That proudly court the gazer's eyes;  
Not those that stately gardens love,  
But humbler children of the grove,  
Sweet as the maid that sways my heart,  
With bashful charms that know not art,

\* Spenser, in his Essay on the State of Ireland, among other measures for reducing the country to perfect subjection, proposes to extirpate the race of Minstrels.

Retirement



Retirement mild, and graceful fear,  
The modest blush, the dewy tear.

Sweet pow'rs, when thro' those haunts I  
    steal,  
Your inspiration let me feel;  
And see the sacred forms of song,  
Or stately march, or glance along;  
The frowning warriors awful sprite,  
With sword and mail of beamy light;  
The regal pomp, the knightly train,  
The marshall'd hall, the list'd plain;  
The virgin that untimely dy'd,  
In vernal beauty's roseate pride;  
The youths that mourn'd her tomb around,  
Whose faithful tears bedew'd the ground.  
Oft let me parly with the shades,  
That haunt by night these solemn glades;  
And let ideal bards be near,  
And airy harpings thrill mine ear,  
Now bursting loud—now sinking low—  
As the varying breezes blow:  
And may I oft a note retain,  
And pour it thro' my pensive strain!

Sweet scenes! by Nature sure design'd  
A harbour for the pensive mind.  
Another *Sorgue*\*—a new *Valcluse*,  
And here another *Petrarch*'s muse;  
Renounce the world, their friends forego,  
And banish joy, and cherish woe;  
Exalt the bold ambitious mind,  
To love the first of human kind,  
And early clos'd in virgin urn,  
Remember long and sadly mourn.  
Oh! boding muse, avert thine eyes,  
For that way—that way madness lies.—  
Oh! never may I know the pain;  
Oh! never pour so sad a strain!

W. P.

## ODE TO DISCRETION.

ΑΔΙΚΟΝ ΕΣΤΙ Ν-  
-ΠΕΙΡΟΠΛΟΝ ΗΘΑΙ ΔΡΕΠΩΝ, ΣΩΦΙ-  
-ΑΝ Δ' ΕΝ ΜΥΧΟΙΣΙ ΠΙΣΤΙΔΑΝ. PINDAR.

## I.

**T**HRO' every period of life's fleeting  
    day  
Some different passion fills the breast,  
From morn till night Hope leads astray,  
Nor ever guides us to the port of rest:  
Love's visionary joys inflame  
Youth's eager wishes; next Ambition's rage  
Presents, in man's maturer stage,  
    Prospects of power and fame;  
Old Age comes tottering last, unnerv'd  
    and cold,  
Grasping with palsied hand his ponderous  
    bags of gold.

\* *Sorgue*, a river running by *Avignon* in *Provence*, where *Laura de Noves*, the mistress of *Petrarch*, was born.

† In the *Andromache* of *Euripides*, *Peleus* is introduced ridiculing the absurdity of *Menelaus*'s expedition against *Troy*, and reproaching him with being the cause of the death of *Achilles*, and many other brave Grecians.

## II.

The raptur'd Poet deems his earliest praise  
To Fancy, sweet enchantress, due;  
Amidst whose trackless groves he strays,  
While fresh creations strike his dazzled  
    view;  
But soon the flowers of Genius fade,  
And bold Invention in her mid career  
Feels, like *Ithuriel*'s wondrous spear,  
Dread Envy's fangs pervade  
Her frail contexture with a ghastly wound,  
Or sinks an *Icarus* plung'd in the vast pro-  
    found.

## III.

Unless, O Goddess of the furrow'd brow,  
Thy admonitions stay her flight,  
And urge her first t' address her vow  
Where thy pale shrine emits a glimmering  
    light:  
Too long, unmindful of thy power,  
In Fiction's airy palaces I trod;  
At length, observant of thy nod,  
To thee I kneel; O shower  
Thy dews impregnated with heavenly rest,  
And let thy leaden mace fall weightier on  
    my breast.

## IV.

Thee the recluse Philosopher, whose frame  
Shrinks at each northern blast, reveres;  
Elixirs his attention claim,  
And warmest flannels huddle up his ears:  
Nor art thou distant from the Maid  
Whose unsought chastity maintain'd its  
    hold  
While o'er her forty funs have roll'd;  
Yet, anxious for thy aid,  
On thee she calls, whene'er before her  
    eyes  
*Hibernian* beaux or too restless coronets  
    rise.

## V.

Swift rush the fiery steeds, loud sounds  
the car,  
When Homer brings, severely just,  
Assembling Demi-gods to war,  
And lays proud *Troy*'s adulterous towers  
in dust:  
Had *Menelaus* search'd thy laws,  
He there had learnt without an augur's  
    skill  
That women stray not 'ginst their will,  
And, loth to furnish cause  
To \* *Peleus* for his slaughter'd son to chide,  
Had wisely staid at home and sought another  
    bride.

## VI.

Who from thy fount his inspiration draws  
Describes no *Paladins* in arms,  
Nor paints, to gain the crowd's ap-  
    plause,  
*Armida*'s wiles, or *Una*'s heavenly charms;

Nor lifts a Fairfax to the skies,  
In freedom's devious mazes led astray;  
But haunts some courtly shrine to pay  
His dutious sacrifice;  
Or sings in Tusser's stile of golden grain,  
Of harrows, oxen, carts, and all the schemes  
Of gain.

## VII.

Since my green years, by some unhallow'd  
strain,  
Have made thee frown upon my suit;  
Not where the snarling critic train  
Fierce as a dragon guard fair learning's  
fruit,  
Nor in the busy walks of trade;  
Nor will I seek thee brooding o'er thy  
store,  
Behind the miser's churlish door,  
Worn to a meagre shade;  
Nor in yon stalls, where th' orthodox  
divine  
SnORES, and with ven'son cramm'd extends  
his brawny chine.

## VIII.

But to the regions of the Lunar sphere  
My daring passage will I wing,  
Where all things, lost by mortals here,  
Are found, if rightly Ariosto sing:  
There haply, in some lonesome vale,  
Where dark yews bending from the rocky  
steep  
O'erhang the lake, whose waters sleep,  
Mov'd by no ruffling gale,  
Shall I behold thee weeping o'er the tomb  
Of Cassius, harshly charg'd with Freedom's  
timeless doom:

## IX.

Vanquish'd, he rais'd to heaven his hag-  
gard eyes,  
And bar'd his bosom to the stroke;  
Calm gown-men say, "Had he been  
wife,  
"And liv'd, Rome yet had scap'd Osta-  
vius' yoke."  
Next, in thy shades, a prey to grief,  
Perchance the learn'd Christina may I see,  
On earth who proudly slighted thee;  
Now, lost beyond relief,  
On Papal snares and venal Poets frown,  
And wail with fruitless plaints her abdicated  
crown.

## X.

Yet since from death thou canst not these  
unbind,  
Their greatness claims no second birth,  
To penitence incline thy mind,  
And deign to walt me back again to earth;  
Guarded by thee from ev'ry snare,  
So shall I frame secure my placid lay;  
Or, if in Satire's walks I stray,  
With tutelary care

Arrest her vengeful arm just rais'd to strike,  
Smiling on friends, and foes, and all man-  
kind alike.

Written July 20, 1779, for a DRUID'S  
CELL in the Garden of RICHARD  
HOARE, Esq. at the Elms, in Surry.

**S**TAY, passenger, and viewe a Druid's  
cell,  
Where neither gayeity nor pomp invites,  
Comfort with grandeur dothe not alwayes  
dwell,  
But oft in humble cottages delighytes.

I boast no gylded walls, no paynted dome,  
These oaks, and mistletoe, are deare to me,  
My furniture is wove in Nature's loom,  
My wealth is innocence and lybertie.

Come then, and muse, within this calm re-  
treat;  
(Forgetting what the world calls gay or fine)  
I envy not the splendoure of the great,  
Let *Fortune be their boast—Content is mine!*

A DRUID.

## S O N N E T,

Addressed to R. P. CAREW, Esq.  
By Dr. WARWICK.

**T**O climb at early dawn the mountain's  
side,  
Ere devious herds have brush'd the dews  
away,  
Be mine: at noon amid yon elms to stray,  
Whose artless tufts the cooling current hide:  
Mine from the purple heath's horizon wide  
To trace the splendours of reclining day,  
Until the moon, my homeward path to  
guide,  
Disdain the forest-edge with silver-grey.  
And if such scenes the rising soul expand,  
The flutter'd heart if simple blifs becalm,  
Where nature clofelier knits the social tie,  
No light addition should my Carew's hand  
With equal friendship's animating balm  
To letter'd ease the place of fame supply.

*Il seggio dell' huomo è la terra:  
De pesci, l'acqua,  
Degli uccelli, l'aria  
Della donna, l'honore.*

ISABELLA ANDREINI.

## T R A N S L A T I O N.

**S**UCH was the wise decree of bounteous  
Heaven;  
To man the earth, the wave to fish was  
given:  
The plummy tribe to wing the liquid air;  
Honour, bright gift, was destin'd to the  
Fair.

P A D D Y.



## SUMMARY ACCOUNT of the PROCEEDINGS in PARLIAMENT.

(Continued from p. 147.)

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

FEBRUARY 5.

LORD Beauchamp rose, and stated, that he had proposed a motion some time ago, which had the honour to meet the approbation of the House. The intention of it was simply to guard the purse of the public from the consequence of any indiscretion from those at that time in office. The House well knew, that the legislature, in the act which furnished the Lords of the Treasury with the powers they have of granting their acceptance to India bills, never meant to deprive the House of Commons of its constitutional right to inspect every part of the public expenditure. The powers invested in the Board of Treasury are merely discretionary, and for that very reason natural objects of that watchful and constant attention, which it becomes this House to exercise over every office in executive government. When such an act of parliament as has been thus violently misconstrued took place, few imagined there would be any necessity of regarding the powers it bestowed with jealousy. But how was the case now? Did not all the House know that bills to the amount of near two millions were expected, to which the acceptance of the Treasury would be thought necessary?

