

European Magazine,

For MARCH 1798.

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L O N D O N :

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

An Amateur's Correspondence will be acceptable.

M. T. in our next.

Our Correspondent M. G. is recommended to revise his performance : at present it is too incorrect.

Letters sent us evidently for no other purpose than to put us to expence, we always return to the Post Office unnoticed.

In answer to a constant Reader we refer him to the Biographia Dramatica, or any of the Lists of Dramatic Performances, where he will find the information he wants.

AVERAGE PRICES of CORN, from Feb. 17, to March 17, 1793.

										COUNTIES upon the COAST.				
Wheat		Rye		Barl.		Oats		Beans						
s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	Wheat	Rye	Barley	Oats	Beans
London	00	0	00	0	00	0	00	0	00	0	00	0	00	0
INLAND COUNTIES.														
Middlefex	50	2	25	0	24	4	20	9	24	7	Norfolk	42	8	20
Surry	50	4	26	0	23	10	20	4	28	c	Lincoln	44	1	25
Hertford	49	1	00	0	24	11	19	0	27	10	York	45	5	28
Bedford	44	3	30	2	24	8	18	11	24	6	Durham	46	10	00
Hunting.	45	0	00	0	23	0	15	2	19	4	Northum.	40	0	24
Northam.	46	2	29	0	23	6	15	8	22	8	Cumberl.	48	10	32
Rutland	47	6	00	0	28	0	16	0	25	6	Westmor.	58	2	39
Leicester	52	2	00	0	28	0	18	0	28	2	Lancash.	50	9	00
Nottingh.	53	6	29	0	30	8	17	0	25	0	Cheshire	49	5	00
Derby	55	10	00	0	29	0	18	10	29	0	Gloucest.	52	4	00
Stafford	50	7	00	0	29	2	21	2	23	1	Somerfet	55	0	00
Salop	46	9	35	4	32	7	19	6	39	2	Monmou.	47	0	00
Hereford	45	2	40	0	30	9	19	4	29	0	Devon	58	2	00
Worcest.	48	10	24	4	30	11	23	10	29	2	Cornwall	57	5	00
Warwick	52	5	00	0	27	6	20	2	29	1	Dorset	54	0	00
Wilts	54	10	00	0	31	10	21	8	35	4	Hants	51	0	00
Berks	54	0	00	0	24	1	20	3	28	1	WALES.			
Oxford	52	2	00	0	23	1	18	8	27	4	N. Wales	52	0	32
Bucks	48	2	00	0	25	0	19	2	25	5	S. Wales	60	0	00

STATE of the BAROMETER and THERMOMETER.

FEBRUARY.				MARCH.			
DAY.	BAROM.	THERMOM.	WIND.	DAY.	BAROM.	THERMOM.	WIND.
25	29.80	35	W.	11	30.11	37	N. E.
26	29.90	36	W.	12	30.14	36	E.
27	30.23	37	W.	13	29.94	35	N. E.
28	30.31	36	N. W.	14	30.10	35	N. E.
1	30.21	37	S.	15	30.12	40	W.
2	30.20	38	S.	16	29.90	47	W.
3	30.31	39	S. W.	17	29.71	48	N. W.
4	30.29	41	W.	18	29.60	36	N.
5	30.25	47	W. S. W.	19	29.50	35	N.
6	30.16	51	W.	20	29.55	38	N.
7	30.14	50	W.	21	29.71	39	N. E.
8	30.13	51	W.	22	29.85	40	N.
9	30.10	52	S. W.	23	30.09	39	N. E.
10	30.15	48	W.	24	30.18	37	N. E. N.
				25	30.24	36	N. by E.
				26	29.90	43	N. E.

THE
EUROPEAN MAGAZINE,
AND
LONDON REVIEW;
FOR MARCH 1798.

MRS. ABINGTON,
(WITH A PORTRAIT.)

IN attempting a portrait of this celebrated comic Actress, we lament with Cibber, "That the animated graces of the player can live no longer than the instant breath and motion that present them; or, at least, can but faintly glimmer through the memory or imperfect attestation of a few surviving spectators."

In her memoirs, however, we shall be able to hold up to posterity the early and rapid strides she made in her profession; and, from the various and contrasted characters she appeared in with unrivalled applause, they will at least be able to conclude with certainty, "That MRS. ABINGTON was the first Comic Actress of her time." None of the present day, for instance, can remember Betterton, and consequently can know nothing personally of the abilities of this once celebrated Tragedian; but who can read this declaration of Cibber, "That he never heard a line in tragedy come from Betterton, wherein his judgment, his ear, and his imagination, were not fully satisfied," but must rest perfectly convinced of his transcendent abilities.

Mrs. Abington, whose maiden name was *Barton*, was very early in life introduced to Theophilus Cibber; who, with a few youthful irregulars, opened the little Theatre in the Haymarket. Her first appearance was in *Miranda* in *The Busy Body*, to the Marplot of Cibber, and here she gave such an early specimen of her comic powers, that this comedy was acted twice to numerous and critical audiences, who unanimously testified their opinion of her rising excellence. She

continued at this Theatre the remainder of the season, where she performed several other characters with unabated applause. From thence she was engaged by Shuter for Mr. Simpson, Proprietor of the Bath Theatre, then under the acting management of Mr. King; and having gone through two seasons with increasing promise and reputation, Miss Barton returned to London, when she was instantly engaged to join a selection from the two winter Theatres, during the summer months, at Richmond.

Here the late Mr. Lacey, one of the Patentees of Drury Lane Theatre, saw her perform frequently, and was so struck with the original vivacity and *naïveté* of her talents, that he gave her a cordial and friendly invitation to his family, who then resided at their beautiful villa at Isleworth, on the banks of the Thames. Here he likewise introduced her to Garrick and Foote, and one of her earliest performances at Drury Lane Theatre was her *Lady Pliant* to Foote's *Sir Paul*, a character, interesting and difficult as it is, which she performed much to the satisfaction of the audience.

So far *Fortune* assisted the talents of this young Actress, by being engaged at one of the winter Theatres, and under the management of the best Actor of his time: but "she did not come with both hands full;" Mrs. Cibber, Mrs. Pritchard, and Mrs. Clive, were then in full possession of the stage, and as her line of playing in some respect clashed with those celebrated performers, it was thought necessary that her youth and inexperience should yield to maturer and more tried abilities.

abilities. The genius of Abington* could not brook this cold delay; she felt her powers ripened by nature, which in others could be only gained by time and experience, and she was determined to give them fair play. Accordingly, in the middle of a season, we find her quitting her engagements at Drury Lane, and accompanying her husband to Dublin, where the strength of great theatrical powers were exerted in the rivalry of two contending Theatres.

Mrs. Abington being engaged at Smock Alley Theatre, she made her *debut* in Mrs. Sullen, in *The Stratagem*, to the Archer of Mr. Brown, the then acting Manager; a performer of very considerable merit, and in some parts of comedy unrivalled. Her next character was *Beatrice*, which was followed by those of *Corinna*, *Clarinda*, *Flora*, and *Violante*—*Lady Fanciful*, *Leantbe*, *Maria* in the *Nonjuror*, *second Constance*, *Portia*, *Fine Lady in Leibe*, &c. &c. and every night she appeared so added to her reputation, that long before the close of the season she was considered as one of the first and most promising actresses on the stage.

What gave an additional *eclat* to this young actress's general merit, was her willingness to exert herself to the utmost for the benefit of a Theatre which had to contend with very considerable forces under the management of Messrs. Barry & Woodward: and towards the close of this season an opportunity offered, which produced both reputation to herself and much profit to the Managers. The farce of *High Life Below Stairs* had been brought out some time before in London with very great applause; and though Barry and Woodward were very indulgent in producing the pieces which were best received there, in the multiplicity of other business they overlooked this: Wilkinson, who was at that time at Smock Alley, luckily seized upon it; he communicated his intentions to Mrs. Abington, who not only approved of his choice, but consented to play the part of *Kitty*—the other parts lay within the compass of the Company—and as the two Principals had frequently seen the farce in London, they were quite perfect in all the management of the stage business.

Under these favourable circumstances this popular farce was brought out, and

received with unbounded applause. The theatrical records of that day, giving an account of its reception, thus speak of Mrs. Abington: "When Mrs. Abington advanced in Mrs. Kitty, the whole circle were in surprise and rapture, each congratulating the other on such an acquisition to the stage. Such a jewel was invaluable, and their own tastes and judgments, they feared, would be justly called in question, if this daughter of Thalia was not immediately taken by the hand, and distinguished as her certain and striking merit demanded."

The audience were as good as their word upon this occasion, as Mrs. Abington, during her whole stay in Ireland, was so great a favourite with the ladies of the first fashion and distinction there, that whenever she appeared, the houses were numerous and brilliantly attended, her company sought after by the first families of distinction, whilst her acknowledged taste in dress and manners rendered her the decided arbitress of fashion and elegant deportment.

Distinguished merit like this could not long escape the penetrating eye of Garrick; he accordingly offered her such terms as she could not well refuse, and she returned to Drury Lane Theatre, after an absence of some years, "with all her blushing honours thick about her." Her first appearance was in the character of the Widow Belmour, in Mr. Murphy's excellent comedy of "The Way to Keep Him," wherein she not only confirmed the report of her former reputation, but drew that applause from the author (as expressed in his dedication of the last edition), which will be a lasting test of her intrinsic merit.

And here we cannot but pause on the inward satisfaction Mrs. Abington must necessarily feel on her return to Drury Lane Theatre; when she had to reflect, that by her own spirited, yet prudent conduct, she had been the architect of her own fame and growing fortune. Had she, like other young actresses, been content to vegetate in the soil where she was first planted (and which, perhaps, it would have been prudent for another person to have so advised her), time and chance *might* have raised her to an eligible situation; but true genius, generally speaking, is its best adviser—the knew best what she could do, and what another might call *presumption*, she found

* Miss Barton about this time was married to Mr. Abington, well known in the musical world.

from her feelings to be the call of nature; she had spirit as well as judgment to obey that call, and her grateful muses, ever true to her votaries, did not neglect to cultivate the sentiments she inspired.

It would be going into a detail, which the limits of this work will not admit, to comment upon the several characters which Mrs. Abington performed at this Theatre: her principal ones were Millimont in *The Way of the World*, Mrs. Sullen in *The Stratagem*, Clarinda in *The Suspicious Husband*, the original Lady Alton in Colman's *English Merchant*, and Charlotte in *The Hypocrite*—Beatrice in *Much Ado about Nothing*, the second Constantia, played before their Majesties, in the revived Comedy of *The Chances*, Miss Prue in *Love for Love*, Estifania in *Rule a Wife and Have a Wife*, Biddy Tipkin in *The Tender Husband*, Miss Hoyden, &c. &c.

In all those parts, and many more of equal consequence, she was received as one of the most favoured actresses that ever stood before the eye of the public, and on every night she appeared was sure to draw together *Number*, *Fashion*, and *Criticism*; but what peculiarly distinguished the merit of this accomplished actress, was the uncommon versatility of her talents, which could exhibit such opposite parts as *Millimont* and *Miss Prue*, and give to each such a strict and natural conformation of character as to be unrivalled in both.

The late General Burgoyne was so highly delighted with this very extraordinary talent, that in his *Maid of the Oaks* (a Comedy which he wrote in compliment to Lord Derby's first marriage), he drew the character of *Lady Bab Lardoon* expressly for Mrs. Abington; and here was a test of abilities which none but herself perhaps would undertake, as there cannot be conceived two situations in life so extremely opposite in style, manners, habit, and demeanour, as *Lady Bab* in her real and assumed character: but all these difficulties vanished in her hands; she enriched it with all the varieties of taste and nature, and rendered it so capital a piece of stage deception, that the audience, who saw the transitions, could scarcely believe the evidence of their own senses.

As soon as Mr. Garrick quitted the stage, Mrs. Abington had some notions of retiring likewise; but at the earnest solicitation of Mr. Sheridan, who wanted such a prop to his infant management,

and particularly to his intended Comedy of *The School for Scandal*, she was prevailed on to remain. Her first character was *Charlotte* in *The Hypocrite*, which, with her powerful support of *Lady Teazle*, soon proved the young Manager's discernment in retaining such an actress at any price. In short, her success was equal to his most sanguine expectations, and the author has frequently acknowledged it in the handsomest and most liberal terms.

She continued here for a few years, performing in all the first lines of genteel comedy, and now and then giving the luxurious treats of *Miss Prue*, *Hoyden*, &c. equally to the delight of the general part of her audience, as to the entertainment of the best judges of dramatic exhibition.

On some disagreement, however, with Mr. Sheridan, she left Drury Lane; and Mr. Harris, whose activity and foresight in strengthening his company can only be equalled by his liberality in rewarding extraordinary merit, immediately made offers to our heroine, which induced her to close with him, and she appeared at Covent Garden Theatre in November 1782, introduced by a prologue, written for the purpose.

The same success followed here as at Drury Lane, and she went round the whole range of her various and contrasted characters with equal applause.

Whilst in this career she expressed a wish to appear in the character of the *Scornful Lady*, in the play of that name; a part in which Mrs. Oldfield had been much celebrated, and which she is said to have performed with applause to the last. This Comedy therefore was altered and brought out under the title of *The Capricious Lady*, in which Mrs. Abington undertook the principal part; and though she had to contrast the cold, refined manners of the prude of the last century with the gay familiar habits of the present times, she shewed that deep acumen in her profession, with the powers of exhibition so forcibly, that she rendered *The Capricious Lady* highly acceptable to the audience; who viewed it like one of the pictures of Vandyke, where beauty continues to be ever beautiful, however varied by the draperies of different ages.

Her reputation was so confirmed at Covent Garden Theatre, filling the boxes every night she performed with, every person who was of rank and fashion—induced the Manager to offer her, we have

have heard, no less than a *thousand guineas per annum*, provided she would engage with him for three years; but the fatigue of performing for many nights, and in that succession which such an engagement would necessarily produce, she declined the proffer, and artied with Mr. Daly, the Manager of the Dublin Theatre, for twelve nights, for the sum of five hundred guineas. She therefore set out for Ireland in the spring of that year, where, after fulfilling her engagements there with reputation to herself and profit to her Manager, she spent the remainder of the year in that hospitable kingdom, paying visits to the several families of distinction about the metropolis who had early patronized her, and now continued their friendships and civilities with unabating solicitude.

On her return from Ireland, a few years ago, it was apprehended that she would no more return to the stage; and we believe it was for some time her fixed determination. She had many allurements to this choice; a first rate and long established reputation in her profession; a genteel independency; and with these, a circle of the most respectable characters in literary and polished life, constantly soliciting her society. In short, all the charms of the *otium cum dignitate* presented themselves, when *accident*, which perhaps determines us more in the affairs of life than rules drawn from reflection, decided otherwise.

The late Glorious Naval Victory, obtained by the Earl of St. Vincent over the Spanish Fleet, at the same time that it revived the well known ardour of the British nation, drew forth its utmost liberality: the widows and orphans of those men who so bravely and nobly fell in the defence of their country, that country felt for, honoured, and rewarded. Subscriptions were immediately opened for their relief, when all ranks of society pressed forward as their benefactors. Amongst the rest, the Manager of Covent Garden, with his usual liberality, gave a free night, and the first performers of both Theatres as liberally offered their services.

In a contest of generous feeling, it was far, very far from the character of ABINGTON to be an idle spectator. Though she had seemingly quitted the field of glory, and her suspended banners triumphantly proclaimed her former services, she could not resist the alluring bait of making her talents serviceable to the

cause of humanity. She wrote to his Grace the Duke of Leeds, as one of the trustees for managing the charity, offering to speak an Epilogue on the occasion, or to come forward in any other shape where she could be of most advantage. The former was politely and readily accepted, and she spoke the Epilogue amidst the unbounded applause of a most numerous and brilliant audience.

This circumstance of course occasioned an interview with the Manager, who took this opportunity to press her return to the stage. Other incidents strengthened this solicitation: the death of the late Mrs. Pope (who, as an *actress* or a *woman*, must be ever mentioned with respect), with the retirement of Miss Wallis, &c. created a chasm in the arrangements of the Theatre, which none but extraordinary talents could fill up: the Manager saw his remedy in Mrs. Abington; and Mrs. Abington might have seen from this and other circumstances, that she might accommodate herself more in the line of her business now than heretofore. Whatever were her motives, after some hesitation, she accepted the Manager's offer, and soon after the opening of the Theatre, she made her appearance in *Beatrice*, introduced by a prologue, written by Mr. Colman for that purpose, and spoken by Murray.

Her reception from the public was such as did honour to both parties: she was welcomed with shouts of unbounded applause, which she evidently felt with respect and gratitude. Those who had never seen her before (for such is the fluctuating state of human nature, that a few years make a considerable change in the formation of audience) were surprised at the appearance of an actress, whom the little pens of malice had been previously endeavouring to sink into age and necessary retirement, in the full possession of person, health, and talents; whilst those of her former dramatic admirers hailed her like the morn "after a winter's return of light." They saw their favourite comic actress again restored to them in the full meridian of abilities, with Shakspeare, Congreve, Vanburgh, Wycherly, and "all the muses in her train."

Of the professional merits of Mrs. Abington, though much has been already said, a brief review of them necessarily demands a place in these Memoirs:

Early directed to the stage by the best of all possible advisers, *congenial talents,*
nature

nature did not leave her work imperfect ; but gave her “ such a face and form combined,” as best suited her profession in all its varieties : her voice possesses the same variations ; hence she has been able to excel in those contrasted characters of Comedy, such as *Millicent* and *Miss Prue*, *Lady Townly* and *Hayden*, *Beatrice* and *Lucy* in *The Virgin Unmasked*, *Lady Bab Lardoon*, &c. &c. which no actresses but herself (at least in our days) have been able to achieve.

When we speak of these characters, so much in contrast with the higher lines of Comedy, let us hope that they will not remain as *mere records* of her former talents, but that she will once more shew us (if it was only by way of legacy) “ what we may never look upon the like again.” Let it not be pleaded, that her time of life and *en bon point* should restrain her from now performing the parts of romps and girls : these are only impediments in the way of moderate abilities, which without the aid of *personal representation* cannot stand alone ; but talents of such superior lustre (particu-

larly as her features can still exhibit all that vivacity and archness, and her voice found the notes of juvenility, which attach to those characters) want not those inferior appendages. Those who remember Mrs. Pritchard in *Estifania*, and Mrs. Clive in *Phyllis*, will readily corroborate this opinion : with persons fuller than Mrs. Abington, and at a more advanced state of life, the audiences saw nothing in those celebrated performers but the *genius of their acting* ; and perfectly satisfied with this, they exclaimed with the poet :

“ Before such merit all objections fly,
“ Pritchard’s genteel, and Garrick’s six feet high.”

To these very distinguished public talents, with those of much reading, good sense, and agreeable conversation, let the praise of *private life* be added in all its several duties ; which has long endeared her to her friends, and procured her the esteem and protection of the most respectable ranks in society.

MR. WILKES’S COTTAGE

IN THE
ISLE OF WIGHT.

[WITH A VIEW.]

THIS Villa, or Villaken (as Mr. Wilkes used to term it), is situated near the Fort of Sandown ; and, though not large, has every requisite to make it a desirable abode. The house is rather low ; it is however extensive, having had many improvements made to it by its late proprietor, whose judgment and taste in all the elegancies of life are well known. It stands on an eminence, and commands the whole prospect of Sandown Bay. When Mr. Wilkes purchased it, it was merely a cottage, in the garden of which he erected some rooms, detached from the house and each other, the composition of which was merely of the floor-cloth manufactory of Knightbridge. Two of these rooms are large, well proportioned, and fitted up in an expensive and elegant style ; the other building contains two bed-chambers. The intermediate space between them is

in one place a little polished orchard ; and in another, a close grove of short stunted trees, that resemble, both in their size and number, a pastoral scene on the stage of a playhouse.

The aspect of one of the great rooms opens to the Ocean, and takes in the whole of Sandown Bay ; a grand and noble object ! formed by the chalky cliffs of Culver on the East ; and on the West by craggy rocks of the mountainous point of Dunnose, six miles distant from each other.

The other building fronts to the North, and opens to the shade of the dwarf apple trees of the orchard.

The house in which the family resided is small, and at a little distance from these whimsical though not unpleasant erections, which are in reality the summer houses of the garden. We ought also to notice a grand covered bench,

bench, formed within the bank, and which opens from the bottom of the slope, upon a level with the bay and the ocean.

At the end of one of the buildings is the following inscription :

TO FILIAL PIETY
AND
MARY WILKES* ;
ERECTED BY
JOHN WILKES,
1789.

The following inscription is in the Tuscan room :

FORTUNAE REDUCI
ET
CIVITATI LONDINENSIS,
P.

JOHANNES WILKES QUÆSTOR,
1789.

And on a doric pillar in the grove is the inscription to the memory of Churchill, printed p. 163.

M.

* To this lady, his daughter, Mr. Wilkes ever shewed the most affectionate attachment, which was returned with equal warmth. Our readers will not be displeas'd with the two following Poems, formerly written by Mr. Wilkes, as there are but few specimens of his poetical talents remaining :

TO MISS WILKES,

ON HER BIRTH DAY, AUG. 16, 1767.

WROTE IN FRANCE.

AGAIN I tune the vocal lay
On dear Maria's natal day :
This happy day I'll not deplore
My exile from my native shore :
No tear of mine to-day shall flow
For injur'd England's cruel woe ;
For impious wounds to Freedom given,
The first most sacred gift from Heaven.
The muse with joy shall prune her wing,
Maria's ripen'd graces sing,
And at seventeen, with truth shall own
The bud of beauty's fairly blown :
Softness and sweetest innocence
Here shed their gentle influence ;
Fair Modesty comes in their train
To grace her sister Virtue's reign ;
Then to give spirit, taste, and ease,
The sov'reign art, the art to please,
Good-humour'd wit and fancy gay,
To-morrow cheerful as to-day,
The sunshine of a mind serene,
Where all is peace within, are seen ;
What can the grateful muse ask more ?
The Gods have lavish'd all their store ;

Maria shines their darling care,
Still keep her, Heaven, from every snare !
May still unspotted be her fame,
May she remain through life the same,
Unchang'd in all, except in name. }

TO THE SAME,

ON HER BIRTH-DAY, AUG. 16, 1768.

WROTE IN PRISON.

HOW shall the muse in prison sing ?
How prune her drooping ruffled wing ?
Maria is the potent spell
Ev'n in these walls all grief to quell,
To cheer the heart, rapture inspire,
And wake to notes of joy the lyre ;
The tribute verse again to pay,
On this auspicious festive day.
When doom'd to quit the patriot band,
And exil'd from my native land,
Maria was my sure relief,
Her presence banish'd every grief ;
Pleasure came smiling in her train,
And chas'd the family of pain.
Let lovers every charm admire,
The easy shape, the heavenly fire
That from those modest beaming eyes
The captive heart at once surprize :
A father's is another part,
I praise the virtues of the heart ;
And wit so elegant and free,
Attemper'd sweet with modesty.
Yet may kind Heaven a lover send,
Of sense, of honour, and a friend ;
Those virtues always to protect,
Those beauties, never to neglect.

THOUGHTS ON THE PROVINCIAL COPPER COIN.

BY JOSEPH MOSER, ESQ.

THE Copper Coin of our Provinces has, in The European Magazine and in some other publications, been a frequent subject of observation, and as generally the subject of praise; but having the misfortune to differ in opinion from those writers, who have apparently taken much pains to consider, and still more to commend, the subjects, devices, and execution of that infinite variety of medals, which seem to me to be in other respects, besides their weight and number, a *burthen* to the country, I shall in the first instance slightly advert to the only two good reasons which I have ever heard for allowing them to pass current even in a small district; and secondly, consider whether those reasons are as solid as the *dies* in which these historical and scientific symbols are struck? and whether, if they are, the advantage which the enlightened part of the nation derive from these copper records of the names, persons, and dwellings of miners, mechanics, and tradesmen, be not more than counterbalanced by the loss and inconvenience which the lower orders of the people sustain from this immense influx of *base metal* coin, while the emolument that accrues from it renders it an advantageous branch of traffic to those concerned in its circulation?

The first reason which I have heard urged in favour of these symbols is, that they will be handed down to future ages as specimens of the ingenuity of the present: that they will be collected by connoisseurs as yet unborn; and, deposited in cases of glass and velvet, be shewn to posterity as elaborate vestiges which will serve to mark by what gradations the Arts have arrived to that sublime *acme*, at which we behold them in this country. Their particular advantage to posterity has been also stated, inasmuch as they will serve as permanent records of important events; and remain long after our diurnal productions, annual registers, and folios in which are entombed the transactions of centuries and of societies, shall, as well as the

actors upon the busy scene, have moldered into congenial dust.

If, while pondering upon so grave a subject, I might be permitted to indulge a ludicrous suggestion, I should observe that the latter of these observations brings strongly to my mind the idea of the student who presented to the Antiquarian Society all the tickets of *Islington Turnpike*, with the laudable view of illustrating that part of the English history*.

But to recur to my speculation, and examine this subject with the gravity which it deserves. These symbols have by their admirers been in some instances compared to those of the Grecian Cities; but much more frequently, for what reason I am at a loss even to guess, to the copper and brass Coin and Medals of the Romans. Their execution has been stated as far superior to the latter, even in the most flourishing ages of the Republic or Empire †; and they have, like those, been quoted as criterions of the genius and taste of the nation, and as examples of the elevated state of the Arts.

It is the property of general assertions to shrink from a critical disquisition. In the long series of Roman copper Medals, which hath descended to us, is to be traced, it is true, the progress of design and sculpture, emerging from its rudest efforts under the first Emperors, until conquest opening a free communication with Greece, the artists were enabled, by a close imitation of those sublime effusions of genius with which that country abounded, *almost* to reach the perfection which those exhibited. This inquiry may be accurately pursued in the series of Roman Silver and Copper ‡; and the rise and decline of the Arts will be found to be exactly the antitype of the rise and decline of the Empire: we may observe them emerge, as it were, from Chaos, attain their zenith of perfection, and, scared by the turbulence of the times, relapse again into their primitive rudeness and barbarity.

A Medallist Collection, comprehending

* Foot's Nabob.

† The Imperial Copper, it is certain, are by far the most interesting.

‡ It will be observed, that the Consular Silver Medals are in general better executed than the Copper.

the Coin of many Nations, of which those pieces are perhaps the only vestiges, may be considered not only as scales of their taste and genius, but as an universal history, in which remarkable events are, in indelible characters, impressed upon substances the most permanent; and arranged in series, which may be compared, the copper and brass especially, to volumes, which are not liable to those accidents of time and chance that have swept away thousands of tombs whose materials were more frail and more subject to decay, such as bark, wood, wax, vellum, and other substances, upon which, as we may learn from those few that remain, the wisdom of philosophers, the virtues of legislators, the exploits of heroes, the sublime effusions of poetic genius, and the history of nations, were formerly inscribed.

Coin and Medals having this superior property of durability, have become the guides of the learned. Their symbols and inscriptions have been considered as *clues*, which have enabled laborious and scientific men to thread the mazes of those labyrinths of tradition and mythology, in which, in many instances, truth hath been imprisoned. They may also be considered as being in themselves the registers of systems, events, and transactions, of which the remembrance had been buried with them, and was revived at their reascitation; and the criterion by which, upon comparing them with the fragments of ancient marbles, and of ancient writers, we are able to form a more accurate judgment of the certainty of æras, and the concatenation of causes with effects; and from those permanent records deduce and discriminate the actions, the principles, the events, and even the passions, of those persons and periods, which are by them commemorated.

Having thus generally stated my opinion of the use which has been, and may be made of these historical and chronological symbols, I must remark that all my observations are founded upon a system, which is applicable to, and comprehends those which may be deemed *public Coin and Medals*, by which I mean those pieces that upon any great occasion were struck by their parent states, or

which were the current coin of the different nations of antiquity.

Provincial and, perhaps, what may be deemed domestic Medals, were not unknown either to the Greeks or Romans. There were few, if any, of the cities throughout the extensive dominions of those once celebrated nations, but what had their symbol upon their money; at the same time it must be observed, that that coinage, and those symbols, inscriptions, &c. were sanctioned by Government*: nor does it appear that any other private Medals have come down to us than those termed *Contorniatæ*, some of which, although bearing the names and images of illustrious Greeks and Romans on the obverse, such as Homer, Pythagoras, Socrates, Sallust, Horace, &c. are judged by Medalists to be only tickets for seats at the theatres, and other public exhibitions; an opinion which is strengthened by turning to their reverses, which present athletes, actors, musical trophies, or some inscription alluding to the amusement to which they were the introduction. We do not find, among the number of those vestiges of art and antiquity of which we are the possessors, any that can with propriety be considered as *shop-bills*, or *tradesman's tokens*.

The Greeks and Romans were nations that had too just notions of the inconvenience that might arise to particular classes of individuals, and to the public in general, to suffer any of the members of the cities, provinces, and states, within the scope of their dominion, to assume a right, which, for the wisest and best of purposes, had been always considered as inherent to the executive part of their Government.

It may here be objected, that this statement is not strictly correct; because, in the infancy of both those nations, it was their custom to use pieces of unstamped metal of various sizes, and consequently weight, in their traffic for commodities; which pieces were the only monies, till the convenience of this *circulating medium* pointed out the necessity of an accurate adjustment of its value, and taught those who were concerned in commerce, by the means of scales and weights, which they carried for that purpose, nearly to determine the proportion of

* Paulus the Civilian defines *money* a thing stamped with a *public coin*, and deriving its value from its impression rather than its substance. Monsieur Boizard defines money a piece of matter, to which *public authority* has affixed a certain weight and value to serve as a medium of commerce.

gold, silver, or copper, that was to be given for an ox, a horse, a measure of corn, of oil, &c. *

This is true, but how long this mode of exchange continued is neither very certain, nor very material to the present question, as these pieces were plain: perhaps, as the state of society improved, the difficulties which attended its extension, and the frauds that were frequently practised, might render it absolutely necessary for Government to sanction by its authority an instrument of commerce, from which such considerable advantage was to be derived: hence arose the first stamps or impressions upon money, as, for instance, a *tortoise*, which is believed to be the most ancient, an ox, a cow, a ram, or some other domestic animal, which was the symbol denoting the produce of the state †, to which the Coin belonged. To these were next added the names of the moneyers, and at length the effigies of the Prince, with the date, legend, &c. which were probably introduced at first to impress upon the Coin a superior importance, and to prevent counterfeits: therefore the first method of trafficking to which I have alluded, by exchanging commodities for unstamped pieces of metal, cannot be considered as issuing those pieces as Coin, from *private* persons; for there is not a single vestige in any author upon the subject of money, that I have been able to trace, which denotes that the first pieces in those rude ages, as they passed from the hands of one dealer into those of another, had any stamp or mark upon them; but were only considered as that kind of medium for which the shells called *cowries*, current in Hindostan ‡ and on the coast of Africa §, and the fruit in Mexico, form perhaps as convenient a substitute.

It would be extending this speculation far, very far beyond the limits which a periodical publication prescribes, in order to introduce that variety which is so agreeable, and indeed so useful to its readers, were I to pursue the subject from those points upon which I have founded it, through the various countries, ancient and modern, whose medallic history forms a part of erudition, at once so entertaining and so interesting. I shall therefore confine myself merely to those observations which coincide with the design of this tract, and repeat that the coinage of every country has ever been under the sanction and inspection of Government; and that the circulation of money fabricated by private persons, though perhaps in a few instances tolerated, has not only been generally considered as inimical to the true interest of the State, but has, in most cases, subjected the offenders to punishment.

Of the *contorniatii* I have already spoken, as perhaps the only species of ancient private medals that are to be found, as the *jetoons* or *counters* || are of the *semi-modern*.

These pieces, although they are sometimes mistaken for Coin, it is well known, were, in ages when the science of arithmetic was little understood, intended merely for calculation. They are marked with the names of companies, of abbies, and of other societies and places, whose revenues were complex and of difficult adjustment; but were never in circulation as money, except in more modern times around the ¶ card table; or, until they became objects of curiosity, had any value, beyond that of the weight of their metal, affixed to them.

Having ventured these few prefatory observations, which I deemed necessary

* Thus we find in Homer, that the golden armour of Glaucus was valued at an hundred oxen; that of Diomedes, at ten.

† Whence money is said to have derived its Latin name, *pecunia*.—PLINY.

‡ In Mr. Halhed's Translation of the Gentoo Laws, a work in which elegance of style is united with extensive information, we find, that for fineable offences the penalty is a certain number of *puns* of *cowries*, from 2000 down to 50, which are well known to be a small white shell, which the inhabitants of the Maldivia Islands obtain by fishing.

§ It appears, by the accounts of late Travellers, that these small shells have a considerable circulation through the interior of the vast continent of Africa.

|| In the year 1778, when the most ancient part of that venerable pile, Somerset House, was demolished, a very large quantity of these *jetoons* or *counters* was found. Some of the most ancient had arms or symbols, supposed to be monastical, upon them. A great number was also found in digging the foundations of the grand terrace fronting the Thames. The late Dr. Hunter, Sir William Chambers, Mr. Moser, and Sir Joshua Reynolds, had several of the most curious.

¶ Some that were found were obviously for this use.

to elucidate those which I shall make upon the subject in the subsequent lines, I come now to the Copper Coinage of this country; which, in comparison with those of Gold and Silver, is a modern production: for although in Greece it had as ancient a date as the latter, and among the Romans, by two centuries preceded it, Copper, as the authorized money of England, was almost totally unknown until the year 1672.

It has by Historians and Medalists been observed, that Queen Elizabeth had an unconquerable aversion to a Copper Coinage: how such an unaccountable propensity became rooted in the mind of so wise and politic a Princess, they do not seem to have taken much pains to inquire; which they ought especially to have done, as from the increased value of the metal, the *silver halfpenny* must have appeared like the half-crowns of Gulliver to the inhabitants of Brobdingnag: however, notwithstanding its diminution and consequent inconvenience, it continued, from necessity, in circulation; and the idea of a Copper Coinage, which in the course of her reign was several times proposed, was, though sometimes sup-

ported by Administration, always negatived by the Queen.

The Royal Farthing tokens of James, which were issued in May 1613, it does not appear were generally circulated; although from the harp upon the reverse it has been thought that they were intended to be disused, not only over this kingdom but Ireland, where, though there had been a Copper Coinage above 200 years antecedent to this period, an universal scarcity of this kind of money* prevailed.

These copper tokens were never considered by the people as the current coin of the country, notwithstanding they were the production of the Royal mint. Those that received them held them in the same estimation as they now do *provincial halfpence*, as pledges for which Government, like modern companies and tradesmen, had *promised* to give them other coin, *if required*.

It is supposed that they continued in currency until the year 1648, when that unfortunate and disgraceful event to this country, the murder of its Monarch, stopped their circulation.

[To be continued.]

ON POPE'S HOMER.

(Continued from Page 12.)

MY DEAR P.

WHAT then is taste? The oftener I consider the subject, and the more I read and hear of the opinions, which different persons, apparently of equal abilities to judge, entertain and without scruple declare of the same works; the more do I find myself tempted to repeat the question.

In the account of the Life, Writings, and Character of a late celebrated Prelate, the R. R. Biographer notices a little piece of the Bishop's in the following terms:

“The edition of D. L. 1765, besides many other improvements, with which it was enriched, is further distinguished by a *remarkable discourse*, printed at the

close of the last volume, and entitled, An Appendix concerning the Book of Job: In this short piece, which is *exquisitely written*, he *repells* an attack, made upon him by Dr. Lowth. The dispute was managed on both sides with too much heat; but on the part of the Bishop, with that *superiority of wit and argument, which, to say the truth, in all his controversial writings he could not help †.*”

The superior wit, so conspicuous in this *remarkable discourse*, was considered, you will recollect, by a late respected friend of ours, with whose conversation we were so often at once instructed and delighted, as little better than mere buffoonery. The pleasant conceit of

* It must be remarked, that from a period as distant as the close of the fourteenth century, particular persons in the kingdom of Ireland had licence to coin copper pence and halfpence, which were current within certain towns and districts, according to the credit of the original utterers. These, owing to the sinister practices of avaricious men, at length fell into disrepute; but of them there are many specimens still to be seen.

† Life of Bishop Warburton, p. 94.

King Shinkin, and other trash, as he called it, of the same sort, very liberally sprinkled over various parts of this witty performance, he reprobated, not only with contempt and scorn, but even with abhorrence and indignation; as being grossly indecent on such an occasion, and unpardonable from one scholar to another. The R. R. Biographer seems indeed to make some sort of apology for his revered friend by a confession, which escapes him in this place; though he meant it, I am inclined to believe, agreeably to his usual strain of panegyric, rather as a compliment. This great man, of unrivalled excellence, had, it seems, such an unhappy propensity to coarse and vulgar ribaldry, that in all his controversial writings he fell into it involuntarily and unawares, however dignified the character of the person whom he chose to attack; or serious and even sacred the subject, which drew forth his pen.

These involuntary effusions the R. R. Biographer extolls, as so many strokes of superior wit: our respected friend called them trash and buffoonery. Our respected friend, you will well remember, to uncommon erudition added also an exquisite taste, with a quick and lively feeling of every thing either excellent or offensive. You, who knew the man, will know how to appreciate his opinion. Nor does he stand alone on this ground. "Dr. Lowth, in a *pointed and polished epistle*, defended himself, and attacked the Bishop: and his victory" over the magnified superiority of wit and argument "was established," says a late celebrated historian, no mean judge, "by the silent confusion of Warburton and his *fiaves* *." How are we to account for this contrariety of opinion in two such men as Dr. Hurd and Mr. Gibbon? not only as to the respective merits of the REMARKABLE DISCOURSE, and the POINTED AND POLISHED EPISTLE; but as to the success also with which they were severally attended.

Nor do our difficulties end here. The R. R. Biographer, in his account, † &c. repeats with great solemnity what the learned commentator on Horace had before taken occasion to advance ‡: that Dr. Warburton's edition of Pope's works

was "*the best edition that was ever given of any Clajick.*"—"The reason," says the last respectable Editor, "of my undertaking it (an edition of Pope's works) was the universal complaint that Dr. Warburton had *disfigured* and *disgraced* his edition by many forced and far-fetched interpretations, totally unsupported by the passages which they were brought to elucidate. If this," he adds, "were my single opinion, nothing could have induced me to have delivered it with so much freedom §." Dr. Warton, from his education, his early and long-continued habits, the cast of his mind, and the course of his studies, will be thought in general well qualified to judge of a work of this sort.

What then is taste? To bring the matter nearer home, I would wish you to consider all I have written above as a preparatory apology for the liberty I am about to take, in a critique on another passage in Pope's Translation; where I find myself unfortunately again at variance with the elegant Fitzosborne, his ablest advocate; from whom I never can dissent without pain.