This much his Lordship deemed proper to say on the nature of the motion which had originated with him on the 24th of December last. The only circumstance connected with it, to which there could be any possible objection, might perhaps be the thinness of the House in which he had brought it forward. The reason of that was well known to the House. It happened at the time when several honourable gentlemen had vacated their seats, among whom the right honourable gentleman (Mr. Pitt) over-against him, was one. But no advantage was intended by that measure. The situation of the country required that the representatives of the people should be on their guard. Violent things were done in defiance of a majority of the House; and not knowing how far such a spirit of encroachment and defiance might go, it was judged extremely expedient and necessary to give this notification, in the confidence that, whoever should act as Lords of the Treasury, some degree of delicacy and respect would be paid to the opinion of this House, thus formally and solemnly announced.

These observations he honestly intended as introductory to a motion which he now meant to submit to the House. It was

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founded undoubtedly on a rumour, which, however, he deemed of so much consequence, as to warrant a serious enquiry of that House. Resolutions in another place, it seems, according to what he had heard, had been formed on a construction of that one in this House to which he had referred, perfectly unfounded. This was not the time to debate the matter, but he thought the House bound in honour of its own privileges to enquire whether the rumour was true or not. Supposing this to be the fact only for a moment, one part of their lordships' conduct seemed deserving the attention of the House. The resolution on which they would fix a censure passed on the 24th of December last, and no notice whatever was taken of it till the 4th of February. He would not make any comments on this fact. The public would consider of it with freedom, and if it did not open their eyes to the spirit, the intention, and the object of the late resolutions of the other House, he, for his own part, knew not what would. The motion therefore which he would now bring forward was in words to the following effect: "That a committee be appointed to inspect the journals of the House of Lords in relation to any resolution or resolutions in that House, affecting a resolution of this House on the 24th of December last, and report accordingly."

The motion being seconded,

Mr. Chancellor Pitt said, he had no intention to oppose the noble lord's motion; nor was it his intention to remark on any thing which had been said, that might seem to reflect on the other House. It would be time enough to meet any charge when it was fully substantiated before the House. There could be no impropriety in the institution of such an enquiry as the noble lord had proposed. He only hoped, that any such report as might be expected to result from an enquiry of this sort, would be fairly stated, and that then there would be an opportunity of discussing the matter fully.

After a conversation, in which Mr. Fox and Mr. H. Dundas were the chief speakers, the motion was put and agreed to *nem. con.*

Mr. Pitt rose, and said, that he had a motion to make, which he was so convinced would merit the approbation of the House, that he would only just mention it, which was, "That there be laid before this House an account of the sums of money borrowed, and debts created, from 1776 to 1783."

Mr. Fox observed, that whilst the right hon. gentleman brought forward any motion respecting the business of that House, he, as well

well as Administration, ought to reflect on the peculiar situation in which they stood to it, and that the House might deliberate on the proprieties of all their motions, so long as they stand in that predicament. For the present, however, he would not oppose the motion.

Accordingly it passed unanimously.

#### FEBRUARY 9.

Lord Beauchamp, after referring to the report of the committee (which was read) appointed on Thursday to inspect the Journals of the House of Lords, asserted, that the House of Commons had acted in every respect agreeable to its former custom on subjects of a similar nature; and that this point might be the more fully evinced, he would move that a committee be appointed to investigate the usage of both or either house of parliament, in regard to their interference with the conduct of men invested with discretionary powers in a public capacity.

The motion being seconded, a committee, of which his lordship formed a part, was appointed accordingly.

The order of the day being called for, Commodore Johnstone rose and said, that before the House came to any further resolutions, or went into further considerations on the state of the nation, he wished the hon. gentleman below him (Mr. Fox) would bring forward and exhibit his India Bill. He had alleged it was ready, it was in his pocket: Why did he not produce it? It was to his obstinate resistance on this subject that the present stagnation of public business was to be attributed. His Majesty, his ministers, the country, the parliament, and the company, looked with expectancy for the production of this new system of reform; and till it was exhibited, he did not see how either men in office could quit their stations, or the business of the nation be executed.

Mr. Fox contradicted the assertion, that public business was interrupted because his bill was not exhibited. He would tell the hon. gentleman who spoke last why the affairs of the nation were at a stand. It was because Ministry persisted in the retention of their offices, notwithstanding the House had declared that they did not possess its confidence. Confidence is the ground of every government, and without confidence no government can be conducted, no administration can exist. At the present crisis there was a ministry, but there was in fact no government at all. How long a desperate set of men might think proper to disturb the public happiness, to interrupt the progress of the great national affairs of this kingdom, he could not say; but he wished it to be understood, that it was to them and to their obstinacy that all these disasters were to be attributed, which at present presented

themselves under so many alarming aspects to the people of this country.

He wished the House to proceed with caution, with deference to Majesty, and with becoming moderation at the present threatening crisis. No circumstance could render their procedure either more respectable or more efficacious than this. The sovereign had declared his most gracious intention to take into consideration the resolutions of the House of Commons intimated to him. He wished therefore that the House would wave all further procedure on points of so much delicacy, till the effect of its former resolutions on the royal mind were fully known. This was a mode of procedure which he thought became the dignity of the House; and till such time as it was known what his Majesty's determinations were, whether he was resolved to follow the example of his illustrious forefathers, or to pursue a different line of conduct, he thought it would be fit to postpone the order of the day to Friday or Monday next, as might seem most agreeable to the sentiments of the House.

Lord Malton said, he did not by any means rise to oppose the adjournment which had just been moved. He only wished the right hon. gentleman, Mr. Fox, to explain some particulars of his conduct, and to speak the same language in the House as out of it. The subject was the voice of the people. He had lately said that their voice was to be heard within these walls. There was a time when he reprobated that doctrine. The noble lord held a paper in his hand, which contained a resolution of the Westminster committee, which he would read to the House. It was to this effect, and it was dated from the King's-Arms-Tavern, that Lord North's saying the voice of the people of England was *only* to be heard in parliament was unconstitutional. This resolution was signed Charles-James Fox. This inconsistency he would be glad the right hon. gentleman would explain. There was still another point on which he likewise thought his conduct required to be explained. He had heard him some time ago say, that it was not the intention of the House to *stop* the supplies. But a very different sentiment had escaped him last Thursday in answer to the right hon. gentleman, Mr. Pitt, over the way. For then he had said that it was, in his apprehension, very improper to go on with the supplies. These were things in which the noble lord would be glad to be set right, especially as he conceived no inconsiderable majority of the right hon. gentleman's constituents thought as he did.

Mr. Fox begged only to say a few words, in reply to what had fallen from the noble lord, as he was well aware for what purpose these misrepresentations were now made. The circumstances connected with the resolution



lution of the Westminster committee now read, which his lordship had not stated, were, that he was at that time chairman of the committee, and often obliged to sign resolutions he did not approve; that the noble lord, on those violent measures, always voted against him, though he had no right to vote at all; and that consequently he might have signed the resolution now mentioned, though he had voted against it. He did not, however, mean to deny the opinion imputed to him in that instance; but because he thought it improper to say that the voice of the people was *only* to be heard in parliament, did that imply that therefore he adopted the converse proposition, that their voice *never* was to be heard there? Such a construction of his words was contrary to common sense: for he ever did, and trusted he ever had held the House of Commons the natural and constitutional organ by which the collective voice of the people was to be gathered.

The noble lord's other accusation about the House's stopping the supplies was just as loosely and incorrectly stated as his former. The statement at least now made had not accorded at any time with his ideas on the subject; and he would rely on the recollection of the House, whether any words which had fallen from him could bear such an interpretation. Most certainly the term of *stop*, for example, had not been used by him on the occasion. It was a resource which the constitution placed in the House for its own defence, but which ought not to be acted from but when authorised by emergencies of the last importance. It was, indeed, an effectual redress, but a redress which nothing but some great and pressing necessity could render eligible. He would not say such an incident might not take place, as it was not easy to say in what the present circumstances of the country might terminate. But undoubtedly it was a step to which he would not consent for one, while it was in the power of the House to adopt any other measure more moderate and pacific. His language, therefore, in answer to the right hon. gentleman, was misrepresented. He had used the word *postpone*, not *stop*; and on what principle had he done this? Because he could perceive no disposition on the part of ministers to consult the honour, the consequence of the House, which is, in fact, the consequence of the people in this country.

#### FEBRUARY 11.

The Speaker on a motion having left the chair, the House resolved itself into a committee.

Mr. Steele said, that he held several estimates in his hands, respecting the sums to be voted for the supplies of the ordnance. Some of these were new, and the committee

would of course consider of their propriety. He therefore would move, in the first place, that a sum not exceeding 111,634l. be granted for ordinaries and extraordinaries. This he said was a matter of common course, and as such he would not comment on it. The next sum he would move as the resolution of the committee, was for various purposes. Some of these were new, and it might be proper for the committee to examine their propriety. There was an intention to erect some new fortifications, which might constitute a subject for the discussion of the committee. In the mean time he would give in his estimates, and on this ground move that a sum not exceeding 439,369l. 7s. 4d. be granted, agreeable to the estimates connected with it.

Mr. Rolle said, that various sums in the estimates were to be appropriated for the purpose of erecting new fortifications. This he by no means considered as compatible with the present exigence of the country. He was by no means fond of erecting many fortifications. These fortifications must be filled with soldiers, a circumstance by no means friendly to the liberties of a free country. He thought that an equal sum would be much better bestowed on the marine and navy of the country. There was one article to which he must object, which was the purchase of Sir Gregory Page's house. He saw no reason for such a purchase. It had been said that Woolwich was unhealthy, that the academicians were subjected there to agues. He did not know whether this was well founded or not, but he saw no reason for so extravagant a purchase at present. He would therefore move that a sum of 108,000l. be deducted from the above sum, as improper to be applied to the purposes stated in the estimates.

Lord Sheffield supported the expediency of keeping up the old fortifications, and erecting new ones.

Mr. Steele observed, that the hon. gentleman who spoke last save one, seemed to confound the estimate of repairs with those of new works. He would state to him a few particulars on the point.—Here he went into a long discussion of articles, submitting each implicitly to the judgment of the committee.

Mr. Rolle observed, that what had fallen from the hon. gentleman only confirmed his opinion.

Lord Mulgrave expatiated on the abuses of the public money in the ordnance department. Every circumstance at present inculcated the duty of a rigid system of finance. He was sorry to observe that this was not the object of the present motion. The public money of this nation ought to be distributed for the support of its navy. There was no doubt but that its docks should be properly guarded. But what was the

ordinary method of conducting a business of this nature? Was it not making a job of it, and distributing the public money for the purpose of gratifying the views and the avarice of individuals? The works at Portsmouth were well executed, but they were done in a taste which either marked the genius or the turn of the engineer, or the prodigality of the public. He adverted to the purchase of Sir Gregory Page's house. He said, the reasons which supported such a purchase were not well founded. He himself had been in Woolwich for some time, and had experienced no bad effects from his residence there. Besides, it was not merely the purchase of so large a house which challenged his attention, but the additional charge of repairing and supporting it. He therefore hoped the Committee would advert to these circumstances.

Mr. Courtenay could not sit still and hear so much indiscriminate odium heaped by the noble Lord on the Board of Ordnance. He was convinced similar charges lay against other Boards with which he was connected. Neither could he support the insinuation of a noble Lord, respecting the conduct and jobs of engineers who had been employed by that Board in the execution of public affairs. The character of those gentlemen was above such imputations, and even claimed the respect of his Lordship; it was therefore unfair and unhandsome to brand so worthy a set of men with the opprobrium which he had heaped upon them. As to the purchase of Sir Gregory Page's house, its propriety might be a matter of nice speculation; but in this the Board of Ordnance had not proceeded with precipitancy; they had endeavoured to obtain every necessary information on the subject; they had called physicians, and even interrogated them whether agues, to which boys it had been alledged were subjected at Woolwich, did not meliorate their constitution: he could therefore see no ground for those charges which the noble Lord had brought forward with so little discrimination.

Lord Mulgrave rose to explain.

Mr. Steele then stated, that the practice of the Board had never been to call for sums without going to work regularly, by first having just and reasonable estimates of the several demands laid before them, by such engineers and other workmen as were competent to make them out. The details indeed were not brought down to the House, because those were too voluminous and extensive, and were not very well adapted to the business of the House, though they were all in readiness in the event of being called for. He was now, therefore, to move for such sums as the repairs of the fortifications at Portsmouth, Plymouth, and a variety of other places required. But instead of specifying the peculiar expence of each, and to

save the House much time, he would do as had always been done before, lump the whole, and move that the sum of 324,000*l.*, and odds, be voted for the Ordnance estimates of the present year.

Mr. Brett objected to various particulars, He stated the case of the fortresses at Sheerness, which the sea might wash away every year. He was also very much against the purchase of the house on Blackheath, and wished any Gentleman would stand up in his place, and attempt to give any estimate of the repairs which it might require. For his own part, the alterations which he understood were intended, struck him as implying an expence of which there would be no end. He thought the whole project a mad one.

Sir William Dolben did think some more attention ought to be paid to the young academicians health than Gentlemen were aware of. Every thing, in his mind, depended on this fundamental circumstance, and there was only another which he thought deserved the preference; this was their morals, which he insisted would be considerably secured by their removal from Woolwich, where they could not help frequently mixing with the lowest, the vilest, and the most worthless company, and where their young minds were obnoxious to every species of vulgar debauchery, to a situation which must in a great measure prevent these and various other disadvantages. A few pounds on an object of so much consequence were, in his mind, ill saved, and therefore he should trust the project would be adopted.

General Smith and Mr. Onslow finished the debate, when the motion for the sum of 324,000*l.* was put, and carried without a division.

## FEBRUARY 12.

The House having resolved itself into a Committee of the whole House, on a bill to render the Receipt Tax more effectual and productive, Mr. Ord in the chair:

The first article which engaged the attention of the House, referred to the words in the preamble of the bill declared and enacted. To these

The Attorney General objected, as tending to produce an ambiguity previous to the 25th of March in the Courts of Justice, respecting the operation and efficacy of the act now in force; and he did not apprehend there was any necessity for him to state the consequences which might accrue to individuals from such a circumstance. He therefore thought the humanity, as well as the justice of the House materially concerned in these words.

Mr. Eden did not see the matter in so strong a light as it seemed to press on the Hon. Gentleman. He agreed with his noble friend (Lord John Cavendish) that these words had an obvious and palpable refer-



sence to certain doubts and difficulties which had arisen in construing the act, and that it could never be so far misconceived as to have an hostile aspect. He, for one, however, would willingly accommodate the matter, and leave out the word or words which the Hon. Gentleman thought most exceptionable.

Another object of some conversation was, concerning with whom it was most proper to deposit the stamps. Much was said about the penal clause, which states, that whoever should sign a receipt without a stamp, was liable to a penalty of 10*l*. Lord John Cavendish, Mr. Whitbread, Mr. Solicitor General, Sir Cecil Wray, and Mr. Hufsey, all endeavoured to ascertain and explain the clause in such a manner as should effectually prevent all litigation. It was observed by some of the speakers, that the penalty of death concerning the forgery of this stamp was a very hard one; but Lord J. Cavendish stated that in very obvious and fair terms, as respecting only a forgery of the stamp itself, which, he said, was by no means more difficult of imitation than others, and was of consequence as obnoxious to forgery as any other instruments of a similar nature; so that it did not seem to him more cruel in one case than another. This led them to resume the business of settling with whom the stamps should be confided: many abuses of this sort were mentioned, and to prevent these,

Mr. Brook Watson said, that the stamps ought undoubtedly to be in the possession of those who were the sellers, as buyers were a set of people who derived that description very often, at least, accidentally. Many people bought articles of various kinds, from motives which occurred to them occasionally, and consequently could not be supposed to have stamps always about with them, for the purpose of answering these sort of contingencies. The seller, however, or retailer, ought to be prepared, by having these things in readiness, as what was his business was matter of only accident to him. The dealers, therefore, in his opinion, ought to provide themselves with a proper quantity of stamps, and charge them regularly in their bills of parcels.

Lord J. Cavendish gladly and readily adopted the improvement of the Honourable Gentleman, and thanked him for suggesting what he owned he must be better acquainted with than his Lordship.

Mr. Ord having left the chair, the House was resumed, when

Lord Beauchamp brought up the Report of the Committee appointed to inspect the Journals of the Commons, respecting the usage of particular cases of privilege.

Mr. Dundas moved, that the Report be printed, which, after a long conversation, was agreed to.

FEBRUARY 16.

Lord Beauchamp rose to move his propositions, in consequence of the resolutions of the other House. Now, he said, that the Report of the Committee appointed to search the Journals was in every hand, they would be able to inform themselves fully on the rights of the House, with regard to their controul and guardianship of the public boards. The resolution of the House of Lords was, as he had already stated, of a nature so truly alarming, that they could not sit still and observe it in tame acquiescence. At the same time, it was not his wish nor design to bring forward any proposition which should divide the two Houses, or create dissention between them. Perhaps the other House had not been equally cautious and considerate; or else, when they referred to a resolution on their Journals of the 27th of February, 1704, declaring it to be illegal in either of the branches of the Legislature to suspend the operation of an act of Parliament, they would have turned to the next page, where they would have found a resolution declaring, that it was the duty of the House, in case of any difference of opinion on any point resolved by the other House, to desire a conference, in order that they might learn the reasons upon which the House had acted, before they proceeded to give their opinion on the matter. This, he said, he should have expected from the nobleness of the House, as the means of preventing discord and division between the two Houses.

It was not the business of either House to pass abstract resolutions. The tendency and intention of all their proceedings should be manifest. This, he believed, he might venture to say was a duty which that House constantly kept in view, and in all their resolutions constantly practised.

One of their first and most ancient duties it was, to watch over the conduct of the public boards, and to give them such seasonable and previous advice, as they in their wisdom should think necessary to the maintenance of the public funds, and to the prevention of heavy burthens on the people. They had always interfered with their advice. They had passed monitory resolutions in terms infinitely more authoritative than a late resolution; and it was to be remarked, that even in the present moment, when the House of Lords seemed to watch their proceedings with so jealous an eye, this was the only resolution to which they objected. All the other resolutions, therefore, which they had lately passed, met with the approbation of the House of Lords.

To prove that this exertion of their authority was perfectly legal and customary, that it sprang from an unquestioned privilege, the Committee appointed to search the Journals had made their report of a variety

of precedents, some of which went much farther than the present resolution. The Committee had been careful to take no precedent from any period of our history which might be called a time of violence; they had therefore omitted many which they might have brought forward; but those they had adduced would be respected as precedents of authority, which ought to guide that House: They were cases in which the House had interposed its voice, surely as authoritatively as they had done in the present instance; for they had not now suspended law; they had not now given any other suspension than a solemn advice: and certainly a solemn monition and advice of that House would, as it ought, have its influence on any public body of men in the kingdom.

He said it was his intention to propose to the House six resolutions, and he would read them.

1. "That this House hath not assumed to itself any right to suspend the execution of law."