After having presented his literary friend with the admired night-piece: "The following passage," says this fine writer, "having been quoted by a celebrated author of antiquity as an instance of the true sublime, I will leave it to you to determine; whether the Translation has not at least as just a claim to that character, as the original ||."

Ως δ' ὅτε χειμαρροὶ ποταμοὶ, κατ' ὄρεσιν
 ρεόντες,
 Εἰς μισγαγκμαῖαν συμᾶλλετον ὀμβρίμων
 ὕδαρ,
 Ἐκ κρηνῶν μεγάλων, κοιλῆς εντροθεῖ χαραδρῆς.
 Il. iv. 452.

As torrents roll, increas'd by numerous rills,
 With rage impetuous down the echoing hills;
 Rush to the vales, and pour'd along the
 plain,

Roar in a thousand channels to the main.

What Fitzosborne's literary friend might determine I will not presume to guess. For myself I must freely confess, I see little, in these lines, of Homer's sublimity, and still less of his meaning.

* Lord Sheffield's Life of Mr. Gibbon, Vol. i. p. 38.

† Life of Warburton, p. 69.

‡ Introduction to Comment on Ep. to the Pifa's, p. 15.

§ Warton's Ed. of Pope's Preface.

|| Fitzosborne, l. 51.

Even Pope's warmest admirers must feel with regret that the first verse, for the sake of the rhyme, closes very unfortunately. The *numerous hills* in the Translation will scarcely be thought adequate to the *κερυνος* ΜΕΤΑΛΛΩΝ of Homer. The image conveyed under this expression is by far of too mild and even soothing an aspect to consort with the impetuous rage of torrents, rolling down the echoing hills; and tends, in its effect, so far as it goes, to disarm the scene of its terrors. You remember the beautiful thoughts, which an admired poet dictates to his religious recluse:

The nodding pines, that o'er yon' rock reclin'd

Wave high and murmur to the hollow wind;
The wandering streams, that shine between the hills,

The grotts, that echo to the tinkling rills.—
No more these scenes my meditation aid,
Or lead to rest the visionary maid.

Did it make, do you think? any part of the poet's design, when he wrote these charming lines, to alarm and agitate the mind of his readers with images of rage and violence?

Fitzosborne, you will recollect, has remarked in another place a similar inconsistency, which he censures with a severity very extraordinary for him, as "turning one of the most pleasing similes in the whole Iliad into downright burlesque." It is where the simple swain is stopped on his way by the *impetuous foam*, and the *rough waves* of a *swelling brook*.

As when a simple swain his cot forsakes,
And wide through fens an unknown journey takes;

If chance a *swelling brook* his passage stay,
And *foam impetuous* crosses the wanderer's way,

Confused he stops, a length of journey past,
Eyes the *rough waves*, and tir'd, returns at last.

The just and sublime imagery of Homer forms so striking a contrast to the ludicrous appearance, under which it is here disguised, that it will be somewhat of a curiosity to see them together.

Ως δ' ὅτ' ἀνὴρ ἀπαλαμνος, ἰὼν πόλεως πεδίοιο,
Ἐτήη ἐπ' Ὀκτυπύωι Πιοτάμωι Ἄλλ' ἄε
Προπέοντι,

Ἀφρω μόμυροντα ἰδὼν, ἀνα δ' ἕδρα μ' ὀπίσσω.
II. v. 597.

But you will think, I am afraid, that I linger too long on Pope's inauspicious opening. To make you some amends,

let me congratulate you on his masterly execution in the next line; which is truly admirable; the diction strong and energetic; the roll of the verse impressive; and the epithet *echoing* very happily applied by him to the hills in consonance to his author's ideas.

I wish I could continue equally to approve what follows. To estimate the real merits of the Translation more justly, we must consider what circumstance it was, which the poet meant to illustrate by this comparison. That we find was the mingling of the armies in battle; with all the din, and terror, and confused sounds, arising from the clamours of the soldiers, the clashing of arms, the groans of the dying, and the shouts of the conquerors; described with so much animation in the lines below:

Οἳ δ' ὅτε ὅη ῥ' ἔς χροῶν ἑτα ζυμῶντες ἰκόντο,
ΣΥΝ δ' ἔβαλον ῥυαίς, ΣΥΝ δ' ἐρχεα, καὶ
μυῖ ἀνδρῶν

Καλλιθεωζήτων: ἀταρ αἰπίδες οὐραλοσσαι
Ἐπληντ' ἀλλήλοισι: πολὺς δ' ὀρμαγδός
αἰῶσει.

Ἐσθαδ' αὐ' οἰκωγῆ τῆ καὶ εὐχρῆλι πύλεν
ἀνδρῶν

Ὀμῶντων τῆ καὶ ἔλλυμενων: ῥεε δ' αἰματι
γυαία.

You never, I am sure, read these affecting lines without being much moved, and even agitated by the pathos and sublimity of this transcendent poetry. Do you feel yourself moved in the same manner? when you read the translation, which is given by Pope, as follows:

Now shield with shield, with helmet helmet closed;

To armour armour, lance to lance opposed.
Host against host, in *shadowy* squadrons drew;
The sounding darts in *iron* temp'sts flew.

Victors and vanquish'd join promiscuous cries,

And sniiling shouts, and dying groans arise.
With *streaming* blood the *slippery* fields are dyed,

And *saughter'd* heroes swell the dreadful tide.

The wanton transposition of the sentences in the outset you will at once acknowledge to be very injudicious; by which the narration is rendered wonderfully embarrassed and confused. Every reader must, I suspect, be somewhat perplexed, when he finds shield closed with shield, and helmet closed with helmet, before the parties, which are armed with them, meet; or the hosts, in Pope's language, *drew in shadowy squadrons* against each

each other. But I will not interrupt my critique on the passage immediately before us by any further observations on this. Having only distinguished the more extraordinary *improvements* by Italics, I will leave you to judge of them at leisure.

What I most wish you at this time to observe, is how happily the mingling of the armies is represented under the image of two streams, swollen by the rains of winter, rolling down the sides of opposite hills, and meeting with dreadful concussion in the gulph between, where the waters join. Here let me beg of you to mark the particular power of the preposition ΕΤΝ, with which the verb *καλλω* is compounded; and used in that form by the poet; both where he brings the adverse armies into conflict, and where he describes the meeting streams! It is this emphatic preposition, which points the aptitude of the simile; and gives strength and perspicuity to the illustration. Εκ δε τε ΕΤΝ *καλοι παρηκται η πολυμικη ΣΥΜΒΛΗ*. Eust. I would wish you further to observe that two streams and two only are signified, as appears by the use of the dual *συμβαλλεται*. Δυο δε χιμαρροι υπαυθα λαμβανονται προς ομοιοτητα των δυο στρατηματων; ως δηλον εκ τε συμβαλλεται, δικα ρηματος. Eust. In support of this interpretation I will add a judicious note, extracted from amongst the scholia edited by Villoison.

Και δυο ποταμους παραδωθεν, ηκ αυξησως μονον ενικα; αλλ' οτε εσει δυο στρατηματα, και τετες εμπιπτοντας αλληλοις, και γαρ οι στρατοι αλληλοις επιφρονται.

In this consists the great beauty and propriety of the comparison. The resemblance between the assumed and the primary object is preserved throughout, and pointedly marked, with an exactness more than usual in Homer. Yet of this resemblance in Pope's version we search in vain for the faintest trait. For so material a defect from his principal no harmony of numbers, or graces of expression can in my opinion atone.

Then allow me to ask, where are the vales, to which the torrents rush? where is the plain, along which they are poured? I discover neither the one or the other in the Grecian bard. Should these enquiries be even satisfactorily answered, other objections of still greater moment arise. The images, here represented, wear so different a form from that

under which those of the text appear, that they can by no compression be brought to bear a part in the same piece. In the genuine work of Homer no torrents are poured along the plain, and there divided into a thousand separate channels; nor do we trace them roaring to the main.

Pope seems to have borrowed this last thought from his old friend Ogilby. He too carries his riv'lets and gutters to the main; with less outrage, however, in his mode of conveying them, to the sense of his author.

Riv'lets and gutters, big with sudden rain,
In one great channel tumble to the main.

It will not be easy to discover by what reasons Pope was led, while these lines of Ogilby were before him, to adopt one part, and that the less accurate; when by deserting the other he wanders so much the further out of his way. By this extraordinary management, joined with his other *improvements*, no single feature is preserved of Homer's painting. In the transcendent sublimity, which we are called upon to admire, we lose sight intirely of the poet's meaning; and the great design, which he had in view, is altogether overlooked and unaccomplished.

Allowing therefore, if you please, to this admired passage all that true sublimity, which Fitzosborne thinks he discovers in it; with this concession, even in its utmost latitude, I cannot bring myself to approve a translation, which retains so little of the original. I am the less disposed to approve this, as Homer evidently suffers very much by having his thoughts thus arbitrarily misrepresented; and the order of his composition so much deranged.

I am rather inclined to flatter myself that on this point your sentiments will very nearly coincide with mine. However, if perchance the degradation of your favourite from the high seat of honour, to which his admirers had injudiciously raised him, should dwell upon your mind with any less agreeable impression; to do it all away at once, let me carry you to the great master himself. Here, as at the close of the admired Night-piece, with equal skill, and an effect equally happy, he places a solitary shepherd on the summit of a rock, who hears the terrifying sounds at a distance; from him we catch the alarm, and with sympathizing affections feel
more

more strongly the whole force of the description. With him therefore I will leave you for the present, listening to the dashing waters, as they roll down the steep and rocky descent; tumbling over

the craggy dactyls in the wonderful line, subjoined.

Τῶν δὲ τε | τήλοσε | δαπὼν ἐν | ἕρεσι |
ἐκλυε | ποίμην.

Adieu,

O. P. C.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EUROPEAN MAGAZINE.

SIR,

IN your Magazine for January 1798 (Vol. XXXIII. p. 4.), is a letter to Sir J. Sinclair, respecting the Inclosure of Waste Lands. As at this period, opposition to a measure which many conceive would be of public benefit, naturally incites a spirit of patriotism in its defence, I have ventured to contest the opinions, which the writer of this letter has advanced.

The great principle (he first tells us) of improving lands for public advantage, is to leave a portion of it so improved "publici juris;" to do which he recommends "the improvement of wastes and commons by banking, draining, &c. at the expence of every individual who had a right thereon by parochial levy." This right he wishes to see extended to every house-holder paying scot and lot, and his due proportion to such levy. Upon this let Agricola himself decide, whether the improvers ought not first to be secure of long leases, lest they should be compelled to expend hundreds, for no other purpose than to throw a strong temptation in the way of their landlords, to appropriate to themselves that benefit, which the tenants conceived themselves to have merited.

Your Correspondent observes, "That the increase of inclosures has turned country gentlemen and their overgrown tenants into arrogant and unfeeling monopolists!" but the very converse of the spirit of monopoly is the natural consequence of the inclosure and improvement of waste lands; for the more abundant the general produce, the greater the competition, consequently more difficult the practicability, and more doubtful the prospect of monopolizing to advantage. Scarcity is essential to the success of speculation.

Agricola next says, "That there is no man, or combination of men, with exclusive rights or privileges, who consider the public in any other light than as an object of plunder!" This object,

as it respects commons, has not occupied much of the attention of great farmers: they treat the benefits of commons with contempt.

I am equally an enemy with Agricola to the enlargement of farms; they throw an immense burden of population on the trading and manufacturing towns, and contribute largely to the increase of the poor rates. In a well-policed state, modes of subsistence, sufficiently elevated above poverty to admit of every sufficiency, and some of the comforts of life, cannot be too numerous.

"I would not (continues Agricola) allow any man to acquire a duplication of his separate property by taking from others their share in the right of pasture over all lands in relation;" and he accordingly wishes, "that one third or other reasonable portion of the waste land should be left open every year to a general right of common." I cannot suppose that the Legislature would sanction a system of inclosure, which does not return to every legal holder (as far as it be possible) an equivalent for the right he surrenders.

Agricola lastly complains of the decay of Timber: nothing but pure untainted patriotism can remedy this evil; the distance of the return will ever operate as an impediment to planting.

I have offered these few observations by way of particular reply to your Correspondent, who appears to feel sincerely for the cause of humanity; I also profess myself a soldier lifted under the same banner: we both drive at the same point, though we may differ concerning the means of arriving at it. Consistent with these principles, I shall adduce some farther arguments in favour of the proposed Bill. A wide field here presents itself; but I will be as concise as possible. I presume to declare, that I am not a mere *Theorist* on the question; for I have had a "practical" knowledge of farming more than twenty years, have constantly resided

resided in a district where "every species" of Commons prevails, and have noticed their effects on the *real* interests of the whole community with no inattentive, and I trust with an impartial eye.

Perhaps there is no subject more intricate in its nature than the one before us. In other enquiries we may trace some leading principles, which serve as a general clue, to guide us through the labyrinth which present themselves at every step, on political questions. A general inclosing system comprehends such a multiplicity of distinct objects, and bears so many relations to the civilized state of man, that numerous difficulties, and those of an opposite complexion, occur at every step we take on this tender ground.

There can be no doubt but that every *general* law must operate as a grievance, of more or less magnitude, on many individuals. This is a partial evil which cannot be exiled the world; it cleaves to the very nature of human institutions, and can never be avoided while passions agitate the bosom of man. Every considerable alteration in any branch of policy cannot be of equal benefit to "all;" but it is the "duty" of a wise and equitable Legislature, to apportion its statutes to the advantage of the "majority" of the people; and it will ever be acquitted at the bar of right reason, if the laws which it frames are highly beneficial to the many, though they may take away some benefits from the few. This is the grand, and indeed only hinge, on which human laws ought to turn.

The lands which I conceive are proposed to come under the controul of the inclosing act, are of several descriptions, and therefore the benefit of the improvement must vary in its size. Large open pastures may produce as much herbage in their present state, as it can possibly do under any mode of supposed improvement. These pastures are of various descriptions respecting extent, situation, and quality; and without doubt local circumstances may rationally justify an attempt to amend them. Some of them may probably be doubled in their value by the proper application of drains, manures, &c. &c.

Yet I must confess, that the plan of inclosing our large Commons, improperly styled Wastes, is that part of the system which pleases me least. I think they are the least susceptible of improvement, and the commercial objections,

which pointedly present themselves on the question, more forcibly apply to this particular branch of it. It is also solely from Commons of this kind that the poor receive any considerable degree of benefit.

The Common-fields, which in some districts form the most considerable part of the arable lands, will come next under consideration. The custom of leaving every third year in these fields fallow, undoubtedly sprung from the incapability of the land bearing more than two crops without rest: and in the fallow year the gates were thrown open by the farmers, and cattle without distinction were admitted, by which means the land received a recruit. This is evidently the origin of the fallow year in open arable fields, when the unimproved state of agriculture did not admit of a regular succession of crops, and ere the manuring ones of turnips, clover, and grasses, were understood. This idea is strongly corroborated by the practice which *still* exists of throwing open the gates of our inclosed arables in any year in which it happens to be fallow.

The prosperity of every country, whether it arises from its commercial or agricultural concerns, must depend upon that proportion of liberty allowed to individuals to think and act for themselves in their own affairs. The most active spirit droops under the wing of despotism. The fatal effects of this oppressive influence are eminently conspicuous in rural improvement. Much has been written on the subject of tythes; they are said to operate as an impediment to that ardor for experiment, which is the parent of beneficial discovery: on the same account, restraining leases have been severely reprehended; but neither tythe, nor the restraining lease, creates such opposition to the progressive improvement of husbandry, as two crops and a fallow "regularly" succeeding each other. Modern discoveries cannot be applied under this old system; and such are the baneful consequences attendant upon it, that the land every year decreases in value; and it is a notorious fact, that a well-informed farmer prefers inclosed arable, at 20s. per acre, to Common-field, at 2s. 6d.

The increased quantity of grain which will be produced by inclosing these fields, may be estimated at nearly double, and we may carry at least this part of the scheme into effect with more confidence, because it is not obnoxious to the argument

gument which has been so often urged in the discussing the merits of the question at large—"The Rights of the Cottager." I speak from experience, and therefore speak with confidence, when I assert that the benefit received from the exercise of his rights on these fields is so small, that language knows not a value by which to appreciate it: the scanty pickings near the hedge, and the rushy grass which grows on the divisions of the property (meads), being the only supply which they afford.

In return for the surrender of this nearly absolute nothing, the cottager will receive a considerable advantage in the increase, not only of temporary, but of permanent labour; for the ground being cropped every year must afford one third more employment than when it was in a state of commonage: this is an increase fixed and certain, without reference to the surplus quantity of corn which the land must inevitably produce, and thereby requiring more labour in the harvesting and thrashing.

I am satisfied no just exception can be made to this part of the inclosing scheme: there is another part of it, which, though circumscribed in its extent, is from its nature more forcibly and immediately felt, as far as its influence extends; I mean the cottage, with its circumjacent garden, erected on, and fenced in from, the Waste. When we recollect that this borrowed land is from its situation extremely unprofitable, bearing nothing but rushes and the coarsest grass! we shall contemplate with pleasure the industry of man, stimulated by the hope of profit, and the conscientiousness of property, to its utmost exertions, succeed at length in the placing its possessor in a more comfortable state of existence. The encroachment made by this small inclosure on the ideal rights of others must not, ought not to be thought on, when so much actual benefit arises to a portion of the poor but industrious community. The labour which the cottager expends on his little garden seldom interferes with the daily duties of his servitude; he toils with pleasure early in the morning and late in the evening, producing at the same time advantages to himself and to society; for the quantum of labour which a state can produce is the just standard of its prosperity.

Let it also be remarked, that land cultivated as a garden will produce nearly double the quantity of food which the same land would yield under any other mode of husbandry. The good policy of increasing these productive spots is self-evident.

I am not ignorant that many objections, particularly some of a commercial kind, may be urged to the system of inclosure; but let the inherent rights of humanity be ever held more sacred than the artificial claims of all-grasping speculation, and let us oppose, as the most destructive poison of national felicity, any measure which may tend to increase the price of provisions; rather let us ardently hope that such a system may be adopted, which may render them so cheap as to be attainable by the lowest ranks of the people.

It were wasting words to prove the self-evident proposition, "that increase of quantity must decrease the price." The vast increase which must arise from an inclosure of the Common-fields may be readily conceived: at present they throw every impediment in the way of a spirited course of husbandry, the impossibility of raising the manuring crops of clover and turnips (absolutely necessary in many districts), the damages frequently sustained in the sowing, and in the harvesting; with many other inconveniences too tedious to enumerate.

If a due regard be paid to the rights of every individual, and if the land inclosed be equitably apportioned, I trust I am neither morally or politically wrong, when I avow the warmest feeling of my heart—when I cordially wish, that a long season will not elapse, ere we behold every spot of barren land which the island affords converted into fruitful fields and verdant pastures*. And I shall then see the man, who now contemplates with pleasure, and resigns with reluctance, a right which imagination has magnified into a benefit, rejoice when he finds an ample recompence awarded to him; a recompence, which will remunerate him a hundred fold. Let us likewise indulge the pleasing hope, that habits of industry, frugality, and gratitude, will distinguish the characters of the poor, that they may thereby expect with confidence the protection and beneficence of the rich.

* In 1793 (the latest period, with respect to which accounts have been published), 1,265,015 quarters of grain were consumed more than the country produced! Can there be a stronger argument for the necessity of inclosures?