2. "That it is constitutional, and agreeable to usage, for the House of Commons to declare their sense and opinions respecting the exercise of every discretionary power, which, whether by act of Parliament or otherwise, is vested in any body of men whatever for the public service."

3. "That it is a duty peculiarly incumbent upon this House, entrusted by the constitution with the sole and separate grant of the public money, to watch over, and, by their timely admonitions and interference, to endeavour to prevent the rash and precipitate exercise of any power, however vested, which may be attended with any danger to public credit, or with heavy losses to the revenue, and consequent burthens upon the people."

4. "That the resolution of the 24th of December last, which declared the sense and opinion of this House, "That the Commissioners of the Treasury ought not to give their consent to the acceptance of any bills drawn or to be drawn from India, until it shall be made appear to this House, that sufficient means can be provided for the payment of the same, when they respectively fall due, by a regular application of the clear effects of the Company, after discharging in their regular course the customs, and other sums due to the public, and the current demands upon the Company; or until this House shall otherwise direct"—was constitutional, founded in a sense of duty towards the people of this kingdom, and dictated by a becoming anxiety for the preservation of the revenue, and the support of public credit."

5. "That if this House had, in the unsettled state of the East-India Company,

which was and still is under the consideration of Parliament, in order to form some provisions for the relief of that Company, and the security of the public, neglected to pass the said resolution of the 24th of December, to guard against a new charge, to a very considerable amount, being rashly incurred before any means of answering it had been stated or provided; they would have been justly and highly responsible to their constituents for the increase of those evils and difficulties which are already too severely felt."

6. "That this House will, with the utmost moderation, but with the most decided firmness, maintain inviolably the principles of the constitution, and will persevere in the diligent and conscientious discharge of the duties which they owe to their constituents, and to their posterity, equally solicitous to preserve their own privileges, and to avoid any encroachments on those of either of the other branches of the Legislature."

The noble Lord, after some further remarks, concluded with making his first proposition.

Sir Grey Cooper seconded the motion. He said the resolution of the House of Lords struck at the foundation of their privileges, and at their use in the constitution. It tended to influence the minds of men against their proceedings—to diminish the confidence of the people—to undermine their importance—and to add to the spirit of that levity and disregard with which the most solemn acts of parliament were already treated. These were circumstances that surely called for their most serious attention.

In the days of Queen Elizabeth, the House was told that they were unfit to meddle with affairs of state. At other periods of our history, Kings and Chancellors had informed them, that the church concerns were above their comprehension. But it was reserved for the present day to inform them, that they were not qualified to give their advice in matters which affected public credit, and which might bring heavy burthens on their constituents.

The Hon. Baronet went into a pretty long detail of precedents to shew, that it had been the practice of the House in every Parliament, to pass resolutions of a similar nature to that of the 24th of December last. He accompanied his recital with the history of every precedent, and quoted the authority of Pollithwaite, and other collections of parliamentary historians, for the testimony of great constitutional lawyers. Having done this, he examined the case which had drawn from the other House this pointed resolution.

Mr. McDonald said, that that House could only maintain its true dignity and importance



ance by taking care that their resolutions were always founded on legal principles, and that their tendency was strictly constitutional. They should remember, that they had frequently been doomed to repentance and shame for hasty and inconsiderate measures. There had been cases where the Judges had come to their bar, and had convinced them that their proceedings were not founded in law, and that they were on the contrary directly hostile to it. In the present case he thought them in the wrong. The resolution, if it meant any thing effectual, meant to suspend the exercise of a discretionary power; for it declared, that the Treasury should not exercise it until they were directed by that House. It went further, in his mind, than any one of the precedents contained in the report from the Journals; and the particular cases pointed out by the noble Lord and Hon. Baronet were not by any means in point. They must always examine the context and history of every case which appeared on their Journals, in order to come at its real meaning and consequence. Of these precedents in the report there were several, which by no means concluded favourably to the present question.

Mr. Grenville made a comment on several of the precedents which had been produced by the Committee, and printed. He endeavoured to shew that many of them were not in point, and by no means calculated to support the resolutions founded on them.

The Hon. Mr. Erskine said, that if there were any disposed to twist the meaning of words to the worst of purposes, to trifle with the dignity of the House, to exercise its honour to their prejudices; if there were any animated by such base motives, and distinguished by so mean a practice, they could scarce misconceive or misapply the resolutions which had been moved by the noble Lord. They contained an assertion of its privileges, and vindication of its rights.

The resolution to which particular allusion had been made, was no Act of Parliament, neither was it, what is more, paramount to an Act of Parliament; it only expressed the sentiments of the House respecting a discretionary power, which, by the decision of all the branches of the Legislature, was invested in the Treasury. It did not enact that the Lords Commissioners *shall* not accept such and such bills, but declared it to be their opinion, that they *ought* not to accept them. Was there not then a material difference between these two ideas, and between these two modes of expression? What are words but the signs of ideas? If therefore he was entitled to judge of the propriety and meaning of the common signs employed for that purpose in this country; if he understood any thing of the precision of the

English language, and he thought himself as well entitled to judge of this point as his learned friend (Mr. McDonald) over the way—he could not but assert that these two modes of expression were *toto calo* different, and in no respect whatever authorised the comment which had been put upon them. The resolution of the House of Commons, therefore, to which reference had been made, did not tend to confine or cripple the Lords of the Treasury, but to assist them with the most salutary advice in the discharge of a trust in which the happiness of the East-India Company, and with this object the interest of the nation, was essentially involved.

He asserted that the precedents, which had been laid before the House, furnished ground for the interference of the House with respect to all the prerogatives of Majesty, and even in the feudal tenures of Majesty, which were the most ancient, and of course the most sacred. He knew of the exercise of no regal privilege, in the regulation of which the House was not entitled to interpose, and had not in fact interposed its advice. The late resolution was therefore no innovation, but authorised by the most ancient procedure.

Mr. Dundas said, that after so much declamatory and inflammatory language, he would not venture to make a speech, but only to throw out a few observations. He observed, that with respect to the privilege and prerogative of the House of Commons, and of the other branch of the Legislature, to give advice to the Treasury, all were agreed; but he figured an instance, in which both these parts of the constitution gave a different advice. In this instance what would be the conduct of Ministers? The resolution alluded to, he did not consider as binding in the same degree as a law. Still, however, it bound up the hands of Ministers so far—it obliged them, in the acceptance of India bills in every instance beyond the sum of 300,000*l.* to consult the sense of the House of Commons. This was the embarrassment which it surely imposed on them, and which in its literal sense, and as he understood the English language, to the understanding of which he would not lay an equal claim either with his learned friend (Mr. Macdonald) on the right, or his other learned friend (Mr. Erskine) on the left. He would therefore propose an amendment on the fourth resolution, and that a clause should be added to it, explanatory of the sentiments of the House respecting it, and of its original intention in the formation of it. He wished also, that the fourth resolution might be the first, and the others would naturally follow from it as corollaries. On neither of these points would he however insist very strenuously.

As to the *argumentum ad hominem*, it might be a legal phrase, but surely not a parliamentary

tary one. He did not think himself bound to answer what had been thrown out on that subject. In the case of Mr. Henley, that Gentleman having obtained no appointment from his Majesty, an address was incompetent, and a declaratory resolution of the House of Commons became absolutely necessary. He spoke of the Addresses which had been presented, and denied the interposition of ministerial influence with respect to them.

Mr. Fox confessed himself much astonished at the speech of the learned gentleman, Mr. Dundas, who in his opinion had acted the part of an able and ingenious though not a prudent advocate for the House of Lords. He meant nothing invidious or personal by the term, but would appeal honestly and fairly to the House, whether, had their Lordships meant to plead their cause at the bar of the House, they could have fixed on any one who could have managed the interests of his noble clients with more address. For what was the amendment proposed but an acknowledgement that the House did not understand its own opinion? It was an explanation which virtually and substantially recanted the sentiment conveyed by the resolution. It was however to be remembered, that the House of Commons spoke not to the House of Lords, but to the Lords of the Treasury, and that the House of Lords had signified their difference with the House of Commons for an exertion of those privileges which were their exclusive right; and the mode of blaming the resolutions which they had treated thus disrespectfully affected every resolution of the House. It gave them all a colour of ambiguity and obscurity which they did not deserve. It lowered them in the eyes of the public, and made them speak a language which it was the interest of some that they should speak, but which, however, was foreign to their hearts. He was sorry that he was obliged to recur so often to the facts which had distinguished the earlier part of the present session; for these were the facts which had incurred the resentment of their lordships, and which they seemed so very much offended by. They had acquired their object, and still they were dissatisfied. The measure on which the honour of the House was pledged they had disposed of, but in a manner extremely disgraceful; some said by a *Court juggle*; others, by the absolute command of Majesty; but none ever allowed the House of Lords any merit whatever in this famous decision of that celebrated measure.

Mr. Chancellor Pitt said, that the Right Hon. Gentleman, in his present conduct, seemed to be inclined to declare war with the other House of Parliament, and to load them with invective, which should bring upon them popular odium; and he seemed to be thus evidently solicitous of bringing

on what he pretended the most to condemn, a quarrel between the two Houses. He trusted and believed that the people had too much good sense; that they had too much veneration for a House which now, as well as in many former instances, had interposed between the violence of the House of Commons and the Constitution, and had rescued the one from the intemperance of the other. In the present case, they had observed a resolution of this House with a jealousy which became their wisdom, and finding in it an ambiguity that alarmed them, they had declared their sense of its tendency with manliness, and at the same time with respect. If they had construed the resolution wrong; if they had given to the words a meaning which they did not bear, that must be ascribed to its true cause, not to any captious disposition of that noble House—not, as had been insinuated, to a desire of diminishing the importance or the confidence of the Commons; but to a laudable desire of guarding the sacred purity of our constitution against the temporary heat, the phrenzy, the violence, or the forgetfulness of either of the other branches of the legislature.

He said he was not in the House at the time that the resolution complained of was passed. He confessed that he had always looked on that resolution as at best a hasty and inconsiderate measure, and conveyed at the same time in words of so much ambiguity as to justify the House in their acceptance of it. It undoubtedly might be construed from its letter to assume a paramount power to the discretionary authority vested by the act of parliament in the Board of Treasury; for the resolution expressly declared, that they were to accept of no more bills until the House of Commons should so direct. What was the meaning of these words “until the House of Commons should so direct?” Their meaning was evidently that they should hold themselves subject to the injunction of that House, and should, in consequence of their interference and controul, suspend the exercise of their discretionary powers.

He concluded with saying, that as no precise idea could be given to the phrase in the resolution of the 24th of December, until the political dictionary of Mr. Eden came out, a dictionary which he dared to say would fix the language as well as the tenets of that House, he would, to put an end to present constructions, move the previous question.

Lord North reprobated the supposed ambiguity of the resolution on which the right hon. gentleman, Mr. Pitt, had grounded most of his reasoning. He was at a loss how to answer most of those arguments, which, in his opinion, were merely a sort of philosophical exertions, which no ingenuity of man could render so precise as utterly to exclude



exclude all quibble and sophistry; and unless words were understood in their common acceptance, there would be no end to misconceiving their meaning. He thought, however, that we ought to regard their primary and usual sense as the safest, and least liable to misconstruction; and taking these observations for granted, he challenged any man to fix any imputation of ambiguity on the resolution in question. His lordship then considered the subject in a great variety of

lights, and was extremely facetious in many parts of his speech.

Mr. Arden and others spoke, after which the House divided on the previous question.

|      |   |     |
|------|---|-----|
| Ayes | — | 157 |
| Noes | — | 186 |

Majority against the previous question } 29

The original motions were then put and carried.  
[To be continued.]

## CARLETON-HOUSE.

THE alterations at Carleton-House being finished, we take the earliest opportunity of laying before our readers the following brief description of the State Apartments, as they appeared on the 10th inst. when his Royal Highness gave a grand ball to all the principal nobility and gentry.

The apartment where the Prince usually dines was lighted up by three gilt chandeliers, and a number of elegant girandoles.—The pannels are white, with gold mouldings, and rich carved work. The cornice, freeze, and pediments, are of white and gold, to correspond with the pannels and doors, which, when closed, are so contrived, that they have not the appearance of doors. The hangings of this apartment are crimson damask. In the niches are placed some curious marble slabs.

Two chambers intervene between the dining and state-room: these apartments are noble and rich, but have little to distinguish them, except six paintings; two of which are ruins and landscapes by an Italian master, Andromeda chained to the rock, and the Annunciation.

### STATE-ROOM.

The entrance to this grand apartment fills the mind with an inexpressible idea of greatness and splendour. In this the state chair of his Highness is placed beneath a canopy of crimson velvet, richly trimmed and embroidered. In the center of the canopy on the top are two shields, upon which is placed a crown of laurel; near the shield are eagles heads in gold; and at each corner is an helmet *emplumé*; each helmet on the dexter side is supported by a lion, and those on the sinister by an unicorn.

The state chair is of a gold frame, covered with crimson damask; on each corner of the seat is a lion's head, expressive of fortitude and strength; the feet of the chair have serpents twining round them to denote wisdom. Facing the throne appears the helmet of Minerva; and over the windows, the curtains of which are crimson velvet, hung in beautiful order, Glory is represented by a Saint George set in a superb *gloria*, in which are interwoven laurel branches. Trophies of war, &c. described and finished in a superb manner, are continued the full extent of the

windows. In this apartment the pictures of most of the Royal Family are to be placed, but it contains at present only those of their Majesties.

### BALL-ROOM.

This apartment exhibits a pleasing contrast to the state-room, and is, from the stile in which it is laid out, admitted to be as *nouvelle* as it is beautiful. The pannels are white, framed with a light moulding, which appears to be entwined with foliage and flowers after nature. On each side of the room are placed five large looking-glasses, the framing of which is light and well in character for a ball-room. A very magnificent glass is plac'd at one end of the room, of such dimensions, that it reflects almost every object in the room. On the other end is an orchestra, elevated about eleven feet from the ground. A painted railing, of blue upon a white ground, forms the gallery of it. At the back a most beautiful crimson damask drapery appears, hung in a well-disposed stile, and blended with festoons of artificial roses and leaves, that give it the most beautiful relief. Plumes of artificial feathers, fixed in small coronets, are placed in proper distances round the room. The crowns in which they are placed appear to be set with jewelry, representing emeralds, sapphires, topazes, and rubies. The ceiling consists of a white ground, from which are suspended in variety of forms, rich festoons of foliage and flowers, the beauty and order of which no description can do justice to. From different meetings of the festoons, are fourteen crystal lustres, so hung that it can hardly be discovered by what means they are supported. On each side of the room, rows of seats were placed, for the accommodation of the company in the intervals of the dances.

The room adjoining, being the second next the gardens, is elegant, and perfectly modern. This serves as an antichamber to a beautiful

### SALOON.

This apartment may be stiled the *chef d'œuvre*, and in every ornament discovers great invention. It is hung with a figured lemon satin. The window curtains, sofas, and chairs, are of the same colour, except some which are placed in the recesses of the

bow-window next the garden, and are of gilt cane. The cornices, mouldings, doors, &c. are of extraordinary workmanship. — The ceiling is ornamented with emblematical paintings, representing the Graces and Muses, together with devices; and Jupiter, Mercury, Apollo, and Paris. In the center of the ceiling is a representation of Pegasus. Over the doors are also placed paintings. — The chimney-piece is a beautiful design, and from the *or moulu* ornaments on the marble, it possesses an appearance of great richness. Two *or moulu* chandeliers are placed here; it is impossible by expression to do justice to the extraordinary workmanship, as well as design of these ornaments; they each consist of a palm, branching out in five directions,

for the reception of lights. A beautiful figure of a rural nymph is represented, entwining the stems of the tree with wreaths of flowers. In the center of the room is a rich chandelier. To see this apartment, *dans son plus beau jour*, it should be viewed in the glass over the chimney-piece.

The range of apartments from the Saloon to the Ball-room, when the doors are open, formed one of the grandest spectacles that ever was beheld.

The suite of rooms on the story parallel with the garden were also lighted up, and from the neatness and simplicity of their furniture, hangings, and ornaments, gave great satisfaction.

## MONTHLY CHRONICLE.

### FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

Rochelle, Jan. 20.

THE night of the 17th to the 18th of this month, has been for us a most dreadful one. The end of the world could hardly trace a more terrifying spectacle. On the 17th, towards evening, a strong wind arose, and at nine o'clock we felt a shock of an earthquake, attended with thunder, lightning, and hail. The largest trees were torn up by the roots; the tiles and windows flew about the streets. Two hundred chimnies were thrown down; the upper stories were demolished, and even some houses have been totally destroyed. The postilion from Nantes says, that he saw many trees lying on the road, torn up by the roots; that from Bourdeaux assures, that the country between Rochfort and Saintes has suffered much. The disasters at sea are still more melancholy. Many ships have foundered, both on our coast and that of the isle of Rhea. Twenty-four dead bodies have been taken out of the water here, and a much greater number were taken up at the isle of Rhea.

Cadiz, Feb. 1. Among others that are preparing to embark here, by order of the commandant at war, are two companies of artillery, and some experienced engineers for St. Augustine, in East Florida; which place, on its cession by the English, the government has determined to make strong as art and nature combined can essay it. The two Floridas will be consolidated into

one government, under the supreme direction of the governor of the Havannah. As the English will remove all their artillery, several pieces of cannon, all brass, are selecting in the king's arsenal to be shipped for that place.

Frankfort, Feb. 10. His Highness the Prince Bishop of Treves has published in his dominions a general toleration in favour of the Lutheran and other reformed churches. His Highness has not confined himself to a simple toleration, but has also put them in possession of a church, and enabled them henceforward to hold all state and military employments, without distinction, equally with the Catholics. The ministers of their church are permitted to perform their functions according to their rites and customs.

Vienna, Feb. 14. Although the cabinet of Versailles has given peace to the Levant, it is assured here that the firmness of the King of Prussia towards our court has not a little contributed to it; for whilst the court of France was re-establishing concord in the Divan, and disposing their minds to peace, Frederick was offering us, without noise, the alternative of a limited moderation, or a dreadful war. That monarch writing to his minister, said to him, "Assure the Court of Vienna that I want nothing for myself, but that I shall prevent others from having too much."

### DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

FEBRUARY 23.

THE Seahorse frigate arrived off Plymouth from Madras. She sailed from Madras the 2d of October, arrived at the

Cape on the 9th of December, sailed from thence the 27th of the same month, and did not touch at St. Helena.

She



She left the following men of war at the Cape :

|                            |              |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Hero,                      | Monarca,     |
| Cumberland,                | Exeter,      |
| Africa,                    | San Carlos,  |
| Europe,                    | Sceptre, and |
| The <i>Nayade</i> frigate. |              |

The *Eurydice* frigate arrived at the Cape in December, and the *Swallow* arrived there the 12th, and sailed the 21st of December.

The *Seahorse* brings intelligence that General Stuart was dismissed the service on the 17th of September.—On the evening of the same day he was put under arrest at the Garden House by Lieutenant Gomond, Fort Adjutant, and Mr. Stanton, Lord Macartney's Secretary. He was conducted to his own house, and a guard placed over him. He was arrested as he was sending off orders to the King's troops.