There cannot, I think, exist a doubt but that the inclosing scheme is upon the whole beneficial to the community, if it can be carried into effect: but whether the national capital, in its present exhausted state, is fully adequate to

the undertaking, is a question in which so many points are involved, that I shall not presume to enter into its discussion.

HORTENSIVS.

*Frampton upon Severn,
Glocestershire.*

ACCOUNT
OF
JOHN WILKES, ESQ.

(Concluded from Page 88.)

ON the 19th of January 1764, Mr. Wilkes was expelled the House of Commons, as the Author of *The North Briton*, No. 45, which, by a Resolution of the 15th of November preceding, had been voted "a false, scandalous, and seditious libel; containing expressions of the most unexampled insolence and contumely towards his Majesty, the grossest aspersions upon both Houses of Parliament, and the most audacious defiance of the authority of the whole Legislature; and most manifestly tending to alienate the affections of the people from his Majesty, to withdraw them from their obedience to the laws of the realm, and to excite them to traitorous insurrections against his Majesty's Government." On the 21st of February he was found guilty of republishing *The North Briton*, and also of printing the *Essay on Woman*. He this year printed at Paris his celebrated Letter to the worthy Electors of the Borough of Aylesbury, which is dated Oct. the 22d.

His absence from England did not prevent the proceedings against him on the verdicts being carried on with great vigour. To enforce his appearance in the Court of King's Bench, process of outlawry was issued against him on the 2d of November, which from that time suspended his action against Lord Hallifax. In that month he went to Bouloigne, to meet his friends Churchill and Humfrey Cotes; a meeting which ter-

minated with the death of Churchill on the 4th of November*.

Being now an exile from his country, he employed some of his time in visiting parts of France, Italy, and Switzerland; particularly in August 1765, he paid his compliments to Voltaire, as may be seen in our Magazine for January last, p. 6. It is probable he was supported by some of the Opposition; and on the change of the Ministry, in 1765, he made application to be restored to his native country, which the new Administration did not seem willing to permit. He was offered, however, by Mr. Fitzherbert, in the name of some of the Ministry, the annual sum of 1000*l.* to be paid out of the income of their respective places. But this proposal he rejected as clandestine, eleemosynary, and precarious. "I demand," says he, in a letter to Mr. Onslow, "from the justice of my friends, a full pardon under the great seal—for having successfully served my country. I will wait here till the first day of the new year. If I should not then have received it, I shall then have the strongest proof that the present Ministry are neither the friends of Mr. Wilkes, nor of justice; because the letter of Mr. Fitzherbert tells me, 'that there is perfect harmony among them, and the perfect confidence and support of their Master.'" (Letter dated Dec. 12, 1765.) In the beginning of 1766 we find him applying to the police of Paris, in consequence of

* In the course of the next year, Abbe Winckelman, Superintendent of the Antiquities of Rome, sent Mr. Wilkes an antique sepulchral urn of alabaster; on which he caused to be inscribed,

CAROLO CHURCHILL
Amico jucundo
Poetæ acri
Civi optime de patria merita
P.

JOHANNES WILKES.

Y 2

being

being defrauded by a woman, who lived with him in the character of a house-keeper. This was not the first application of the like kind.

In November 1766 he returned to England, expecting, from the interposition of his friends in the Ministry, that his pardon would be obtained; but in this he was disappointed. The Duke of Grafton, to whom he applied by letter, behaved with great coldness on the occasion, and referred him to Lord Chatham, with whom he appears not to have been on good terms. He was therefore obliged to return to Paris, where he wrote and printed his famous Letter to the Duke of Grafton, which has since been so much celebrated. Finding that no dependance was to be placed on his former friends, after a twelvemonth interval, he took the resolution, apparently a desperate one, of depending on his own exertions only for extricating himself from his difficulties. Accordingly, in the beginning of the year 1768, he again, to the surprize of every one, made his appearance in London; and on the 4th of March transmitted a submissive letter to the King, requesting a pardon, of which application no notice was taken. On the 16th of the same month he offered himself a candidate to represent the city of London, and at the close of the poll on the 23d was found to have polled 1247 votes. Not disheartened at this failure, he immediately declared his intention of becoming a candidate for the county of Middlesex, and on the 28th was chosen by a vast majority. On the 27th of April he was taken up on a *capias utlagatum*, and committed to the King's Bench, and on the 18th of June was sentenced, on the two verdicts against him, to be imprisoned twenty-two months, to pay two fines of 500*l.* each, and to give security for his good behaviour for seven years, himself in 1000*l.* and two sureties in 500*l.* each.

On the 8th of June the Outlawry issued against him was reversed, which enabled him to resume the proceedings formerly begun against Lord Halifax. He was now confined in the King's Bench, but his partizans were still active, and on his birth-day there was much rioting and disorder. On the 28th of November he caused a petition to be presented to the King, soliciting his clemency, and in the course of this year published the Introduction to a History of England; a work, which it is ima-

gined he did not proceed in further, nor did the specimen afford much promise.

Undepressed by imprisonment, or the rigour of the law, he still braved the vengeance of Government, and still found himself supported by his friends. On the 27th of January 1769 he was chosen Alderman of the Ward of Farringdon Without, on the death of Sir Francis Gosling; and on the 3d of February he was expelled the House of Commons, for publishing with an introduction the thanks of Lord Weymouth, Secretary of State, to the Officers and Soldiers who were on duty in St. George's Fields, at the riot on the 10th of May 1768. On the 16th of February he was re-elected, and on the next day again expelled. On the 16th of March he was a third time elected, and on the succeeding day a third time expelled. The Freeholders of Middlesex still firmly supported him, and on the 13th of April he was a fourth time returned; but on the 8th of May the House of Commons declared his opponent, Henry Lawes Lutterell, the sitting Member. His cause against Lord Halifax was at length (11th November) brought before a Jury, who awarded him 4000*l.* damages. In this year a society, calling itself Supporters of the Bill of Rights, instituted itself for the purpose of relieving him from his debts, which the members of it, after some difficulty, accomplished.

He at length regained his liberty on the 18th of April 1770, and took his seat in the Court of Aldermen. It was soon discovered that there was a difference of opinion in many points between him and several of his former friends. Early in 1771 a rupture between him and Mr. Horne (now Horne Tooke) produced hostilities in the newspapers, and both parties exerted their abilities in abusing each other with much acrimony, to the great entertainment of the public, though little to their own credit. After some time it was found that the world was perverse enough to believe both the Gentlemen in their unfavourable representation of each other. Mr. Wilkes soon saw this effect of the controversy, and wisely withdrew from it on being chosen Sheriff on the 3d of July 1771. His antagonist also, being left to himself without an opponent, and feeling the disgrace which he had brought on himself, also prudently and silently quitted the field, discomfited and disappointed.

On the 8th of October 1772, Mr. Wilkes

Wilkes was by the Livery elected one of the persons to be selected for Lord Mayor, but was not chosen by the Court of Aldermen; and the same circumstance happened the succeeding year. On the third year (1774) he was again elected in the same manner, and approved by the Court of Aldermen. On the 20th of October he was again elected Member for the county of Middlesex, and was permitted to take his seat without molestation. The popularity which he had hitherto enjoyed was now to suffer some diminution. In the beginning of 1776 Sir Stephen Theodore Janssen resigned the office of Chamberlain, and Mr. Wilkes was a candidate to succeed him; when, notwithstanding every exertion in his favour, and every art employed, he lost his election, and Mr. Alderman Hopkins was chosen, by a majority of 177. He made another effort in the succeeding year with equal ill success; and on a third attempt in 1778, was again rejected, having only 287 votes against 1216. His situation at this time was truly melancholy: his interest in the city appeared to be lost; a motion to pay his debts had been rejected in the Common Council; he was involved in difficulties of various kinds; his creditors were clamorous; and such of his property which could be ascertained, and amongst the rest his books, had been taken in execution: those who formerly supported him were become cold to his solicitations, and languid in their exertions, and the clouds of adversity seemed to gather round him on every side, without a ray of light to cheer him. While in this forlorn state, fortune again unexpectedly took him by the hand. In 1779 Mr. Hopkins died, and Mr. Wilkes at length obtained an establishment, which, profiting by experience, rendered the remainder of his life easy and comfortable. On the 1st of December he was chosen Chamberlain, by a majority of 1972 votes, and continued to fill the office with credit to himself, and to the satisfaction of his constituents, during the rest of his life, in spite of some feeble attempts at opposition to him.

In 1780 he was again elected Knight of the Shire for Middlesex, and the same honour was conferred on him in 1784; after which he made no solicitations, and at the next election permitted another person to be chosen, without interfering in any manner. In the riots of 1780

his conduct obtained great applause. On the 3d of May 1782 his annual motion for rescinding the vote of his expulsion was successful, and he from time to time published speeches on various questions, which he either made or attempted to make in Parliament, the greater part of which he published in 3 vols. 12mo. 1777 and 1782, and afterwards in 1 vol. 8vo. He likewise printed separate an admirable defence of Mr. Hastings, in a speech on the impeachment. In 1790 he printed a few copies of splendid editions of Catullus and Theophrastus, for particular friends, and lately, A Supplement to the Miscellaneous Works of Mr. Gibbon.

In the latter period of Mr. Wilkes's life he had been very attentive to his health, and by avoiding all excesses, was enabled to extend his existence longer than could well be expected from the turbulent scenes he had passed through, and the variety of distresses he had at times experienced. The powers of his mind never failed him, and his speech to Admiral Waldegrave, not many days before his death, is an evidence that his faculties were not in the least affected. He died with great composure on the 26th of December 1797; and by his will gave to John Smith, an officer in the East India Company's service, 100l.—to Mrs. Amelia Arnold, the house in Kensington Gore, with all the furniture and ready money in it, and 1000l.—to Harriet Wilkes, of Kensington Gore, the house in the Isle of Wight, all the furniture, &c. and 2000l.—to William Montague, 200l.—to Henry Parker, 20l.—to James Bowdon, 10l.—to Charles, son of William Montague, 20l.—to Richard Keys, James Byfield, Thomas Smith, 10l. each—to all his servants, 5 guineas each. His daughter residuary legatee, and she, with William Montague, were appointed executors. The will was proved as the testator dying possessed of less than 10,000l.

His remains were interred in a vault in Grovenor Chapel, South Audley Street, according to the directions of his will, being near to where he died. A hearse and three mourning coaches, and Miss Wilkes's coach, formed the cavalcade; and eight labouring men, dressed in new black cloaths, bore the deceased to the place of interment, for which each man received a guinea, besides the suit of cloaths. He has also directed a tablet

to be placed to his memory with these few but expressive lines :

THE REMAINS
OF

JOHN WILKES,

A FRIEND TO LIBERTY,
BORN AT LONDON, OCT. 17, 1727, O.S.
DIED IN THIS PARISH.

On the coffin plate are his arms: Or a chevron Sable between three crow's heads erased, coloured proper; charged with an

escutcheon of pretence, Sable, a chevron Or Crest on a mount Vert, a cross bow stringed Or; with the motto on a scroll, *Arcus meo non confido.* The inscription is as follows :

JOHN WILKES, ESQ. F. R. S.
Alderman of the Ward of
Farringdon Without,
Chamberlain of London,
And Lord Mayor 1771,
Died Dec. 26, 1797,
Aged 70 years.

PERFECTION NOT ATTAINABLE BY MAN.

THE STORY OF CELSUS.

*Ac veluti folia arentes liquere corollas,
Quæ passim calathis strata natare vides :
Sic nobis, qui nunc magnum speramus amantes,
Forfitan includet craftina fata dies.*

PROPERT.

THE vanity of Man has treated few arguments with more attention and respect, than those which tend to enlarge the boundaries of human wisdom, and flatter him with the prospect of attaining absolute perfection: the enthusiast has strutted in the plumes of fancied superiority, the philosopher has gravely congratulated his fellow creatures on the approach of that period, when vice shall make her final exit from the world; when sleep, that present obvious proof of imbecility, shall no longer be needed; and Man, by his own energies, shall protract life, and set diseases at defiance. Even those whose calm and religious sentiments hourly impress them with a consciousness of the real inferiority of Man, have in some sort acquiesced in the reigning opinion; they have thought emulation the grand spring of human endeavour, and that the youth who enters the world, impressed with an idea of the excellence of those around him, will exert all his powers to attain that excellence, and consequently the system which began in error, will end in reality.

It is time, however, to consider whether the effect be always such as these friends to the human race have represented it? and whether disappointment in our darling expectations may not give birth to many of those vices which it should be the endeavour of the philosopher to eradicate from the human

breast? Youth is the season of romantic attachment; he enters the world, convinced of the perfection of those around him; he rejoices, and expects every bosom to vibrate in unison; he grieves, and is astonished if he find not every eye clouded with sorrow. Can the writers, who have filled him with these expectations, wonder at the depravity or melancholy which too frequently follow the conviction of their fallacy, and ought they not to reproach themselves with the consequences of those opinions which their works are calculated to inspire?

Celsus entered the world with every advantage; to fortune he was indebted for a liberal independence, and he inherited from nature a pleasing form, a sound constitution, an excellent understanding, and a feeling heart. He was remarkable at school for his quickness in comprehending the beauties of the Classics, insomuch that it was prophesied on all-hands that he would make a brilliant figure in life. Childhood is perhaps the season of all others in which excellence brings the sweetest recompence to the possessor, being seldom blighted by envy, or clouded by detraction. But notwithstanding the applauses which the talents and virtues of Celsus inspired, his schoolfellows could not fail to remark the inconstancy with which he varied his friendships; the intimate friend of to-day being frequently slightly noticed on the

the morrow, and totally forgotten on the day ensuing: this circumstance, which they ascribed to pride, did not fail to damp the admiration his schoolfellows felt for him. Celsus, in spite of this failing, passed through his exercises with uncommon applause, which was rather increased than lessened during a residence of three years at Oxford; and having entered himself a student at the Temple, we are now to consider him as thrown upon the theatre of the world, to act the part to which chance or inclination shall direct him.

During his stay at school, Celsus had, from a grandeur and elevation of sentiment inherent in him, chiefly addicted himself to the study of those authors who have represented mankind in the fairest point of view. The Pastorals of Theocritus and Virgil delighted his imagination, the Romances of Tasso and Ariosto charmed his fancy, and added new force to his universal benevolence: he learnt from Homer to equip fleets and armies to redress private wrongs, and was pleased to see the Goddess of Wisdom herself descend from Heaven to guide her favourite in his passage through life. Among the moderns, Addison was his greatest favourite; and if a passage in Boileau or Swift sometimes awoke him from his dream of felicity, he quickly spurned the ungenerous reflection, and shook it off, "like dew drops from the lion's mane."

The fortune, talents, and vivacity of Celsus, no sooner seen than admired, drew a large circle of acquaintance around him, each contending for his friendship. The choice of a friend was the only thing left to contribute to the felicity of Celsus, and this, in his opinion, was to fix the happiness or misery of his future life. In all the works of imagination he had perused, he could not fail to remark that his hero was accompanied by some dear and inseparable friend, whose sentiments exactly coincided with his own; who, when he went forth to battle, fought undaunted by his side; who shared with him the dangers of the seas; and who, in the days of innocence and peace, lay stretched beside him in the shade, alternately chaunting the praises of some favourite fair.

Impressed with this sentiment, Celsus happened to be in the company of Mercator, and struck with the probity of his character, and the concern he expressed for the welfare of his country, determined to elect him the friend of his bosom. It

was not long, however, before Celsus perceived that Mercator was not the man destined by Heaven to participate in his sorrows and his joys; Mercator regulated his passions by the dictates of prudence and reason, was in every respect too methodical for the ardent disposition of Celsus, and was therefore quickly slighted, and quickly forgotten. A few days afterwards Celsus dined with a society of fashionable men at a tavern in St. James's-street, and among those who distinguished themselves by merriment or noise, could not help being particularly struck with the elegant appearance, sprightly conversation, and brilliant repartees of Audax; to Audax, therefore, he vowed eternal friendship, and this vow Audax, in the intoxication of the moment, willingly repaid. A league was forthwith formed, the two friends appeared inseparable at all the resorts of gaiety and dissipation, and Celsus and Audax shortly became the Pylades and Orestes of the town. For the first month Celsus swam in an ocean of delight. "At length," he exclaimed, "I have attained the wish of my heart, a friend possessed of every virtue and every accomplishment, whose appearance gratifies my vanity, whose good-humour is a never-failing source of pleasure, whose wit exhilarates, and whose virtue enforces esteem!" A few months were sufficient to awaken Celsus from his dream of felicity; he found the animal spirits and gaiety of Audax a poor substitute for the more durable qualities of good sense and virtue, was shortly duped by his inseparable friend in an amorous adventure, and had just reasoned himself into a determination to challenge his perfidious associate, when he learnt, to his infinite satisfaction, that Audax had that morning been killed in a duel. Foiled but not deterred from his pursuit, Celsus shortly attached himself to two fellow-students, one of whom had obtained the character of a *Bon Vivant*, and the other that of a *Lover of Vertú*. These terms *verus* in their literal construction understood to signify a Good Liver and a Lover of Virtue: a few days were sufficient to convince him of his mistake; the Good Liver died under a disorder occasioned by excessive gluttony, and the Lover of Virtue narrowly escaped an Old Bailey prosecution for robbing the cabinet of his benefactor of some valuable gold and silver coins.

It would be a task equally fruitless and unpleasant, to follow Celsus through
the

the mazes of error into which his lofty opinion of himself and others had brought him. He solicited the friendship of the elegant, and wondered to find them trifling and empty; he courted the regard of celebrated authors, and was astonished not to find them equally celebrated for graceful manners and polite behaviour: he slighted artists because they were not fashionable men, and fashionable men because they were not artists; till tired and disappointed, his spirits forsook him, his appetite failed, he became a sloven in his appearance, and seemed posting with hasty strides towards chagrin and death. In this extremity he determined his whole soul to Candidus, the only friend who had watched his progress with real concern, without importuning him with empty professions of friendship. Candidus heard the little story of his misfortunes with more concern in his heart than he chose to express in his countenance; and when he had finished, thus addressed him: "My dear Celsus! Your disappointment is the natural consequence of that lofty irritability of mind, which seeks absolute perfection in those

about it; and being disappointed, quarrels like a child with itself and all the world. A very moderate degree of experience might convince you, that Perfection is not attainable by Man! and that wisdom and policy equally dictate to him rather to be content with what nature offers, than waste his health and spirits in seeking that which nature never intended him to obtain. You heat your imagination with visionary excellence, and then walk abroad, seeking to embody the phantom: you are foiled in your schemes, fall out with the world, and the world in its turn falls out with you. Life has been frequently and aptly compared to a journey in a stage coach. The comparison will gain additional strength by observing that chance frequently throws together men of the most opposite pursuits and inclinations: how much better is it then mutually to concede, than to waste our time in idle bickerings or lofty pretensions! especially as every moment brings us nearer to the end of our journey, and the time must soon arrive in which we part to meet no more. S.

DROSSIANA.

NUMBER CII.

ANECDOTES OF ILLUSTRIOUS AND EXTRAORDINARY PERSONS, PERHAPS NOT GENERALLY KNOWN.

—A THING OF SHREDS AND PATCHES!

HAMLET.

[Continued from Page 92.]

RIVIERIUS.

IT does not appear at all wonderful that mercury has succeeded in the yellow fever* of the West Indies. This great practitioner, in that powder which he called the Febrifuge Powder, employed mercury combined with antimony; a preparation from which it is supposed that Dr. James's celebrated Fever Powder has been taken, and which it is imagined

he afterwards considerably altered. Rivierius's receipt is to be met with in the 'Arcana,' at the end of his works, folio. To him also we are indebted for the composition of the Saline Draught. He was Physician to Louis the Thirteenth.