Colonel Lang was appointed Lieutenant-General and Commander-in-Chief, in consequence of Sir John Burgoyne's refusing to take the command, as he said he did not consider Gen. Stuart as legally dismissed the service. Col. Lang on the 18th went to the Mount to take the command of the army—which Sir John Burgoyne first refused to obey, and then left the army to Lieutenant Colonel Floyd.

There was the most promising appearance of a speedy peace with Tippoo Saib, as he had given the most unequivocal declarations of pacific desires, and had entered into a negotiation for the purpose.

25. The sessions began at the Old-Bailey, when 20 prisoners were tried, six of whom were capitally convicted, viz. Daniel Clarke, for burglariously breaking and entering the dwelling-house of Richard Garret; William Martin, alias Thomas Banks, for feloniously breaking and entering the dwelling-house of Charles Pavey; John Davison, for burglary in the dwelling-house of James Barclay; Alexander Cullum, for burglary in the dwelling-house of John Pearce; Richard M'Donagh, for assaulting Robert Hester on the highway; and William Hubbard, for burglariously breaking open the dwelling house of William Beresford.—Thomas Turner was tried on an indictment for stealing a quantity of apparel in the house of Edward Bittmead, in the Mews at Mill-hill, Marybone, and the verdict left special for the opinion of the judges.

26. Fifteen prisoners were tried at the Old-Bailey, five of whom were capitally convicted, viz. Daniel Gunter, for stopping the Brentford coach; Charles Manning, for robbing Frances Hazleton, a child of ten years of age, in Stepney fields; John Smith, for robbing Francis Franco, Esq. on the highway; James Burn, for feloniously assaulting Elizabeth Farmer on the highway; William Prosser, for feloniously assaulting Isaac Poland near Drury-lane play-house.

27. Twelve prisoners were tried at the Old-Bailey, four of whom were convicted of felonies, and eight acquitted.

28. Fifteen prisoners were tried at the Old-Bailey, three of whom were capitally convicted, viz. John Jacobs, Samuel Selshire, and Richard M'Donagh, for feloniously assaulting Cha. Chapman on the highway.—Four were convicted of felonies, and eight were acquitted.

28. At two o'clock, the Committee of Common Council appointed to present the thanks of the court and the freedom of this city to Mr. Pitt, set off from Guildhall to Berkley-square, in the following order :

Two Marshals, with red and white cockades.

Four Constables, with ditto.

Two Marshals, with cockades and fashes.

Mr. Alderman Townsend, Chairman, followed by the Committee.

Town Clerk, and the Clerk of the Chamber.

About three o'clock they arrived at Mr. Pitt's house, where they were very politely received, and Mr. Alderman Townsend presented the resolutions; and at the same time addressed Mr. Pitt in a very elegant speech, to which Mr. Pitt returned an answer, couched in the warmest terms of respect.

The cavalcade then returned, amidst the acclamations of applauding thousands, to Grocers' Hall, where Mr. Pitt received the freedom of the city, and afterwards was entertained with a most sumptuous dinner, served with the utmost elegance and profusion.

At Temple-bar the procession was formed in the following order :

Two Marshals.

Constables, two and two.

Under City Marshal on horseback.

Standard Banner.

Six city pendants, two and two; their trains supported by children, decorated with scarlet and white ribbons.

City State Banner.

The colours carried by the city watermen in scarlet jacks, silver badges, and scarlet and white caps.

Artillery Company's music, two and two.

Committee in their carriages; their servants with blue cockades.

A large blue pendant, with the words *Pitt and the Constitution*.

Upper City Marshal on horseback.

Chairman of Committee

with

Mr. CHANCELLOR PITT.

Mr. Pitt's friends, among whom were the Marquis of Carmarthen, and the Lords Temple, Chatham, Sydney, with several others of the nobility, closed the procession.

As Mr. Pitt's carriage passed the obelisk, G g 2. at

at the end of Bridge-street, he was saluted by a discharge of the artillery belonging to the society of Lumber Troopers.

On their arrival at the Hall, after complimenting Mr. Pitt on the honour he had done them, in accepting the freedom of their company, they took their places at an elegant entertainment, which it is said cost upwards of one thousand pounds.

The entertainment was conducted with the greatest regularity, and the evening spent with the utmost conviviality; during which many loyal and constitutional toasts were drank.

March 1. Being St. David's day, the annual sermon of the Welch charity-school was preached at St. Clement's, in the Strand; afterwards the gentlemen, president, &c. and children, went in procession to Almack's, in St. James's-square, where was a grand dinner prepared for them. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, being indisposed, could not receive them at Carlton-House, but sent the annual purse of 100 guineas.

2. Eighteen prisoners were tried at the Old Bailey, nine of whom were convicted of felonies, and nine acquitted.

3. Sixteen prisoners were tried at the Old Bailey, eleven of whom were convicted of felony, and five were acquitted.

4. Eleven prisoners were tried at the Old Bailey, three of whom were convicted of felonies, and eight were acquitted.

At this session fourteen convicts were capitally convicted, nine ordered to be transported, seven imprisoned and kept to hard labour in the house of correction, three to hard labour on the Thames, seven to be whipped and imprisoned in Newgate, nineteen to be publicly whipped, three privately whipped, and twenty-five discharged by proclamation.

The session of jail delivery of Newgate is adjourned until Wednesday the 21st of April at the Old Bailey.

4. This morning at eight o'clock John Lee, for forging a bill of exchange for 15l. purporting to be drawn by Lord Townshend; John Ash, for personating Thomas Eaton, the proprietor of 750l. stock, and transferring the same in the name of the said Eaton; Thomas Welch, George Allen, and Thomas Ledger, for different burglaries; and Joseph Clark, for being at large after having received sentence of transportation, were executed opposite Newgate, in the Old Bailey. They all behaved becomingly their unhappy situation. Capt. Lee solemnly declared the crime for which he suffered was committed in consequence of the most severe poverty. After hanging upwards of an hour, their bodies were cut down, and taken into the gaol, in order to be delivered to their friends in the evening.

Notwithstanding great interest was made for the unfortunate Capt. Lee from a variety

of respectable quarters, it failed of effect, as, from the examples of Dr. Dodd and Mr. Ryland, it is apparent, the great character in whom mercy is lodged will not, on any account, prevent the law from taking its course in consequence of the commission of forgery.

The Nancy East-India packet, which was coming exprels from the East-Indies, and was lost off Scilly, some time since, had the articles of the peace as settled in the East-Indies on board, none of which have been able to be made out by the letters that were taken up by one of his Majesty's revenue cutters, they being so long in the water, and the letters so torn: but the Company are in hopes, as soon as they can get them dry, they will be able to make something out of them.

The crew of the Nancy East-India packet consisted of 36 men, besides 12 gentlemen and ladies, passengers, who all perished, they say, except one.

According to letters which have been saved out of the Nancy Packet, it appears that Sir Richard Bickerton, Bart. Commodore of the Blue Squadron, arrived there in the Gibraltar, Capt. Hicks, of 80 guns, from Madras, the day before the Nancy sailed, with seven other ships of war, four of which were of the line. It was talked there, that this was the fleet which are to remain in India, and would return to Madras in March when the monsoons were over, at which time it was supposed Admiral Sir Edward Hughes would return to England with the Superb of 74 guns, and some other men of war, leaving Sir Richard Bickerton to command in India: no King's ships had arrived at Bombay since the last advices in October. The chief packet from Governor Hornby to the directors of the East-India Company is in part preserved. The Nancy is almost a new ship, was built in the river, and had a greater number of passengers than usual, on account of the multiplicity of persons coming home by reason of peace being concluded. When the Nancy sailed from Bombay, the Mah-rattas were quiet, the peace with them having been completely ratified.

We are extremely sorry to acquaint our readers, that Mrs. Cargill, the celebrated actress, who about two years since went out to India, was one of the unfortunate passengers on board the Nancy East-India packet, which was lost on the rocks of Scilly; she was found floating in her shift, and the infant in her arms of which she had been delivered.

Mrs. Cargill was extremely successful in her theatrical Asiatic excursion; she played all her applauded opera characters at immense prices: her benefit at Bengal amounted to the astonishing sum of 12,000 rupees; and what will surprise our theatrical readers, she performed the Grecian Daughter with the utmost applause.

From



From the LONDON GAZETTE, Mar. 8.

Dublin Castle, Feb. 24. The Duke of Rutland, who embarked at Holyhead last night on board his Majesty's yacht the Dorset, arrived safe in this harbour about one o'clock this afternoon. His Grace was received at landing by the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs of the city of Dublin. The regiments of foot in garrison lined the streets through which his Grace passed to the Castle, attended by a Squadron of horse. His Grace, on his arrival at the Castle, was introduced in form to the Earl of Northington, who received him, sitting under the canopy of state, in the Presence Chamber. A council met at five o'clock, and a procession was made from the Presence Chamber to the Council Chamber, where his Grace's Commission was read, and the oaths administered to him, after which his Grace having received the sword from the Earl of Northington, and been invested with the collar of the most illustrious order of Saint Patrick, the great guns in his Majesty's Park the Phoenix were fired, and answered by the regiments on duty. His Grace then repaired to the Presence Chamber, where he received the compliments of the nobility and other persons of distinction, upon his Grace's safe arrival to take upon him the government of this kingdom.