MR. HOWARD.

This benevolent and active man told Mr. Seward, that he had never heard of

* The following mixture, invented by that ingenious and benevolent Physician, Dr. Carmichael Smyth, has been found of great use in preventing the contagion of the yellow fever; and indeed in preventing all kinds of putrid contagion:

Put some heated sand in a small earthen pipkin; in this place a tea-cup filled with half an ounce of strong vitriolic acid: when warmed a little, add to it half an ounce of purified nitre in powder, stirring the mixture with a slip of glass, or the small end of a tobacco-pipe. This process should be renewed from time to time; or, if you wish to keep up a constant fumigation, it is only putting the pipkin over a lamp, or making use of one of Mozer's fumigating lamps, made expressly for this purpose.

any preventative against the horrible disease of the plague* when he was in Turkey; and that in general very little precaution was taken against it, as the Mahometans are most commonly fatalists.

The statue of Mr. Howard was the first that was admitted into the Cathedral of St. Paul upon Dr. Farmer's plan; and did great honour to the liberality of the Chapter, who appear to have rather considered his charity than his faith, and his benevolent actions rather than his religious opinions.

JOHN MILTON.

A Writer, nearly contemporary with this great Poet, appears to regret "that the beautiful and splendid images contained in the 'Paradise Lost' will be lost to those persons who do not understand the English language." This is not still likely to happen, as by the efforts of a mind congenial to his own, that of Mr. Fuseli, his sublime and pleasing ideas will be

oculis subjecta fidelibus,

reverberated to the minds of persons of every country, by the engravings which that great artist is about to publish, by subscription, from the pictures he has painted for his Milton Gallery in Queen Ann-street East. From the efforts of Mr. Fuseli's pencil, we may expect to see the same justice done to the images of Milton that is done to those of the sublime Dante, in the more sublime picture of the Last Judgment, by Michael Angelo, in the Sistine Chapel at Rome.

LORD MANSFIELD.

The following anecdote of the designation of this great Judge to the study of the Law is told on the highest authority:—One day, in company with Mr. Foley and some other young men at Christ Church, he mentioned his intention to take orders, and how small his

prospects were in that profession. Mr. Foley expressed his wonder at this, as he was certain, from Lord Mansfield's generally acknowledged talents, he would rise to the greatest honours of the Bar. Lord Mansfield mentioned his pecuniary embarrassments, and that he had not income enough to support him till he made money by his profession. Mr. Foley immediately assured him, that (if he would permit him) he would give him, out of the income, four hundred pounds a-year, which his father allowed him, and which was much more than he wanted, one hundred and fifty pounds a-year for seven years. This, after much hesitation, Lord Mansfield accepted; and to the generosity of his friend the Bar is indebted for one of its greatest ornaments. Lord Mansfield lived ever afterwards in habits of the greatest intimacy and friendship with Mr. Foley (who afterwards became Lord Foley, and was known by the name of the Batchelor Lord of that name), and appears to have been constantly attentive to any one who bore the name of Foley.

NOEL D'ARGONNE.

"As are the flowers, so are the fruits of life," says this elegant writer. It was an observation of an acute Nobleman, now at the Cape of Good Hope, "that every man had in life what he wished to have." But, alas! when he made his estimates, he did not take into the account the whole extent of it. The idle person did not foresee from his idleness ignorance and disgrace; the uselessness of his own life to himself or to others: the man of pleasure did not foresee poverty, and the extent of wrong. They have, however, no reason to complain of any thing but of themselves, who were so wonderfully short-sighted as, for present gratification, not to attend to the future consequences of the foolish choice they had made.

* The mixture mentioned in the article of RIVIERUS, composed by Dr. Smyth, as it is a specific against putrid contagion, would probably prevent the contagious effects of the plague. It has been so often tried with success in hospital and other ships, that it appears to possess a specific power upon putrid contagion in decomposing its miasmata, and rendering them innoxious. It may be tried with success in gaol fevers, fevers of workhouses, and in those fevers amongst the poor which arise from filth, whose cottages may be visited by any person armed with this specific without danger, and whose lives he may save with this precaution without hazarding his own. For the life of a citizen saved in battle, amongst the Romans, a civic crown was given. What remuneration should await the discovery of Dr. Smyth, which has saved the lives of many thousand English citizens, and may save so many more thousands, is (it is to be feared) as yet unknown and unsettled.

MR. THOMAS GAINSBOROUGH.

The last impressions made on strong and fervid minds are, in general, those that were made first upon them.

That great Painter, Mr. Gainsborough, nearly died with these words in his mouth: "We are all going to Heaven together; and Vandyke (the painter to whom he looked up with the greatest veneration) is of the party." That great statesman Lord Grenville, in a delirium, not long before he died, mentioned the many embassies he had performed, the high public situations he had been in, that he had done so and so for particular persons, and that he had provided for the Finches, &c.

"Such in these moments as in all the past," save that his good-humour, his eloquence, his learning, and his love of his country, did not appear in them.

GENERAL WOLFE.

This intrepid Officer laboured under a most horrid disease of his bladder during the siege of Quebec, in which he so nobly fell; and said to his surgeon, a few days before he died, "I know you cannot cure my complaint, but pray make me up so that I may be without pain for three days, and able to do my duty; that is all I want."

LORD CHATHAM

Had been ill for a long time before, unhappily for the country, he fell down in the House of Lords, and was struck with death. Mrs. Hood requested him not to go to attend his duty in Parliament, as she was assured he would die if he did. "That I know very well, Madam," replied he; "but I am still resolved to go; for I desire to live no longer than I can act, no longer than I can attempt to serve my country;" in this spirited exclamation imitating Pompey the Great, when he told his physician, who wished him not to embark for his celebrated expedition against the Pirates, "There is no necessity of living, but there is a necessity for my going."

Lord Chatham, independent of his sagacity and of his eloquence, had many qualities requisite to constitute a great man. In public his manners were dignified, in private they were fascinating; and his public education (that of the army) had given him the knowledge of the world, and that intuition into the characters of men which a private and

a confined education can never procure, and which is but too apt to render even persons of considerable talents insolent and assuming, as having never passed through the usual gradations of discipline and of subordination.

MONTESQUIEU,

In one of his posthumous works, speaking of Gothic architecture, says, "This architecture appears extremely varied; but the confusion of its ornaments fatigues the mind by their smallness, which is the reason that we cannot distinguish one from the other; and their number is so great, that there is no single one upon which the eye can rest; so that it displeases even by the means that have been taken to make it please." Montesquieu appears to be mistaken in this position. The smallness and infinity of the ornaments certainly exhibit no particular effect of any part, but cause them to be lost in the general effect of the whole, and rather make it appear as one rough surface than as divided into certain minute portions. The late Mr. Thomas Warton has some excellent observations on Gothic architecture, in his notes on his 'Fairy Queen,' and left behind in MS. many more, which we hope will soon be printed under the inspection of his elegant and classical brother.

SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS, KNT. PRESIDENT OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

Though this great Painter, as Dr. Rawley says of his godlike patron Lord Bacon, was no great plodder upon books, yet from the conversation of other persons, from his own well-directed reading, and from the natural sagacity of his mind, he had collected together such a variety of materials on most subjects, that his writings and conversation teemed with general positions, and with abstract propositions, that resembled very much the aphorisms of Lord Verulam himself. To the ingenious Mr. Malone the world is much indebted for printing, in his 'Life of Sir Joshua,' some of his MSS. observations on his own profession, "in which one particularly sees that power of generalization, the concomitant of genius, and the attendant upon great and forcible minds." Sir Joshua says, with that ingenuousness in owning his defects which a mind conscious of superiority only will exhibit, "Not having

the advantage of an early academical education, I never possessed that facility of drawing the naked figure which an artist ought to have. It appeared to me too late, when I went to Italy, and began to feel my own deficiencies, to endeavour to acquire that readiness of invention which I observed others to possess. I consoled myself, however, by remarking, that those ready inventors are extremely apt to acquiesce in imperfection; and that if I had not their facility, I should, for this very reason, be more likely to avoid the defect which too often accompanies it, a trite and common-place mode of invention. How difficult it is for the artist who professes this facility to guard against carelessness and common-place invention, is well known; and in *Metastasio*, in a kindred art, is an eminent instance, who always complained of the great difficulty of obtaining correctness, in consequence of having been in his youth an improvisatore*. . . . I considered myself as playing a great game in art," adds Sir Joshua, "and instead of beginning to save money, I laid it out faster than I got it, in purchasing the best examples of art that could be procured; for I even borrowed money for this purpose. The possessing portraits by Titian, Vandyke, and Rembrandt, I considered as the best kind of wealth. By studying carefully the works of the great masters, this advantage is obtained; we find that certain niceties of expression are capable of being executed which otherwise we might suppose beyond the reach of art. This gives us a confidence in ourselves, and we are thus incited, not only to endeavour at the same happiness of execution, but also at other congenial excellencies. *Study*, indeed, consists in learning to see nature, and may be called the art of using other men's minds †. By this kind of contemplation and exertion we are taught to think in

their way, and sometimes to attain to their excellencies. Thus, for instance, if I had never seen any of the works of Corregio, I should perhaps have never remarked in nature the expression which I find in one of his pictures; or, if I had remarked it, I should have thought it too difficult, or perhaps impossible, to be executed."

"So desirous was he," says his ingenious Biographer, "that the Cathedral of St. Paul's should be decorated with sculpture (which he thought would be highly beneficial to the Arts), that he prevailed upon those who were concerned with him in the management of Dr. Johnson's monument, to consent that it should be placed in that Cathedral. In consequence of the ardour which he displayed upon the subject, it was thought proper to deposit his body in the crypt of that magnificent church; which, indeed, had another claim also to the remains of this great Painter; for in the same ground (though the ancient building constructed upon it has given place to another edifice) was interred, in the middle of the last century, his great predecessor Sir Anthony Vandyke;" his inferior in two branches of the art, in light and shade, and in beauty and variety of back-ground. To deposit Sir Joshua's corpse in the crypt of St. Paul's, is doing very little honour to his talents, and by no means bringing them into remembrance; unless a statue or a monument, of some size and splendour, indicate where the remains of the British Apelles, the painter of grace and expressions, are deposited.

FATHER PAUL SARPI.

The dying wish of this great patriot of Venice has not been fulfilled, "*Esto perpetua!*"—May it last for ever!—The power of the French, which, like a baleful comet, does mischief to the general system of the Universe, without

* The late acute Dr. Adam Smith used to say, that he never knew any young persons, in the different classes which he taught in Scotland, ever come to any excellence, if they were soon satisfied with their own performances.

† So Virgil, by imitation, made use of the mind of Homer, and incorporated with his Epic Poem beauties in some respects superior to his prototype. A dwarf on the back of a giant will see farther than the giant alone; and he that follows another has a wider horizon afforded him to view than he who preceded him. It is curious to observe, that in the Royal Academy there is not a single good foreign picture for the students to copy; so that the little progress that has been made in the art of painting in our times, in our own country, cannot appear strange to those persons who consider the matter. We, indeed, as if in fear that our artists should improve, suffered the Houghton Collection to be sent out of the country into the land of the Goths and Vandals.

affording to itself either superior heat or splendor, has demolished that Republic, which had continued twelve hundred years, and which our Harrington thought incapable of decay from any internal defect in its constitution. An inscription was some years ago put upon the Doge's palace at Venice, which has been but too fatally realized in our time :

Prudentia Patrum perit,
Imprudentia juvenum imperat,
Respublica recens ruit.

The prudence of our Senators is extinguished,
The imprudence of our young men governs,
The Republic is going headlong to ruin.

DESMAHIS.

The oppressive sensation and the cause of *ennui* were never better described than by this elegant French poet :

ENNUI.

Ce sommeil fatigant de l'ame,
Né de gene & du loisir,
De nos jours use plus la trame
Que la douleur & le plaisir.

Of the dull soul oppressive sleep,
Born of constraint and too much leisure,
More on the stretch life's thread you keep
Than either anguish or than pleasure.

It is the observation of a learned Physician in this metropolis, that many persons incur disorders that lead often to death by mere *ennui*.

DR. LANCASTER

Says in a MS. Letter :—" I never heard English Printers blamed so much for any thing, as for their papers being too white. I have found by experience that eyes are very good things, and yet I will not say that I found it out at first, for they say old Friar Bacon knew it, and even some Antediluvians lived long enough to have discovered it. Now brown paper preserves the eye better than white, and for that reason the wise Chinese write upon brown. So the Ægyptians, so Aldus and Stephens printed, and on such paper or vellum are old

MSS. written; and when authors and readers agree to be wiser, we shall avoid printing on a *glaring white paper*."

MR. THWAITES.

In a letter from this Gentleman to Dr. Charlett, he says,

"Oxon, August 28, 1700.

"The Prophets are here at the Greyhound; they made themselves known by strange convulsions and abrupt talk yesterday. I was there at three; 100 Masters of Arts (I think) might be there, and 150 more persons. We stayed an hour, but no motion. There are four Prophetic Women, as the two men call them. One of the men was a Scholar of Cambridge. He is cunning, and has temper. His name is Lardner, the other's Jackton. When Lacy's *Warning* was read by one of the men, some of us objected too much, and hindered the coming of what they call the Spirit (*voice*). They have more names for it. In the mean time the Vice-Chancellor came and dispersed us. I cannot express the confusion; but in three minutes he made the house easy. The Prophets were to march by his order in an hour, but their linen being out, they stay till to-morrow. They are become the Constable's ward."

ROBINSON, BISHOP OF BRISTOL,
LORD PRIVY SEAL.

The dress of this great Prelate, whilst he was Ambassador at the Hague, is thus described in a MS. letter of the times :

"His Lordship's dress is very noble; the cassock is of black velvet, the lining black with gold edging and tassels, mixed with black, and the gown in the shape of a Master of Arts' gown, of purple velvet. This is his common habit, with the Badge or Register of the Order of the Garter hanging at his breast. His ceremony habit (with which he is to appear at the Congress) is a flowing robe of purple, laced very much with gold, the train of which is to be borne up by his pages."

THE
LONDON REVIEW
AND
LITERARY JOURNAL,
FOR MARCH 1798.

QUID SIT PULCHRUM, QUID TURPE, QUID UTILE, QUID NON.

The Four Ages ; together with Essays on various Subjects. By William Jackson, of Exeter. 8vo. Cadell and Davies. 1798.

THIS Author, in an Advertisement prefixed, says, "The greatest part of these Essays should be considered as sketches for a periodical paper, which was once intended for publication ; they are in consequence upon familiar subjects, and treated as such. The Four Ages, and other pieces (easily distinguished) made no part of the above design ; but though less proper for a paper, they are more so for a book, which may be considered as an addition to the THIRTY LETTERS already published by the same Author."

The Ancients (he observes) held that the different states of society were aptly expressed by being termed the Golden Age, the Silver, the Brazen, and the Iron. They conceived that the first state of man was superior to all succeeding states, as gold is beyond other metals ; that the second age had as much degenerated from the perfection of the first, as the value of silver is below gold ; that the third was so far removed from primitive excellence, as to deserve the appellation of the Brazen Age ; and that the fourth, unhappily for us, is the last state of degeneracy, and deserves no better epithet than what the cheapest and most worthless metal afforded. We live in the Iron Age.

In contradiction to the opinion of the Ancients, and perhaps of the Moderns, the Author inverts the order, and endeavours, plausibly at least, to prove that the first was the Iron Age, and the last, when it shall please Heaven to send it, will be that of Gold—no Golden Age having yet existed, except in the imagination of poets.

He then notices the coincidences to be

found in various uncivilized countries, though distant from each other, and marks the characteristics of the first state of man in his savage state, which he denominates very properly the Iron Age. The Brazen Age then succeeds, which he considers as that state of society when people begin to refuse immediate gratification for future convenience. The characteristics of this period are then pointed out, which bring on the Silver Age, which is supposed to be the present. The improvements of the present times in preference to the past are then cursorily enumerated and discussed, and the Author concludes a very entertaining disquisition in the following terms :

"If the progress of human attainments lead at last to that Golden Age which the Ancients held to be our primitive state, the philosopher will consider this as the happy future state of society—a state of reward to the species, not to the individual—a state of bliss, the natural consequence of scientific and virtuous exertions.

"Thus we have endeavoured to shew, that nothing but rudeness can exist in the first age, that it becomes smoother in the second, and more polished in the third ; but that we are not to look for the last degree of refinement, until human nature, having proceeded through all the different stages of improvement, becomes perfectly instructed by science, and purified by virtue."

The Essays which follow are on these subjects :—On Gothic Architecture. The middle Way not always best. The Villa. On Wit. An Indian Tale. Different Uses of Reading and Conversation. Character of Gainsborough.

Cha-

Character of Sir Joshua Reynolds. Whether genius be born or acquired. The Venetian, French Captain, and Priest. The Bard. The Ghost. On Gentlemen Artists. Coincidences. On Literary Thievery. On Pope's Epitaphs. The Hermit. The Restraint of Society. On Rhyme. Odd Numbers. Late. Use of Accumulation. On a Reform in Parliament. Authors should not exceed common Judgment. On the joining Poetry with Music. Almanacks. Authors improperly paired. The Cup-bearer, an Indian Tale. On Beauty. An odd Character. Something beyond us necessary. Influence of Appellations. On Executions. A proper Length necessary for Musical and Literary Productions. Aboulhamed and the Brahmin. On Antiquities. On Derivation. On Climate. On Poetical and Musical Ear. On Mental and Corporeal Pleasure.

At page 47, Mr. Jackson, by mistake, ascribes the brutality of Sir Edward Coke, at Raleigh's trial, to Noy.

As a specimen of this work, we shall extract the following character of Gainsborough the celebrated Painter :

" In the early part of my life I became acquainted with Thomas Gainsborough the painter; and as his character was, perhaps, better known to me than to any other person, I will endeavour to divest myself of every partiality, and speak of him as he really was. I am the rather induced to this, by seeing accounts of him and his works given by people who were unacquainted with either, and, consequently, have been mistaken in both.

" Gainsborough's profession was painting, and music was his amusement—yet, there were times when music seemed to be his employment, and painting his diversion. As his skill in music has been celebrated, I will, before I speak of him as a painter, mention what degree of merit he possessed as a musician.

" When I first knew him he lived at Bath, where Giardini had been exhibiting his *then* unrivalled powers on the violin. His excellent performance made Gainsborough enamoured of that instrument; and conceiving, like the Servant-maid in the Spectator, that the music lay in the fiddle, he was frantic until he possessed the *very* instrument which had given him so much pleasure—but seemed

much surprized that the music of it remained behind with Giardini!

" He had scarcely recovered this shock (for it was a great one to *him*) when he heard Abel on the viol-di-gamba. The violin was hung on the willow—Abel's viol-di-gamba was purchased, and the house resounded with melodious thirds and fifths from "morn to dewy eve!" Many an Adagio and many a Minuet were begun, but none completed—this was wonderful, as it was Abel's *own* instrument, and therefore *ought* to have produced Abel's own music!

" Fortunately, my friend's passion had now a fresh object—Fischer's hautboy—but I do not recollect that he deprived Fischer of his instrument: and though he procured a hautboy, I never heard him make the least attempt on it. Probably his ear was too delicate to bear the disagreeable sounds which necessarily attend the first beginnings on a wind instrument. He seemed to content himself with what he heard in public, and getting Fischer to play to him in private—not on the hautboy, but the violin—but this was a profound secret, for Fischer knew that his reputation was in danger if he pretended to excel on two instruments*.