13. Lieut. Snow, of the Royal Navy, arrived at the Admiralty-office with dispatches from Sir Richard Hughes, Bart. Rear Admiral of the Blue, who commands on the Leeward Island station, which were brought by the Stormont sloop of war, arrived at Portsmouth from Antigua, which place she left in January. The Latona frigate, and the Adamant of 50 guns, were not arrived in the West-Indies. The islands mutually restored and ceded between Great-Britain and France by the articles of peace, were taking place when the Stormont sailed: the island of St. Christopher's was wholly evacuated by the French and taken possession of by the British forces; and it was understood the same had taken place at Dominica, St. Vincent's, &c. &c. St. Lucia was also delivered up to the French, who had put a garrison into it from Martinico. The English garrison at Tobago were to come to England immediately on its cession to the French. A general joy was discovered in the islands restored to the British Government, the French Governors having generally behaved in a very arbitrary manner; and the taxes had been so excessive high, and gathered with so great rigidity, that an insurrection would certainly have taken place had they not known the end of those exactions would be very soon. The island of Antigua was very flourishing, and there were a great number of American ships there, some with cargoes, and others waiting for freight.

An Edinburgh paper, dated March 8, says, The Count of Albany, as he has been commonly called for some time past, died at Florence of an apoplexy, on the 23d of January, in the beginning of the 64th year of his age, being born on the 31st of December, 1720, N. S.—a person who will be always memorable in the annals of Britain, on account of the bold attempt he made in the year 1745. Care had been taken very early to infill just and noble sentiments into his mind; and in his youth he had been inured to bear fatigue, and such other inconveniences as are met with in a military life. His person and manners were so graceful and engaging, that he was warmly beloved by his friends, and esteemed even by his enemies; and when he made his appearance in Scotland he drew on himself the attention of all Europe. He is said to have always acted with remarkable humanity and greatness of soul; and his success was greater than could have been expected from his circumstances. After his defeat at Culloden, he bore his misfortunes, and passed through dangers with such equanimity, as still to appear respectable and great. Since the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle, when he was obliged to depart out of France, he has had little opportunity of showing to the world what he really was. He married the Princess Louisa Maximiliana de Stolberg Guederan, on the 17th of April 1772, but they have had no issue; so that the male line of the Royal family of Stuart is now reduced to the Cardinal alone, after it had given Kings to Scotland for three or four hundred years, and by the Princesses of it, Sovereigns to almost all Europe.

The Right Hon. Mr. Pitt was elegantly entertained by the Goldsmiths Company at their hall in Foster-lane. He was received by the Grand Warden and Court of Assistants in the Great Ball-room, and continued there until the tables in the great hall were covered, when he and his friends were ushered to dinner, preceded by a numerous band of music.

The Hall and avenues to it were most beautifully illuminated with variegated lamps, displayed with uncommon taste, representing different devices.

On the table opposite Mr. Pitt were placed large triumphal gothic arches of curious gauze and open work, supported by pillars of the same order in burnished gold, while festoons of artificial flowers elegantly hung from the springs of the arches. The frizes and other parts were most brilliantly decorated with variegated foil.

On the base of the centre column, on each side, were painted the arms of PITT, and on the top a blazing star of crystal glass, in constant motion, the body of the column ornamented with groupes of emblematical figures;

figures, and a whole length figure of HOPE opposite the same.

On the centre of the principal arch the arms of England, and on the top of the side columns those of the city of London and Goldsmiths company: various other suitable designs were placed in different parts, and the whole on a ground of beautiful frosting.

The desert consisted of a profusion of pine-apples, grapes, strawberries, cherries, glazed fruit, brandy fruit, burnt almonds, ice creams, biscuits, and dried cherries.

The naval peace establishments for America, Jamaica, the Leeward-Islands, and African stations, are fixed to be as follows:

Halifax, Quebec, and Newfoundland, two ships of 50 guns, four frigates, and 36 sloops and cutters, (of the last most of them are employed as guarda-costas): in all 42 men of war.

At Jamaica, two ships of 50 guns, one of 44 guns, seven frigates from 36 to 28 guns, and eight sloops from 12 to 20 guns: in all 18.

Leeward-Islands, two of 50 guns, eight frigates from 24 to 32 guns, and twelve sloops from 14 to 18 guns: in all 22 men of war.

Coast of Africa, one of 50 guns, two frigates of 28 guns, and five sloops: in all 8 men of war.

17. Mr. Pitt dined with the Directors of the East-India Company, at the London Tavern, in Bishopsgate-street. The dinner was served at five o'clock, and consisted of all the dainties of the season. Besides the Minister, the company consisted of the Earls of Chatham and Temple, Lord Sydney, six other strangers, and the whole Court of Directors, which are twenty-four; in all thirty-four persons.

A singular cause was heard at the assizes at Bedford.—Forty years ago a farmer sold 14 cows and a bull to a neighbour, on condition of his paying for them on the day of his marriage. The purchaser having contracted matrimony a few months since, the executors of the party who had sold him the cattle demanded payment for the same, which being refused, they instituted a suit at law, and obtained a verdict for the debt and costs, together with interest from the day of the defendant's marriage, till which period the contract of so long standing was not complete.

At the assizes held at Aylesbury, for the county of Bucks, a cause of very considerable length and importance came on to be tried; which was an ejectment brought by Samuel Selby against William Lowndes, Esq. to recover possession of a very considerable estate to the amount of 2,000*l.* per annum, left by Thomas James Selby, of that county, about twelve years since to Mr. Lowndes, unless by public advertisement

his heir at law could be found. This is the fifth or sixth claimant, and all with equal ill success. The plaintiff made out but a very weak case, and the jury being a special one, found a verdict for the defendant, to the entire satisfaction of the Judge, and a very crowded Court.

Return of the fleet under the command of Commodore King, which arrived at the Cape of Good Hope the 10th of December last from Madras:

|            | Guns. | Full Comp. | When left Madras. | Sick on pas | Died |
|------------|-------|------------|-------------------|-------------|------|
| Cumberland | 74    | 750        | 620               | 165         | 29   |
| Hero       | 74    | 750        | 667               | 124         | 37   |
| Monarca    | 70    | 720        | 586               | 231         | 32   |
| Europe     | 64    | 650        | 547               | 116         | 43   |
| Africa     | 64    | 650        | 523               | 94          | 31   |
| Exeter     | 64    | 670        | 560               | 129         | 42   |
| Sceptre    | 64    | 650        | 552               | 103         | 24   |
| San Carlos | 50    | 520        | 463               | 96          | 21   |
| Naiade     | 32    | 240        | 170               | 33          | 7    |

The Accounts represent, that many of the people which were not absolutely in the surgeon's list, were nearly incapable of duty. Several of the ships buried from 40 to 60 men that were wounded in the late action with Suffrein, or were diseased at that time; so that this part of the Asiatic Squadron has suffered more considerably than any fleet last war.

24. The town was yesterday thrown into a very great ferment, by one of the most extraordinary incidents that ever happened in the annals of history.—Some robbers, having got out of the fields, over the garden wall of the Lord Chancellor's house, in Great Ormond-Street, from thence found means to get into the area, where they forced two bars of the kitchen window, and proceeding through it up stairs, made their way into a room adjoining to his Lordship's study. Here they broke open several drawers, and at last coming to that in which the Great Seal of England is deposited, they took it out of a bag in which it was kept, and carried it off, together with two silver-hilted swords, and about 34 guineas in money.

25. The King went to the house of Peers, and gave the Royal assent to 17 public and six private bills; after which his Majesty put an end to the present session of Parliament, by this most gracious speech from the Throne.

"My Lords and Gentlemen,

"On a full consideration of the present situation of affairs, and of the extraordinary circumstances which have produced it, I am induced to put an end to this session of Parliament: I feel it a duty, which I owe to the constitution and to the country in such a situation, to recur as speedily as possible to the sense of my people, by calling a new Parliament.

"I trust that this measure will tend to obviate the mischiefs arising from the unhap-



py divisions and distractions which have lately subsisted; and that the various important objects which will require consideration may be afterwards proceeded upon with less interruption, and with happier effect.

"I can have no other object, but to preserve the true principles of our free and happy constitution, and to employ the powers entrusted to me by law for the only end for which they were given, the good of my people."

The Earl of Mansfield, as speaker of the House of Lords, by his Majesty's command, then said:

"My Lords and Gentlemen,

"It is his Majesty's royal will and pleasure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Tuesday the sixth day of April next, to be then here holden, and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Tuesday, the sixth day of April next."

26. The Parliament was this day dissolved by proclamation; the writs issued out for a new Parliament are returnable on the 18th of May next.

#### PROMOTIONS.

William Frazer, Stephen Cottrell, and Evan Nepean, Esqrs. to be Commissioners for executing the office of Keeper of the Privy-Seal.

#### MARRIAGES.

John Boyd, Esq. to Miss Harlev, youngest daughter of the Rt. Hon. Thomas Harlev. — William Cheshire, Esq. of the office of Ordnance, to Miss Scragg, of Savage-gardens. — The Rev. Dr. Jebb, Canon of Christ-Church, Oxford, to Mrs. Muddleton, of Windsor. — William Edlaile, Esq. banker in Lombard-street, to Miss Jefferies.

#### BIRTHS.

Countess of Aylesford of a son. — Lady St. John, of a son.

#### DEATHS.

The Rev. Owen Jones, Prebendary of Sutton, aged 79. — Joseph Wright, Esq. of Romford, Essex, aged 84. — Pinckney Wilkin-son, Esq. member of Parliament for Old-Satum, aged 91. — The Right Hon. Sir Thomas Sewell, Knt. Master of the Rolls. — Charles Garth, Esq. one of his Majesty's Commissioners of Excise. — The Right Hon. the Countess Dowager of Litchfield. — In the 85th year of her age, the Rt. Hon. Lady Holmes, relict of the Rt. Hon. Lord Holmes, late Governor of the Isle of Wight. — Mrs. Perrott, relict of the late Baron Perrott. — At Alnwick, Hugh Rowland Hughes, Gent. aged 114 years, 11 months, and 27 days. — The Rev. Dr. Franklin, formerly fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, and Greek Professor in that university, one of his Majesty's Chaplains in ordinary. — Mr. Barrett, of Yarmouth, in the 100th year of his age. — Rear Admiral Thorpe Fowke.