" The next time I saw Gainsborough it was in the character of King David. He had heard a harper at Bath—the performer was soon left harpless—and now Fischer, Abel, and Giardini were all forgotten—there was nothing like chords and arpeggios! He really stuck to the harp long enough to play several airs with variations, and, in a little time, would nearly have exhausted all the pieces usually performed on an instrument incapable of modulation (this was not a pedal-harp), when another visit from Abel brought him back to the viol-di-gamba.

" He now saw the imperfection of sudden sounds that instantly die away—if you wanted a *staccato*, it was to be had by a proper management of the bow, and you might also have notes as long as you please. The viol di-gamba is the only instrument, and Abel the prince of musicians!

" This, and occasionally a little flirtation with the fiddle, continued some years; when, as ill luck would have it, he heard Crodill—but, by some irregularity of conduct, for which I cannot

* * It was at this time that I heard Fischer play a solo on the violin, and accompany himself on the same instrument—the air of the solo was executed with the bow, and the accompaniment *pizzicato* with the unemployed fingers of his left hand.

account, he neither took up, nor bought the violoncello. All his passion for the Bass was vented in descriptions of Cro-dill's tone and bowing, which was rapturous and enthusiastic to the last degree.

"More years now passed away, when upon seeing a Theorbo in a picture of Vandyke's; he concluded (perhaps, because it was finely painted) that the Theorbo must be a fine instrument. He recollected to have heard of a German professor, who, though no more, I shall forbear to name—ascended *per varios gradus* to his garret, where he found him at dinner upon a roasted apple, and smoking a pipe—* * * says he, I am come to buy your lute—

To pay my lute!

"Yes—come, name your price, and here is your money."

I cannot sell my lute!

"No, not for a guinea or two, but by G— you must sell it."

May lute isb wert much monnay! it isb wert ten guinea.

"That it is—see, here is the money."

Welt—if I musbt—but you will not take it away yourself?

"Yes, yes—good bye * * *"

"(After he had gone down he came up again)

"* * * I have done but half my errand—What is your lute worth, if I have not your book?"

Whad poog, Maister Cainsporough?

"Why the book of airs you have composed for the lute."

Ab, py cot, I can never part wit my poog!

"Poh! you can make another at any time—this is the book I mean (putting it in his pocket)."

Ab, py cot, I cannot—

"Come, come, here's another ten guineas for your book—so, once more, good day t'ye—(descends again, and again comes up) But what use is your book to me, if I don't understand it?—and your lute—you may take it again, if you won't teach me to play on it—Come home with me, and give me my first lesson—"

I will come to marrow.

"You must come now."

I musbt wess myself.

"Fow what? You are the best figure I have seen to day—"

Ay musbt be shave—

"I honour your beard!"

Ay musbt bud on my wick—

"D—n your wig! your cap and beard become you! do you think if Vandyke

was to paint you he'd let you be shaved?"

"In this manner he frittered away his musical talents; and though possessed of ear, taste, and genius, he never had application enough to learn his notes. He scorned to take the first step, the second was of course out of his reach; and the summit became unattainable.

"As a painter, his abilities may be considered in three different departments.

"Portrait,

"Landscape, and

"Groups of Figures—to which must be added his Drawings.

"To take these in the abovementioned order.

"The first consideration in a portrait, especially to the purchaser, is, that it be a perfect likeness of the sitter—in this respect, his skill was unrivalled—the next point is, that it is a good picture—here, he has as often failed as succeeded. He failed by affecting a thin waxy colouring, and a hatching style of pencilling—but when, from accident or choice, he painted in the manly substantial style of Vandyke, he was very little, if at all, his inferior. It shews a great defect in judgment, to be from choice, wrong, when we know what is right. Perhaps, his best portrait is that known among the painters by the name of the *Blue-boy*—it was in the possession of Mr. Buttall, near Newport-market.

"There are three different æras in his landscapes—his first manner was an imitation of Ruysdael, with more various colouring—the second, was an extravagant looseness of pencilling; which, though reprehensible, none but a great master can possess—his third manner, was a solid firm style of touch.

"At this last period he possessed his greatest powers, and was (what every painter is at some time or other) fond of varnish. This produced the usual effects—improved the picture for two or three months; then ruined it for ever! With all his excellence in this branch of the art, he was a great mannerist—but the worst of his pictures have a value, from the facility of execution—which excellence I shall again mention.

"His groups of figures are, for the most part, very pleasing, though unnatural—for a town-girl, with her cloaths in rags, is not a ragged country girl. Notwithstanding this remark, there are numberless instances of his groups at the door of a cottage, or by a fire in a wood, &c. that are so pleasing as to disarm criticism.

criticism. He sometimes (like Murillo) gave interest to a single figure — his Shepherd's boy, Woodman, Girl and Pigs, are equal to the best pictures on such subjects—his Fighting Dogs, Girl warming herself, and some others, shew his great powers in this style of painting. The very distinguished rank the Girl and Pigs held at M. Calonne's sale, in company with some of the best pictures of the best masters, will fully justify a commendation which might else seem extravagant.

“ If I were to rest his reputation upon one point, it should be on his Drawings. No man ever possessed methods so various in producing effect, and all excellent—his washy, hatching style, was here in its proper element. The subject which is scarce enough for a picture, is sufficient for a drawing, and the hasty loose handling, which in painting is poor, is rich in a transparent wash of bistre and Indian ink. Perhaps the quickest effects ever produced, were in some of his drawings; and this leads me to take up again his facility of execution.

“ Many of his pictures have no other merit than this facility; and yet, having it, are undoubtedly valuable. His drawings almost rest on this quality alone for their value; but possessing it in an eminent degree (and as no drawing can have any merit where it is wanting) his works, therefore, in this branch of the art, approach nearer to perfection than his paintings.

“ If the term *facility* explain not itself; instead of a definition, I will illustrate it.

“ Should a performer of middling execution on the violin contrive to get through his piece, the most that can be said, is, that he has not failed in his attempt. Should Cramer perform the same music, it would be so much within his powers, that it would be executed with ease. Now, the superiority of pleasure, which arises from the execution of a Cramer, is enjoyed from the facility of a Gainborough. A poor piece performed by one, or a poor subject taken by the other, give more pleasure by the *manner*

in which they are treated, than a good piece of music, and a sublime subject in the hands of artists that have not the means by which effects are produced, *in subjection to them*. To a good painter or musician this illustration was needless; and yet, by them *only*, perhaps, it will be felt and understood.

“ By way of addition to this sketch of Gainborough, let me mention a few miscellaneous particulars.

“ He had no relish for historical painting — he never sold, but always gave away his drawings; commonly to persons who were perfectly ignorant of their value*. He hated the harpsichord and the piano-forte. He disliked singing, particularly in parts. He detested reading; but was so like Sterne in his letters, that, if it were not for an originality that could be copied from no one, it might be supposed that he had formed his style upon a close imitation of that author. He had as much pleasure in looking at a violin as in hearing it—I have seen him for many minutes surveying, in silence, the perfections of an instrument, from the just proportion of the model, and beauty of the workmanship.

“ His conversation was sprightly, but licentious—his favourite subjects were music and painting, which he treated in a manner peculiarly his own. The common topics, or any of a superior cast, he thoroughly hated, and always interrupted by some stroke of wit or humour.

“ The indiscriminate admirers of my late friend will consider this sketch of his character as far beneath his merit; but it must be remembered, that my wish was not to make it perfect, but just. The same principle obliges me to add—that as to his common acquaintance he was sprightly and agreeable, so to his intimate friends he was sincere and honest, and that his heart was always alive to every feeling of honour and generosity.

“ He died with this expression—‘ We are all going to Heaven, and Vandyke is of the party’—Strongly expressive of a good heart, a quiet conscience, and a love for his profession, which only left him with his life.”

* He presented twenty drawings to a lady, who pasted them to the wainscot of her dressing-room. Some time after she left the house: the drawings, of course, become the temporary property of every tenant.”

The History of Devonshire. In Three Volumes. By the Rev. Richard Polwhele*, of Polwhele, in Cornwall, and late of Christ Church, Oxford. Vol. I. [Part I.] Folio. 176 pages. Cadell, Johnson, and Dilly. 1797.

TO the industry and talents of Mr. Polwhele the Public have been indebted for much amusement and much instruction. The great object that now engages his attention must, when completed, form a valuable addition to the provincial history of our Country; and viewing it as the work of an individual, almost unaided, and (as we gather from hints here and there scattered) depressed by the uncharitable constructions of some, and the parsimony of others, we cannot withhold the meed of praise due to learned labours so usefully directed.

The Author's design extends to Three Volumes. Of these the Second, containing a portion of the Chorography of the County, appeared in the year 1794, and was duly noticed by us (Vol. xxvi. p. 197, &c.). If the reader will take the trouble to make the reference, he will there find Mr. Polwhele's reason for beginning his publication with the Second Volume.

The First Volume is intended to comprize The Natural History of Devonshire; also The Government, Religion, Architecture, Arts, Manufactures, Commerce, Language and Learning, Persons and Population, Characters, Manners, and Customs of the Devonians.

These subjects are designed to be treated under eight Divisions of Time, each Period being complete in all the several points: viz.

I. From the First Settlement to the Arrival of Julius Cæsar.

II. From Julius Cæsar to Vortigern.

III. From Vortigern to William the Conqueror.

IV. From William the Conqueror to Edward the First.

V. The Saxo-Lancastrian-Yorkish Period.

VI. The Period of the United Houses and Crowns.

VII. The Period of the Rebellion and Restoration.

VIII. The Period of the Revolution and the United Kingdoms, to the Year 1790.

Of a design of such magnitude the First Period is all that we have now be-

fore us. But in a Postscript Mr. Polwhele says, "It is in this manner that I have carried the whole of the General History from the point where I now break off, through the times of the Romans, the Saxons, the Danes, the Normans, &c. &c. to the Year 1790. The voluminous papers containing these extensive researches, all as complete as those here printed (and some indeed much more finished) have been for several years deposited on my shelves. As I proceed with the printing, all that remains to be done is to retrench exuberances; otherwise the First Volume would run out to at least 1500 pages. The papers for the Third Volume are in the same state of preparation."

The following remarks of this indefatigable Author we read and transcribe with concern:

"Several of my subscribers have long ago seen this vast accumulation of papers with their own eyes; having noticed their arrangement, and lamented that any obstacles remained between the MS. and the Press; and when I assert that I feel a weight on my mind, which will not be removed till I have published the whole, no one, I think, possessing common candour, can doubt the truth of my declaration. Who indeed, after having devoted his days and nights, for years, to such arrangements, could acquiesce in the dreary prospect of MSS. distributed along the shelves of his library, however orderly the distribution? After all his labours, would he sit down composedly with a view of his quiescent papers fast gathering the dust of oblivion? Conscious that he had done as much, within a given space of time, as any person in his own line of research had ever done; could he enjoy his consciousness amidst the retirement of a study; whilst many without (who "would not believe till they saw") were hardy enough to declare that he had done nothing? The cause of the suspension of the work is sufficiently obvious. Every nominal subscriber must perceive it; though, to smother the sense of his own meanness, he is most clamorous in complaining of the delay."

* See Memoirs of this Gentleman, with a List of his Literary Productions, Vol. xxviii. p. 329.

If (as we suspect) the author has been made the dupe of men who had cruelty enough to hold out fallacious promises of patronage, or of pecuniary or literary assistance, without meaning to accord either the one or the other, we cannot wonder at the forenefs evinced in the preceding quotation.

Mr. P. then proceeds to remark on such gentlemen as have, during the progress of his voluminous History, published smaller works that in some degree interfere with, and anticipate certain parts of his plan. Of one person in particular he speaks with some asperity, accusing him in plain terms of having deceived him. It seems they visited together the remains of antiquities, and mutually communicated their observations on the spot without reserve. Yet the gentleman alluded to has, we find, since "*published for the public eye those very articles only which evidently interfered with a writer (Mr. P. himself) to whose pursuits he always pretended to wish success, and whom he had professed to serve by collecting those identical materials.*"

We have in the early part of this article given the reader an idea of the proposed contents of the *First Volume*. The *Second* has been already reviewed by us. The *Third* is intended to continue and complete the Chorography so largely treated in the *Second Volume*, with an Appendix of Curious Papers, and a General Index. Mr. P. promises to proceed with the printing of the work* till it shall be completed. "But the manner (says he) in which the work will in future be brought forward, let me observe, that it is the only one by which justice can be done to the subject. With respect to the *First Volume*, for instance, I could easily print an abridgement of all the papers designed for it in 400 pages. This would have satisfied a great number of my subscribers; but it would have been merely an *historical outline* of Devonshire. By publishing the history in portions or numbers, I shall pay a proper attention to every part of it; but this will be necessarily a slow and tedious publication."

It is evident enough that our Author has suffered much mortification from promises never performed, and from reflections ungenerous in themselves, and rendered more illiberal by coming from persons to whose negligence perhaps the

delay complained of may be principally attributable. We cannot possibly be competent to judge between Mr. P. and the persons in question: but in the sincerity of our hearts we declare, that of provincial histories we know very few with stronger claims to public encouragement than the present.

The Author, we see, by permission, dedicates his *First Volume* to a munificent Patron, the King; who, we sincerely hope, will not overlook the following passage in the Inscription: "I shall prosecute my undertaking with unremitting zeal; nor, amidst all the DISCOURAGEMENTS with which I have to contend, shall I rest satisfied with my labours till I have laid my whole Collection of Papers for the History of Devonshire at the feet of Your Majesty."

Thus far of explanation as to the Nature and Conduct of Mr. Pelwhele's undertaking; and thus much we have thought it necessary to say in order to account to our Readers for the retrograde and partial mode of publication that our Author has adopted.

The *Volume* (or rather Part of a *Volume*) now before us begins with a General Description of the County, which is followed by some ingenious Remarks on the Air and Weather, illustrated by copious Extracts from different writers on that subject. In that part which treats of Thunder-forms, the following passage from Prince is introduced:

"In the year of our Lord 1638, Oct. 21, being Sunday, and the congregation being gathered together in the parish church of Wydecombe, in the afternoon, in service time, there happened a very great darkness, which still increased to that degree, that they could not see to read: soon after a terrible and fearful thunder was heard, like the noise of many great guns, accompanied with dreadful lightning, to the great amazement of the people; the darkness still increasing that they could not see each other; when there presently came such an extraordinary flame of lightning as filled the church with fire, smok, and a loathsome smell like brimstone; a ball of fire came in likewise at the window, and passed through the church, which so affrighted the congregation that most of them fell down in their seats, some upon their knees, others on their faces, and some one upon another, crying out of burning

* The *Second Part* of the *First Volume* (including the Roman, Saxon, and Norman Periods) is, we understand, in the press.

and scalding, and all giving up themselves for dead. This our Mr. George Lyde was in his pulpit, and although much astonished, yet, through divine mercy, had no harm; but was a sad spectator of the hurt and sufferings of others, the lightning seizing on his wife, and burning her cloaths and many parts of her body, and another gentlewoman by her in the same manner; but her maid and child sitting at the pew door had no hurt; another woman attempting to run out of the church, had her cloaths set on fire, and was so miserably scorched and burned, that she died the same night. One Mr. Mead had his head suddenly struck against the wall in the seat with such violence, that he also died the same night, no other hurt being observed, his son setting by him had no harm. At the same instant, another man had his head cloven, his skull went into three pieces, and his brains thrown upon the ground whole; but the hair of his head, through the violence of the blow, stuck fast to a pillar near him, where it remained a woe-ful spectacle a long while after. Some seats in the body of the church were turned upside down, yet those who fate in them had little or no hurt. One man going out of the chancel door, his dog ran before him, who was whirled about towards the door, and fell down stark dead, upon which the master stepped back and was preserved. The church itself was much torn and defaced with the thunder and lightning; a beam whereof breaking in the midst, fell down between the minister and clerk, and hurt neither: the steeple was much wrent; and it was observed, where the church was most torn, there the least hurt was done among the people. There were none hurted with the timber or stone, but one maid, who it was judged was killed by the fall of a stone; which might easily happen, since stones were thrown down from the steeple as fast as if it had been by an hundred men. A pinnacle of the tower being thrown down, beat through the church: the pillar against which the pulpit stood being newly whited, was turned black and sulphury. There were in all four persons killed, and sixty-two hurt, divers of them having their linen burnt, though their outward garments were not so much as singed. The lightning being passed, and the people in a terrible maze, a gentleman in the town stood up and said, 'Neighbours, in the name of God shall we venture out of the church?' To whom Mr. Lyde, the

Minister, answered, 'Let us make an end with prayer, for it is better to die here than in another place.' But the people looking about them, and seeing the church so terribly wrent and torn over their heads, durst not proceed in the public devotions, but went out of the church; and at the same time the bowling alley, near the church-yard, was turned into pits and heaps, as if it had been plowed." Mr. Prince then enquires into the cause, the effects, and the end of such occurrences, with the formality of a philosopher without the sagacity, and the zeal of a divine without the sobriety. The brains of the man that were dashed out against the wall, so deeply sunk into it (said the sexton who shewed me the church) that every attempt to wash out the stain was ineffectual; and the only experiment was to plaiter the stones. Of this occurrence a long description, by the rustic muse of Witcombe, is hung up against the north wall, to the admiration of the parishioners."

Mr. P. then proceeds to examine the springs, trace the rivers, and describe the harbours of the district. He takes a view of the external aspect of the country, and is thence led to its subterranean geography, in the latter of which investigations much curious matter occurs. In most parts of the county we find either a blackish mould, a thin light shelly soil, or a reddish or deep red loam. Having gone through the mineral, our author comes to describe the vegetable productions of the county, and notices a variety of plants which grow spontaneously in Devonshire, generally pointing out the spot where each individual plant may be found. The Birds common to the county next engage his attention, and a great number of amusing and interesting facts are related, in which we find mingled among (we had almost said buried under) innumerable quotations, much original remark. Insects and the Finny Tribe, Reptiles and Quadrupeds, next succeed; and in our progress through this part of the work we have been often tempted to transcribe. The limits of our Magazine, however, render it necessary to be very brief. The following instance of canine reflection (or at least of reminiscence) is said by Mr. Polwhele to be well authenticated.

"A gentleman of the name of Ware, whose place of residence was a few miles from Plymouth, possessed an extraordinary fine greyhound; and having a visitor in

his house, a course was proposed, which was to take place the following day. Accordingly, early in the morning a hare was found, whole feat had been for a long time contiguous to the house; and being turned out, an excellent course began. The hare being at length nearly exhausted, and the greyhound hard at her heels, the instant he was about to seize her she turned round,—and at the same instant the dog desisted from the course, hung his tail between his legs, and slowly slunk away. The solution of this ænigma is thus given: the hare was recognized as one who when a leveret had been brought up in Mr. Ware's house in habits of intimacy with the greyhound when a puppy; and whenever the dog, from his natural passion for a bit of hare, dealt rudely with her, so he was sure to receive instant and severe correction. The consequence of which was, that education got the mastery of the propensity given by nature, and with a snap at the hare he ever after connected the idea of punishment: in the very heat therefore of the course, he recollected his old chum, and dreading chastisement, forbore seizing on her."

Having given a copious account of the Natural History, Mr. P. enters on the General History of the County. In the first Section, respecting the Aborigines of Danmonium, little is conjectured, and still less ascertained: the most probable derivation of the inhabitants is, no doubt, from the continent of Gaul. On the subject of their respective settlements, divisions of land, and Government, we have a more satisfactory account.

Among the national peculiarities of Britain, the early religion of Danmonium appears singularly striking. Its character of sanctity and wisdom attracted the attention of the more learned and inquisitive among the Gauls. This religion was Druidism; among the rites of which it was the human sacrifice that chiefly astonished the nations of Europe. Mr. Bryant is of opinion, that this mystical sacrifice was a typical representation of the great vicarial sacrifice that was to come.

"At first there is no doubt (says Mr. P.) but the Druids offered up their human victims with views the most sublime. The Druids maintained, *quod pro vita hominis nisi vita hominis reddatur, non posse aliter deorum immortalium numerum peccari*. This mysterious doctrine seems not of men, but of God! It points out, I think, THE ONE GREAT SACRIFICE FOR THE SINS OF THE WHOLE WORLD. But after the Phœnician colonies had mixed with the primeval Britons, this degenerated priesthood delighted in human blood; and their victims, though sometimes beasts, were oftener men."

With respect to the architecture of the Danmonians, Mr. P. tells us, that nothing can be advanced with certainty. But if we imagine (says he) "a strong fortified mansion-house built on the side of a hill, and a cluster of inferior habitations rising on the bank of a river, immediately under the eye of a fortress, and a road winding through the valley and sloping away till it gain the higher grounds, and a beacon on the natural or artificial eminence overlooking the whole, and commanding the circumjacent country, we may conceive a tolerable idea of a British town, as represented in its primeval rudeness."

We next come to some ingenious speculations on the early Agriculture of Danmonium. The Mineralogy is then treated of; the Manufactures and Commerce succeed to consideration, and include some judicious remarks on the shipping and coins of the country from the earliest times to Cæsar's invasion.

Our intention was, to have concluded this Article with an Extract respecting the Character, Manners, and Usages of the ancient Danmonians; but we are obliged, on account of the limits of our work, to forego that design.

We wish Mr. Polwhele health, strength, and (what is as necessary as either) public encouragement, to prosecute to its just conclusion this most laborious but highly useful undertaking.

J.

Considerations upon the State of Public Affairs at the Beginning of the Year 1798. Part the First—France. 1s. 6d. Rivingtons. 1798.

THE Author of the Pamphlet now before us addressed the Country on the State of Public Affairs about two years ago. His "Considerations" were

then well received: they had the honour, we recollect, of being for some time attributed to Lord Auckland, and passed through several editions.

The

The purpose of his former Work was, to separate the *causes* of the war from the *doctrines* of the French Revolution, and the *objects* of it from the establishment of any particular *form of government* in France; to shew, that we were struggling for *power* instead of *opinions*, and for our *commerce and marine* (to which our independence is attached), instead of *sanctiful speculations*, and notions of piety and abstract virtue; to shew the earth *over-run* rather than *corrupted*; and the *senecs of nations* thrown down by cannon and soldiers, instead of *governments disturbed by novelties and philosophers*; to remind men of antient limits, of territorial rights, of national liberty and national character; and to hold up to view the monitrous ambition of the enemy.

In the present pamphlet, which may be considered as a renewal of the foregoing subject, our author throws strong light on the *internal* position of France; for the double purpose of considering the *means she possesses* of inflicting farther injury in the continued prosecution of the war upon this country; and, the *probability of a civil war* arising in her own bosom, to intercept any part of the injury this country may be prepared to inflict upon herself by a premature and inadequate peace.

“ I confess (says he) it is not now the French *revolution* that I dread, but the French *greatness*.”—“ It is not the *form of government* in France, it is not her atheism, her spirit of plunder and cruelty, but *France herself* that I hold up as the object of just apprehension.”

Throughout this work the author bends all his strength to rouse, not the fears, but the *spirit* of Britons. He says: “ It is not quite certain, that we have not too much disclaimed ambition; I do not know that the spirit of the people would not be higher, if we had announced some brilliant enterprise, some proud and lofty conditions of peace, than it appears even now to be for its own last and necessary defence—now, that we have pushed our moderation to the extreme, and purged, by so many embassies, our cause from the suspicion of any of those aspiring views, with which the enemy, upon his part, endeavours to arouse and enrage his people.”

He begins with considering the probability of a civil war in France, that may revenge the cause of Europe and of humanity. On many points of fact which he produces, he does not pretend to cer-

tainty; but we give him easy credit, when we retrace, combine, and compare events recent and perfectly in our own recollection; and his inferences in general claim respect.

After a sensible discussion of the subject, our Author thinks the probability of a civil war not only contradictory to our experience of what the French people have endured, but to all just reasoning and combination of the future. “ In my opinion (says he) there are wanting the seeds and principles of a civil war. All the elements of revolt and insurrection are in the hands of the usurper; and in the people there is neither desire of freedom, nor active sense of oppression.”

He then proceeds to examine the natural capitals of France, which he considers as the fuel and materials of a war doomed never to expire but with the substance it consumes.

The writer considers under every point of view the population, the agriculture, the wealth, the trade, and the conquests of France; her foreign relations, and her commerce; all which are shewn to be inefficient; and he concludes one of the most spirited *brochures* we have lately seen in the following address to his countrymen:

“ Behold the people whose preposterous government affects the empire of the seas, without a ship of war that dares look out of her harbours, and threatens her enemies with her own ruin and calamities! To me, I confess, the menaces of the French appear like those of other madmen. The ravings of the Luxembourg are like the ravings of the Bicêtre—Do this, or give me that, or I will stab or drown myself. Yield to me, says France, or—what? I will come and perish on your shores:—throw down your arms, or I will dash myself upon your coasts;—worship me, or I will devote hecatombs of my own children;—acknowledge my superiority, or I will tear out my own vitals! This I consider as the real sense and meaning of her state papers, of her public declarations, if that can be called sense and meaning, which is the very paroxysm of delirium and folly.—I cannot dread the madness of an enemy, I think it rather our own safety and our own arms. Can I see with trepidation or regret his legions rotting in the marshes of Calais and Ostend, or blighted upon the bleak hills of Normandy? Can I regard ‘the Army of England,’ but as our glory and our grize, if ever (I know not by what help
from

from heaven or from hell) it were to be embarked upon the Channel? Shall we hesitate to provoke, and call, with our prayers at least, that glorious issue of the war, in which we may all partake; but which, without some power above us shall obscure and worse confound, and impel the enemy upon his ruin, we dare not hope for? When the first Gaul was at the foot of the Capitol, when the senate and the people, the liberty and the gods of Rome were besieged in a single citadel, and the very name of a nation, destined to the empire of the world, hung doubtful upon the issue, the Roman did not descend to meet him there? but waited with ardent hope till he had climbed the glacis, then drove him down the steep Tarpeian with resistless impulse and accumulating ruin; and must not we have courage to expect him on these fatal shores, where the armada was wrecked, and from every cliff of which we have beheld his fleets led captive towards our harbours, and the ocean covered with his fragments and his shame?

“We hear of Rome and Carthage every day and in every debate, even to puerility and pedantry, but without profiting much, I think, either as to policy or magnanimity from their example. It seems, however, certain, that if Carthage could have anticipated events, or have lived over again her own history, she would not have been subdued and extirpated a second time. We, therefore, who have the advantage of her experience, and can contemplate along with her ruin the causes of it, ought to bring this war to a very different issue and conclusion than she did; our enemies too, those dotterels and apes of Rome, might at least profit enough by the same knowledge, to despair of success by the present means: for had Carthage displayed that vigour before she had given up her hostages, her fleets, and her arms, which she did after, the event of the contest could not have been the same. The modern Romans, therefore, have acted with impolicy and absurdity, in pawning our lands, and assigning our revenues, and raising loans upon our commerce and our property, and dooming our crown and liberty, before we have made those surrenders which Carthage made; because they have placed us in the situation in which Carthage would have been if Rome had made these declarations to her; in which Carthage would have kept, like us, her fleets, her arms, her fortresses, and her Hannibal; and in which the event of the Carthaginian

war must have been different from what it was.

“These, therefore, are the objects to which I would direct the attention of Englishmen at the present moment. When they hear the loud and lofty threats of their intemperate enemy, they should hear his groans also; when they see his hosts gather on the hills of Brittany, they should see, at the same time, the hollow-ness of his center: they should *despise with prudence*, as their fathers did, the vanity and insolence of a people, whose colossal greatness has hitherto been equalled and subdued by the moral greatness of their own country; they should consider their impotent menaces but as a challenge to the solid and sober virtues which have so often defeated them; and contrast once more, with confidence and pride in heaven, and in themselves, the sterling ingenuous worth and valour of the British character, to the drunken cries and fury of a multitude, destined to feed the fishes of our seas, or to take nothing from us but our prisons and our graves.

“These are the points upon which I would wish to fix the attention of the British public: I think it is impossible to consider them without feeling instantly all those proud and consoling sentiments which ought to make us bear patiently *our share in the general calamity which the ambition of France has let loose upon mankind*. That our governors have not been able to defend us from every attack upon every side; that we have been in this place infested by the moral pestilence, and in that have suffered from the natural evil; that here we have breathed the poison of her principles, and there opposed our treasure and our blood to the violence of her fleets and armies; in short, that we are at war, and feel some of the ills inseparable from war, does not appear to me, I confess, to be matter of just crimination or reproach against a government of human counsels, and composed of human beings. That we have not been uniformly prosperous; that we have not been entirely exempted from the broad comprehensive mischief; that we too have suffered in the tempest; that the earthquake has shaken our cities also; might be objected as a crime to those gods or saints, whom the savages and idolators that worship them are accustomed to scourge and whip under their own sufferings and misfortunes; but cannot be imputed to men by man, nor by heaven itself to the counsels of human beings, and the limited faculties of human

human sense. The revolution of France is the wreck of the moral world, and the conquests of France are the dissolution and destruction of the political order. When I see what entire and integrant masses of both the king's ministers have preserved from the general ruin, I confess my general gratitude, though I too can discern, perhaps, where to lay the finger of blame, or to direct the eye of enquiry. But when I perceive that our arms are victorious in every quarter of the globe, and that at home we have still the blessing of our invaluable constitution; that our religion, our laws, and our property, are maintained and respected under it; that *we are protected, and are free*; that we are independent as a nation, and, as individuals, enjoy a degree of civil liberty, of which I defy the most learned discontent, and the most ingenious democracy, to shew me a parallel in any of the old republics, at least in times of pressure and anxiety; when I estimate what they

have defended and preserved for us, and how great a share of our greatest calamities the fury of the elements and the scythe of invisible and resistless death must divide with their errors and their oversights, then I think that I could not withhold from them some expressions of applause and thankfulness, without injury to the public, as well as injustice to them; and though I cannot suppress, consistently with what I feel as a public duty, my wishes and my arguments for loftier counsels in the termination of this dreadful contest, and for a stricter economy in the conduct of it, it would be disingenuous upon that account to withhold the little honour it is in my power to confer upon them, or to conceal the sentiments with which I imagine every unprejudiced mind will compare and reward their mistakes and their merits."

A Second Part of this Work is announced as to be speedily published.

J.

An Authentic Account of an Embassy from the King of Great Britain to the Emperor of China, &c.

[Continued from Page 107.]

EVEN in swamps and morasses the Chinese display wonderful examples of agricultural industry and ingenuity. They form rafts or hurdles of bamboo, which they float upon the water, or rest upon the morasses. On these rafts they spread a layer of soil, from whence they raise various kinds of vegetables; as small vegetables are sometimes produced on shipboard, by laying seeds on moistened earth, or even on pieces of flannel, fixed in frames, and wetted. By these means the radical leaves of mustard sprout up quickly, and are particularly grateful to persons long absent from land.

From the Tallow Tree, the *Croton Sabiferum* of Linnæus, the Chinese make a large proportion of their candles. The fruit, in its external appearance, bears some resemblance to the berries of the ivy. As soon as it is ripe, the capsule opens and divides into two, or more frequently three divisions, and falling off, discovers as many kernels, covered with a fleshy substance of a snowy whiteness. This substance is separated from the kernels by crushing and boiling them in water. The candles made of this fat are firmer than those of tallow, as well as free from all offensive odour. They

are not, however, equal to those of wax or spermaceti.

Wicks are made of many different materials: those for lamps are of the *amiantus*, which burns without being consumable in fire; but for candles a *light inflammable wood* is used, in the lower extremity of which is fixed a small tube, to receive an iron pin which is fixed on the flat top of the candlestick, and thus supports the candle without the necessity of a socket. The Chinese consider this form of candlestick as answering the purpose of a *save-all*, which makes a difference of about a *tenth* in the consumption of that article.

Sir G. Staunton informs us that the *names* of the Chinese are, independently of the addition of their qualities, all of *one syllable*; as is *every word* in the Chinese language. The additions are the more necessary, as a name implies no distinction in favour of the family who bears it. There are but *one hundred* family names known throughout the empire. Each family name is borne by persons of all classes: identity of such names implies, however, some connection; all who bear it may attend the hall of their supposed common ancestors. Though

no hereditary nobility exists in China, pedigree is there an object of much attention. He who can reckon ancestors to a distant period, distinguished by public services, or private virtues, or by the honours conferred on them in consequence by Government, is much more respected than *new men*. The supposed descendants of Confucius are treated with particular regard, and immunities have been granted to them by the Emperor. The ambition of an illustrious descent is so general, that the Emperors have often granted titles to the deceased ancestors of a living man of merit. This, by the way, shews either that the passion of the Chinese for distinguished ancestry arises sometimes to an absurd extravagance, or that they have very exalted ideas of their Emperor's faculty of discerning and producing virtue; but they are not the only people among whom pride and ambition overstrain themselves, till ridicule takes place of respect.

Chapter the Fourth contains a description of the city of *Han-Choo-Foo*, where the travellers remained some few days, while the Embassy was dividing into two parties, to take different routes. The Ambassador, with the Vice-roy of Canton, *Chawong-ta-Zhin*, were to proceed to that capital; while the Mandarin, *Sun-ta-Zhin*, undertook to conduct to *Chu-san*, Colonel Benson and the other Gentlemen who were going to join the Hindostan Indiaman. This Chapter also relates the circumstances of both those journeys.

While the party was at *Han-Choo-Foo*, Mr. Barrow and some other Gentlemen of the Embassy were invited to sail across the lake *See-hoo*, which lay at a little distance to the westward. A pagoda, which they saw in their progress, attracted particular attention: it was situated on the verge of a bold peninsula that juts into the lake, and was called the *Lui-fong-ta*, or temple of the thundering winds. Four stories were yet standing, but the top was in ruins. Something like a regular order was yet discernible in the mouldering cornices, that projected in a kind of double curve. Grass, shrubs, and moss, were growing upon them. No ivy, the natural production of such a place in Europe, was perceived upon it; nor indeed in any other part of China. The arches and mouldings were of red, the upright walls of yellow stone. Its present height does not exceed one hundred and twenty feet. It is confi-

dently asserted to have been erected in the time of Confucius, upwards of two thousand years ago.

In the route to *Chu-san* by water, it happens sometimes that the waters of a higher canal pass immediately into another of a lower level. This species of navigation is not managed in China by locks or flood-gates; but a dam is made across the extremity of the upper canal, by means of a very strong and well-compacted wall; the top of which is level with the surface of the upper water. A beam of wood is laid on the upper edge of the wall, which is rounded off towards the water. Beyond the wall a sloping plane of stone-work extends to the lower canal, in the form of a glacis, with an inclination of about forty-five degrees, and descending near ten feet in perpendicular depth; at the bottom of which the canal is carried along as the level of the country will allow, when another wall and glacis for another canal still lower are constructed as before.

In passing from an upper to a lower canal, the vessel, lifted over the cross beam, slides down by its own gravity; and to prevent the water from flushing over the decks, or her plunging into the canal below, a railing is fixed at the head of the vessel about to be launched, before which is placed strong matting at the time of the descent. To draw up a large vessel from the lower canal along the glacis into the upper canal, requires sometimes the assistance of near a hundred men, whose strength is applied by the means of bars fixed in one or more capstans, placed on the abutments on each side of the glacis. Round the capstans is a rope, of which the opposite extremity is passed round the vessel's stern, which is thus conveyed into the upper canal with less delay than can be done by locks, but by the exertion of much more human force; a force indeed which in China is always ready; of little cost, and constantly preferred there to any other.

The following account of the Tartar cavalry is supplied by Captain Parish: They carry bows, which appears to be the weapon held highest in estimation. They are made of elastic wood, strengthened by horns, which are connected in the centre by their roots, from whence they spring in distinct arches towards the extremities. The string is of silk threads, laid together and firmly wouled. The arrows are armed at the points with a

flank and spear of steel. Both Chinese and Tartars value themselves on their skill in the use of this weapon. They hold it somewhat obliquely in the left hand. The string is placed behind an agate ring upon the right thumb; the first joint of which is bent forward, and kept in that position by pressing the middle joint of the fore-finger upon it. In this situation the string is drawn till the left arm is extended, and the right hand passes the right ear. The fore-finger is then withdrawn from the thumb, which instantly forces the string from the agate ring, and discharges the arrow with considerable force.

Their armour consisted of an helmet of iron, in the form of an inverted funnel: the crest, corresponding to the pipe of the funnel, stands six or seven inches above the head, and terminates in a spear. It is surrounded by a red tassel. The neck is secured by a piece of cloth, stuffed, quilted, and studded with iron, which hangs forward round the face. On the body is an upper and an under dress of cloth, also quilted and studded with iron; the latter reaches below the calves of the legs, the former only a little below the waist. The officers had their helmets polished, and ornamented with gold, with a higher crest than those of the men. Their bodies were covered with purple or blue silk, with studs of gold or gilt. Their boots were of black satin.

Some of the troops were armed with swords only, and the *tiger dress*. This dress is of yellow cloth, with dark brown stripes fitted to the shape; the cap, which nearly covers the face, is formed to represent the head of a tiger. They carry a shield of bamboo, or rattan, painted hideously to represent dragon's or tiger's heads, with open mouths and enormous teeth; and much stress is laid upon this terrific appearance. On each flank of the parade a trophy of wood was erected, painted, or covered with pieces of silk or cotton of bright colours, in festoons. Under these were the military mandarines. The music was in tents fitted for the purpose. The trumpets, apparently the proper military instrument, were very large. The usual compliment consisted of three distinct blasts.

In an account of China it would be thought a culpable omission to say nothing on the subject of the *tea plant*. The following is the substance of Sir G. Staunton's information on this valuable exotic: In China, wherever it is

regularly cultivated, it rises from the seed sown in rows, at the distance of about four feet from each other, in land kept free from weeds. Its perpendicular growth is impeded, for the convenience of collecting its leaves, which is done first in spring, and twice afterwards in the course of the summer. Its long and tender branches spring up almost from the root, without any intervening naked trunk. It is bushy like a rose-tree, and the expanded petals of the flower bear some resemblance to that of the rose. *The largest and oldest leaves*, which are the least esteemed, and destined for the lower classes of the people, are exposed to sale with little previous manipulation. *The young leaves* undergo no considerable preparation before they are delivered to the purchaser. Every leaf passes through the fingers of a female, who rolls it up almost to the form it had assumed at its first appearance. It is afterwards placed upon thin plates of earthen ware or iron; much thinner than can be executed by artists out of China. It is confidently said that *no plates of copper* are ever employed for that purpose. Scarcely any utensil in China is made of that metal, the chief application of which is for coin. The earthen plates are placed over a charcoal fire, which renders the leaves dry and crisp.