#### BANKRUPTS.

Ann Partridge and William Hiffe, of Friday-street, carriers — Robert Wood, of Broad-street, Ratcliff, linen-draper — William Derner, of the Strand, hardwareman — John Harris, of Ashford, Derbyshire, dealer — Fidge Helmsken and Sarah Brickles, of East-Smithfield, sugar-refiners — John Lloyd, of Bandy-leg-walk, Southwark, baker — Joseph Bewley, of Heskett, New Market, Cumberland, mercer — Robert Throckmorton-Perkins, of Hutingdon, apothecary — Thomas Turner, of Southampton, inn-holder — Maylon Wright, of Kingston upon Hull, merchant — Luke Kent, of Portsmouth, printer — Thomas Taylor, of Kingland-road, brickmaker and victualler — Joachim Gerhard Peters, of Mansel-street, Goodman's Fields, merchant — Robert Bragg, of Grantham, Lincolnshire, linen-draper — Joseph More, of Chandos-street, silk-mercier — Jonathan Sedgwick and Thomas Sedgwick, of Budge-row, ironmongers — Samuel Fletcher, of St. Martin's-lane, wine and brandy-merchant — John Bullock, of Great Marlow, Bucks, Stationer — Christopher Earl, of Birmingham, dealer — William Hutchins, of Ludgate-street, merchant — Benjamin Jeavons, of Stourport, Worcestershire, linen and woolen-draper — Benjamin Haigh, of Out-lane in Longwood, in the parish of Huddersfield, Yorkshire, inn-keeper and merchant — William Jolley, of Dorset-street, Spitalfields, grocer — Philip Green, of Mere, Wilts, miller — James Dunbar, of Bristol, merchant — John Hewitt, of Blue-House, in the parish of Washington, Durham — William Barker, of Bewdley, Worcestershire, grocer — Richard Bellian, of Wigan, check-manufacturer — Shubael Gardner, of Crown Court, St. George in the East, Middlesex, merchant and mariner — Joseph Maylon, of Compton-street, grocer.

#### CERTIFICATES granted.

Judah Samuel, of Wendover, Bucks, tanner — John Felding, of Paternoster-row, London, bookseller — Alexander Ross, of Ironmonger-lane, factor — Mary Dare, of the Minorities, oil and colour-woman — Richard Machell, of Liverpool, wine-merchant — John Hudson, of East Redford, Nottinghamshire, inn-holder — David Terry, of Coleman-street-buildings, merchant — Oswell Truefit, of Woodstock-street, Hanover-square, stable-keeper — Joseph Bradley and Robert Bradley, Abingdon-street, coal-merchants — Mark Ridgeway, of Ironmonger-lane, Irish factor and broker — John Sanders, of St. Paul, Shadwell, mariner — Edward Eagleton, of Bishopsgate-street, tea-dealer — Stephen Northouse, of Leeds, inn-holder — John Foothead, of James-street, Covent-garden, bricklayer — James Farloe, of Birmingham, dealer — William Burlton, of Danhead, St. Mary, Wilts, merchant — William Beck and Peter Beck, of Warrington, consulators.

# PRICES of STOCKS in MARCH, 1784.

Compiled by C. DOMVILLE, Stock-Broker, No. 95, Cornhill.

| Days | Bank Stock.       | 3 per C. reduced. | 3 per C. Consols.  | 4 per C. Consols                 | Long Ann.        | Short Ann.       | India Stock.      | INDIA ANN.       | India Bonds. | So. Sea Stock.   | OLD ANN.         | NEW ANN.         | NAVY BILLS       | Exch. Bills. |
|------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------|
| 26   | 116               | 57 $\frac{1}{4}$  | 56 $\frac{3}{4}$ a | 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 75 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 123 $\frac{1}{2}$ |                  | 27 dif.      |                  |                  | 56 $\frac{1}{2}$ |                  | 10 dif.      |
| 27   |                   | 57 $\frac{1}{2}$  | 56 $\frac{3}{4}$ a | 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 75 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 123 $\frac{1}{2}$ |                  | 26           |                  |                  | 57 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 8            |
| 28   |                   | 58 $\frac{1}{2}$  | 57 $\frac{3}{4}$ a | 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 75 $\frac{1}{2}$ |                  |                  | 124               |                  | 30           |                  |                  |                  |                  |              |
| 29   | Sunday            |                   |                    |                                  |                  |                  |                   |                  |              |                  |                  |                  |                  |              |
| 1    |                   | 57 $\frac{1}{4}$  | 57 $\frac{1}{4}$ a | 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 75 $\frac{1}{2}$ |                  |                  |                   | 54 $\frac{5}{8}$ |              |                  | 58 $\frac{1}{2}$ |                  |                  |              |
| 2    |                   | 57 $\frac{1}{2}$  | 57 $\frac{1}{2}$ a | 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 75 $\frac{1}{2}$ |                  |                  |                   |                  | 31           |                  |                  |                  |                  | 6            |
| 3    | 117 $\frac{1}{2}$ |                   | 57 $\frac{1}{2}$ a | 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 75 $\frac{1}{2}$ |                  |                  | 126               | 7 $\frac{1}{2}$  | 28           |                  | 59               |                  | 18               |              |
| 4    | 118               | 59                | 58 $\frac{1}{2}$ a | 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 75 $\frac{1}{2}$ |                  |                  | 128               |                  |              |                  |                  |                  |                  |              |
| 5    | 117 $\frac{1}{2}$ |                   | 58 $\frac{1}{2}$ a | 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 75 $\frac{1}{2}$ |                  |                  |                   | 55               |              |                  |                  |                  |                  | 5            |
| 6    |                   | shut              |                    |                                  |                  |                  | 127 $\frac{1}{2}$ |                  |              |                  |                  | 57 $\frac{7}{8}$ | 17 $\frac{7}{8}$ |              |
| 7    | Sunday            |                   |                    |                                  |                  |                  |                   |                  |              |                  |                  |                  |                  |              |
| 8    |                   |                   | 58 $\frac{1}{2}$   |                                  | 3 $\frac{3}{4}$  | 5 $\frac{1}{2}$  |                   |                  | 20           |                  |                  |                  |                  |              |
| 9    |                   |                   | 58 $\frac{3}{4}$ a | 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ 80 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 18               | 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 129               |                  |              |                  | 61               | 58 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 3 $\frac{3}{4}$  | 4            |
| 10   | 123               |                   | 60 $\frac{1}{4}$ a | 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ 80 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 3 $\frac{3}{4}$  | 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ |                   | 58               | 15           |                  |                  | 59 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ |              |
| 11   | 121               |                   | 60 $\frac{1}{4}$ a | 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ 80 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 3 $\frac{3}{4}$  | 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ |                   |                  | 18           |                  |                  |                  | 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ |              |
| 12   | 120 $\frac{1}{4}$ |                   | 59 $\frac{5}{8}$ a | 8 $\frac{5}{8}$ 77 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ |                  | 127 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 57 $\frac{7}{8}$ | 9            |                  |                  |                  | 16               | 5            |
| 13   |                   |                   | 59 a               | 8 $\frac{5}{8}$ 77 $\frac{1}{2}$ |                  |                  | 126               |                  | 7            |                  |                  |                  | 14               |              |
| 14   | Sunday            |                   |                    |                                  |                  |                  |                   |                  |              |                  |                  |                  |                  |              |
| 15   |                   |                   | 59                 |                                  | 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  |                  |                   |                  | 18           |                  | 59 $\frac{1}{2}$ |                  |                  |              |
| 16   | 120               |                   | 59 $\frac{1}{4}$ a | 8 $\frac{7}{8}$ 76 $\frac{3}{4}$ |                  |                  | 127               |                  | 20           |                  |                  | 59               | 17               |              |
| 17   | 119 $\frac{1}{4}$ |                   | 58 $\frac{3}{4}$ a | 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ 76 $\frac{3}{4}$ |                  |                  |                   |                  | 21           |                  |                  |                  | 14               |              |
| 18   |                   |                   | 58 $\frac{3}{4}$ a | 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ 76 $\frac{3}{4}$ |                  |                  | 125               |                  |              |                  |                  |                  |                  | 2            |
| 19   | 118 $\frac{1}{2}$ |                   | 57 $\frac{5}{8}$ a | 8 $\frac{5}{8}$ 76 $\frac{3}{4}$ |                  |                  |                   |                  | 18           | 65 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 58               | 57 $\frac{5}{8}$ | 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 3            |
| 20   |                   |                   | 58 a               | 7 $\frac{5}{8}$ 76 $\frac{3}{4}$ |                  |                  |                   |                  |              |                  |                  |                  |                  |              |
| 21   | Sunday            |                   |                    |                                  |                  |                  |                   |                  |              |                  |                  |                  |                  |              |
| 22   |                   |                   | 57 $\frac{3}{4}$ a | 8 $\frac{5}{8}$ 76 $\frac{3}{4}$ |                  |                  |                   |                  | 17           |                  |                  |                  |                  |              |
| 23   | 118               |                   | 57 $\frac{3}{4}$ a | 8 $\frac{5}{8}$ 76 $\frac{3}{4}$ |                  |                  | 124 $\frac{1}{4}$ |                  | 18           |                  |                  |                  | 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ |              |
| 24   |                   |                   | 57 $\frac{3}{4}$ a | 8 $\frac{5}{8}$ 76 $\frac{3}{4}$ |                  |                  |                   |                  | 24           |                  |                  |                  |                  | 4            |
| 25   | Holiday.          |                   |                    |                                  |                  |                  |                   |                  |              |                  |                  |                  |                  |              |

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