The colour and astringency of *green tea* is thought to be derived from the early period at which the leaves are plucked, and which, like unripe fruit, are generally green and acrid. The tea is packed into large chests lined with very thin plates of lead, and pressed down by the naked feet of Chinese labourers. The upper ranks in China are notwithstanding as fond of tea as the people are, and particularly solicitous in their choice of it. That of a good quality is dearer in Peking than in London. By the way, this assertion of Sir G. Staunton does not seem very well to agree with the information derived from *Bell's Journey*; where we are told, *that the price of the best tea at Peking, either green or bohea, is half an ounce of silver the Chinese pound; which is equal to what it would be at two shillings a pound in England.* We are not however to conclude, from this inconsistency, that *either of these travellers has given an erroneous computation.* Neither, when we read in *Bell's Narrative*, that *the Tartar military are very insolent, and almost insupportable to the Chinese*, and compare it with

Sir

Sir G. Staunton's account of the *mildness of the soldiery in the dispersion of crowds*, must we suppose that one of these historians has written from an imperfect view of the subject.

No traveller can be answerable for more than he has actually observed himself; and he is only so far culpable as he makes general inferences from particular cases. Making the usual allowances for the *change* that may have taken place in *Cbina in the price of commodities*, and in the *temper of Governors in an interval of nearly a century*, and the accounts may both of them appear to have an equal claim to credit.

We return to Sir G. S.'s account of the *Chinese method of preparing the tea, previously to exportation*: It is sometimes made up into balls. A strong black extract also is frequently made from it. It is cultivated in several of the provinces of China, but seldom more northward than thirty degrees beyond the equator. It thrives best between that parallel and the line that separates the temperate from the torrid zone. Such immense quantities of it are consumed in the country, that a sudden failure of a demand from Europe would not be likely to occasion any material diminution of its prices in the Chinese markets.

A plant very like the tea flourishes on the sides, and the very tops of mountains. The Chinese call this plant *Cba-wbarw*, or flower of tea; because its petals, as well as the entire flowers of Arabian jessamine, are sometimes *mixed among the teas*, in order to increase their fragrance. This plant is the *amelia fe-jangua* of the botanists, and yields a nut, from whence is expressed an asculent oil, equal to the best which comes from Florence.

On the subject of *manure*, the management and diligence of the Chinese bears a striking resemblance to that of the Japanese, as described by Baron Thunberg. A prodigious number of old men and women, as well as of children, incapable of much other labour, are constantly employed about the streets, public roads, and banks of canals, with baskets tied before them, and holding in their hands small wooden rakes, to pick up the dung of animals, and offals of any kind, that may answer the purpose of manure; but above all others, except the dung of fowls, the Chinese farmers, like the Romans, prefer soil, or the matter collected by nightmen in London; in the vicinity of which it is part applied

to the same uses. This manure is mixed sparingly with a portion of stiff loamy earth, and formed into cakes, dried afterwards in the sun. In this state it is sold to farmers, who construct large cisterns for containing, besides those cakes and dung of every kind, all sorts of vegetable matter, leaves, roots, or stems of plants, mud, offals of animals, even to the shavings collected by the barbers. With all these they mix as much animal or common water as will dilute the whole; and in the act of putrid fermentation apply it to the ploughed or broken earth. Near paths and roads large earthen vessels are buried to the edge in the ground for the accommodation of the passenger who may have occasion to use them.

The mode of *examination of students for degrees* seems well adapted to encourage literature. It is *always public*. The body of auditors who attend, as well as the presence of the Governor and Chief Magistrates of the district who preside, must cure any disposition to partiality in the judges. Some oral questions are put, and some are given in writing, to the candidates, as in the English Colleges. The rewards of those who succeed are not confined to the honours of the University; for these become the ascending steps which lead to all the offices and dignities of the state. Even those who fail in the main pursuit have, in the prosecution of the contest, made such requirements as add to the general mass of knowledge in society, and fit them for useful occupations. Though the opulent youth have no doubt greater facilities and better opportunities of instruction than the children of the poor, yet genius may have occasionally the strength to counterbalance such disparity. Our Traveller might have added, that necessity is the strongest of all incentives to exertion; and the security of wealth will cherish idleness. At any rate the possibility of success is an enjoyment even to those who are never likely to obtain it.

In the city of *Cban-choo-foo*, through which the Embury passed in its way to Canton, a singular custom prevailed, which had been remarked before on the *Tai-boo* lake, where men were often absent from their families. The boats, which ply from one part of the city to another, are chiefly managed by females, who are generally young and neatly dressed, with an evident intent of attracting the attention of passengers. At *Cban-choo-foo*, the commerce of two navigable

vigable rivers occasioned a concourse of male strangers. The frail females in the boats had not embraced this double occupation without the concurrence and approbation of their parents, who feel little reluctance, when they cannot marry them advantageously, to devote them to a lucrative though dishonourable trade.

The Fifth Chapter treats of the *residence* of the Embassy at Canton and at Macao. While they continued at the former of these places, they were treated with great attention and civility by the Vice-Roy, who had accompanied them from *Han-choo-foo*. Accident perhaps in part contributed towards inspiring him with respectful sentiments of the science and acquisitions of the Europeans. The custom of inhaling the vapour of tobacco, as well as that of taking it in powder, is very general in China, and extends to the highest ranks. The Vice-Roy once wanting to light his pipe in the absence of his attendants, the Ambassador took from his pocket a small phosphoric bottle, which opening, he soon kindled a match that answered the purpose wanted. The singularity of a person's appearing to carry fire about him, without damage, attracted the Vice-Roy's attention. His Excellency explained the phenomenon to him in general terms, and made him a present of the bottle, which was not a little valuable in his eyes. It was sufficiently apparent from this, and other incidents, that the Chinese, though skilful and dexterous in particular arts, were much behind the western nations in many philosophical and useful branches of science.

Though our author enumerates many causes which contribute to augment the *population* of China, yet still it appears *immense*, and *almost incredible*. He asserts, upon unquestionable evidence, that every square mile contains, upon an average, one third more inhabitants, being upwards of three hundred, than are found upon an equal quantity of land in the most populous country in Europe. The whole, as appears in the first table of the Appendix, is *thirteen hundred and thirty-three millions!*

On the *antiquity* of the Chinese Empire we are informed, that the Christian year 1797 answers to the fifty-fourth year of the sixty-eighth Chinese *cycle*, which ascertains its commencement to have been *two thousand two hundred and seventy-*

seven years before the birth of Christ; unless it be supposed that the official records and public annals of the Empire, which bear testimony to it, should all be falsified.

The day is divided in China into twelve parts only, as by the ancient Egyptians, consisting each of two European hours; the first beginning at eleven at night. These portions of time are measured with tolerable accuracy by means of a lighted taper, made from the pith of a particular tree, of which the consumption by ignition is so regular, that divided into twelve equal parts, each continues burning during the twelfth part of twenty-four hours.

Our author's remarks on the language of China are new, and must be interesting to every lover of philological disquisitions. We shall conclude our account of this work by a selection of some of the more curious observations.

The sounds of several letters in most alphabets, such as B, D, R, and X, are utterly unknown in the Chinese tongue. The organs of speech in a native of China are not habituated to pronounce them. In endeavouring to utter one of these, another to which the same organ has been accustomed is generally sounded: instead of the letter R, the liquid L is usually pronounced by a Chinese, who thus occasionally falls into ridiculous mistakes. A Chinese dealer in *rice*, for example, is sometimes heard to offer for sale what few persons would be disposed to purchase.

A very few particles in this language denote the *past*, *the present*, and *the future*; nor are those auxiliaries employed when the intended time may otherwise be inferred with certainty. A Chinese who means to declare his intention of departing to-morrow, never says that he *will* depart to-morrow; because the expression of the morrow is sufficient to ascertain that his departure must be future. The plural number is marked by the addition of a word, without which the singular is always implied. The language is entirely monosyllabic. A single syllable always expresses a complete idea. Each syllable may be sounded by an European consonant preceding a vowel, sometimes followed by a liquid. Such an order of words renders the language as soft and harmonious as the Italian.

[To be continued.]

Emily De Vermont, or Divorce dictated by Necessity; to which are added, The Amours of Father Sévin. From the French of Louvet, late President of the National Convention of France, Author of Faublas, &c. 3 Vols. 12mo. 1798. Kearsley.

IF, as we are told, this novel had considerable influence in producing two memorable decrees of the National Convention (the one authorising Divorce, the other allowing Priests to marry), we may add it to the many instances of great effects proceeding from small causes. Though the story is improbable and ill-conducted, and the characters by no means naturally drawn, yet there are in various parts of it strokes of nature which catch the attention, and compel the reader to proceed to the catastrophe. The part which relates the amours of Father Sévin is entitled to the most praise. The sanguinary brutality of the heroine's brother, as well as the partiality of her mother towards a worthless son, are both circumstances which the laws of probability will immediately disclaim.

The History of the incorporated Town and Parishes of Gravesend and Milton, in the County of Kent; selected with Accuracy from Topographical Writers, and enriched from Manuscripts hitherto unnoticed, &c. 4to. Gravesend. Pocock. 1797.

Much industry appears to have been employed in the present work, which however will afford but little entertainment out of the district which it describes. To the natives of Gravesend this work, for which they are indebted to the Bookseller whose name is in the title page, will be very interesting; and the Compiler, as he modestly styles himself, is entitled to their thanks.

Reform or Ruin: Take your Choice! in which the Conduct of the King, the Parliament, the Ministry, the Opposition, the Nobility and Gentry, the Bishops and Clergy, &c. &c. &c. is considered; and that Reform pointed out which alone can save the Country. By John Bowdler, Esq. 8vo. 1798.

An earnest exhortation to every order in the State to begin that Reform which, without any opposition, each individual is capable of making in himself; and in comparison with which all other Reforms merit scarce any notice. We are glad to learn that this excellent performance has experienced a circulation equal to its merit. Mr. Bowdler describes himself and acts as a free-born Briton, and an independent man; one who has no place or pension, who never was at

court, nor ever intends to go there, and who neither knows the Ministers nor those who oppose them.

A Letter to the Marquis of Lorn on the present Times. By Donald Campbell, Esq. of Barbreck. 8vo. Chavasse. 1798. 1s. 6d.

Mr. Campbell is not an adherent of either the Ministry or Opposition, and disclaims alike any attachment either to Mr. Pitt or Mr. Fox. He is of opinion, that the concerns of the public would be better conducted, were they guided by men of plain dignified sense and untainted honour, rather than by the counsel of charlatan orators and fungous deskmen. In this sentiment he is not singular. The present pamphlet arraigns in very severe terms the conduct of Administration, the conduct of Opposition, that of Lord Moira in the business of Ireland, and the behaviour of the Clergy in Scotland. There are also some very acrimonious personal strictures on particular persons, and amongst the rest, on a certain Marchioness and a gallant General; but how they have offended the author does not appear. On the present momentous state of affairs this pamphlet deserves attention.

A Sermon preached in the Church of St. John Baptist, Wakefield, Dec. 19, 1797. By Richard Munkbouye, D. D. of Queen's College, Oxford. 8vo. 1798. Rivingtons. 1s. 6d.

From the words "Stand fast," Dr. Munkhouse enforces the necessity of attachment to the Constitution and Government of the Country in the present portentous season. This Sermon, we are told, was favourably received from the pulpit, and seems to be well calculated to answer the design of the Reverend Author. In the notes are large extracts from the present popular performance, **THE PURSUITS OF LITERATURE.**

Deliverance from Enemies a Ground for Thanksgiving. A Sermon preached Dec. 19, 1797, in the Chapel of the Asylum for Female Orphans. By William Agutter, A. M. 8vo. 1798. Rivingtons. 6d.

Mr. Agutter describes with force and effect the blessings which we enjoy at present as a nation, and the horrors which have attended French principles wherever they have been introduced. Though his picture is an animated one, it is not exaggerated.

Moral Reflections suggested by a View of London from off the Monument. By John Evans, A. M. 12mo. Crosby. 6d. 1798.

Pious but declamatory.

THEATRICAL JOURNAL.

MARCH 17.

THE DEVIL OF A LOVER, a Musical Farce, said to be written by Mr. Moubray, a young gentleman a student at Cambridge, was acted the first time at Covent Garden. The characters as follow :

Don Wizardo,	Mr. Munden.
Captain Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Johnstone.
Pedro,	Mr. Fawcett.
Soaker,	Mr. Knight.
Clara,	Mrs. Mountain.
Duenna,	Mrs. Davenport.

The scene is laid in Spain, and the plot is taken from a German Novel, entitled "THE SORCERER."—An old dotard, who had worked himself up into a belief that he could raise spirits, has a ward

who he determines to marry himself. The lady has a lover, an Irish Captain ; and being informed of the time her Guardian proposed to raise the infernal spirit, introduces the Captain to personate the Devil, and by that means carries her off. She is retaken, and a new attempt is made to obtain her, which succeeds, and the piece concludes.

The music, by Mr. Atwood, had considerable merit.

The piece was injudiciously conducted, but was not destitute of wit or humour ; it was, however, received with strong marks of disapprobation. A Prologue, spoken by Mr. Clarke, ridiculed the present fondness for Ghost Spectres and Devils, with some success.

POETRY.

AN ELEGY,

WRITTEN IN ST. STEPHEN'S CHAPEL.

THE Abbey bell now tolls the hour of One,
The drowsy porter holds the ready key,
And eager scowls (the public business done)
At mischief, and minority, and me.

Now the whole house a solemn silence wears,
While glimmering lamps emit a fainter
ray ;

Save where pert J—k—l clamours in my
ears,

And with brisk nonsense interrupts my
lay.

Save that from Palace-yard a motley band,
Inspir'd by freedom and election ale,
The self-created guardians of the land,
At Pitt, and property, and placemen rail,

Beneath this roof, to tory arts a prey,
Persuasive powers some honest brethren
doom ;

While others death's appointed call obey,
Their hapless laurels wither ere they bloom.

The dice-box flaunting in the face of noon,
The hustings laden with promiscuous
freight,

Thelwall's shrill trumpet, and seditious tune,
No more shall snatch them from the grasp
of fate.

For them no wreath the city shall afford,
No Crown and Anchor splendid feasts
prepare,

No voters run to hail the noble Lord,
Or croud his gates, the envied bribe to
share.

Oft has the Minister their power confess'd,
Joe Miller shone in Courtney's comic joke,
Reforms untried, and sorrows unredress'd.

Acquired new force, when thundering
Barré spoke.

Let not stern reason mock their ceaseless
pains,

Nocturnal sports, and tenements obscure ;
Nor loan contractors scorn their little gains,—
What will not patriots for their cause en-
dure ?

The labour little, and the pension big,
And all that Rose, and all Dundas bestow,
Can ne'er content the state-reforming Whig,
What others build, he joys to overthrow.

Nor you, ye poor, impute to these the blame,
If still to virtue's dictates ye adhere ;

Oft as you slept, some Gallic envoy came,
And pour'd seditious poison in your ear.

Faint is the joy that declamation gives,
For now, alas ! these airy projects fail ;
The speaker starves, whose elocution thrives,
And modern glory dwindles to a jail.

Perhaps

Perhaps in this unconscious spot is plac'd
Some heart inflam'd with more than Gallic
fire,

Some patriot head, with sanguine laurel
grac'd,
At whose approach virtue and peace re-
tire.

But plunder in their reach her golden store,
Moisten'd with widows' tears, has never
thrown ;

Chill fear forbad their abject souls to soar,
Prompt to reform all vices, but their own.

Full many a knave, maintain'd by faction's
hand,

The dark unconscious streets of London
bear ;

Full many a zealot quits his native land,
To breathe in Botany Bay a purer air.

Some French Coloffus striding o'er the land,
Like Buonaparte, with despotic sway ;

Some Guy Faux here may hide his flaming
brand,

Some Paine the laws yet fated to obey.

The praise of grateful nations to command,
The mobs' tumultuous clamours to de-
spise ;

To roll the tide of commerce through the
land,

And raise the fame of Albion to the skies,

Their lot forbad ; nor circumscrib'd alone,
Their scanty virtues ; but their vices vain ;

Forbad to shake the basis of the throne,
And sink the eminence they cannot gain.

The sword of hireling armies to direct,
The voice of sense and reason to disclaim,
Betray the cause they promis'd to protect,
And hazard ev'n the halter for a name.

Far from a Monarch's smile, their idle rage
And mad cabals ne'er gain'd the purpos'd
fame ;

From joyless youth to unrespected age,
The same their follies, and their crimes the
same.

Yet ev'n this race relax their cautious care,
When Bacchus gaily levels friends and
foes ;

And eager rustics pour along to share
The joys septennial jollity bestows.

Then empty names for property atone,
Th' evasive oath, and answer learnt by
rote ;

And many a secret hint around is thrown,
To teach the rude constituent to vote.

For who, to strict veracity a slave,
The Member's privileges ere resign'd,
The baillif's subtle arts secure to brave,
Nor cast a long suspicious glance behind ?

T—r—y the talkative here spreads his toils,
Pleas'd with the voice of Sheridan and
wit ;

While reason hallows with benignant smiles,
The flow of Burke, and manly sense of
Pitt.

For thee who mindful of thy party's cause,
Dost in these lines their fallen fame relate ;
If chance some slave to popular applause
In distant ages shall enquire thy fate,

Haply some partizan may thus exclaim,
" Oft have we seen him in the doubtful
throng,

" With ardour catch the fleeting voice of
fame,

" And pour the tide of eloquence along.

" There at the left of yonder velvet chair,
" That rears its stately canopy on high,
" He view'd his lessening phalanx with de-
spair,

" And scann'd their numbers with a
mournful eye.

" Fronting that youth, now smiling as with
scorn,

" Conning his arduous lesson would he
sit,

" Now sinking low, and now on wings up-
born,

" In all the wild exuberance of wit.

" One night we mis'd him at a grand de-
bate,

" Nor at his house, nor Drury Lane was
he,

" We fought him early, and we fought him
late,

" At White's, St. James's square, and
Bloomsbury.

" The next (O reader, tremble while you
read !)

" In doleful accents told our leader's doom,
" Sad disappointment forc'd him to secede,

" And grav'd this verse indignant on his
tomb ;"

THE EPITAPH.

Here lies—ah no, a patriot never lies !
Here rests a man by Gallic frenzy driv'n,
To try each new, each daring enterprize,
And giant-like, wage impious war with
Heav'n.

Friend to a party, foe to regal fame,
Misfortune smote him with deserv'd dis-
grace ;
He gave the party all he had—a name,
The King denied his only wish—a place.

No further feck his errors to explain,
Learn from his fate, ye senate-seeking
youth,
How vain are talents, eloquence how vain!
Unaw'd by virtue, and the voice of truth.
S.

VAUCLUSE.

"The Valley of Vaucluse is celebrated for its beauty: but how much of its fame has been owing to its having been the residence of Petrarch?"

—MAIS ces eaux, ce beau ciel, ce vallon
enchanteur,
Moins que Petrarche et Laure interressent
mon cœur.

"La voila donc," disois je, "oui, voila cette
rive

"Que Petrarche charmoit de sa lyre plaintive.
"Ici Petrarche, a Laure exprimant son
amour,

"Voyoit naître trop tard, mourir trop tôt le
jour.

"Retrouverai-je encore, sur ses rocs soli-
taires,

"De leurs chiffres unis les tendres caracte-
res?"

Une grotte ecartée avoit frappé mes yeux—
"Grotte sombre, dis moi si tu les vis heu-
reux?"

M'ecrisois-je—Un vieux tronc bordoit-il le
rivage?

Laure avoit reposé sous son antique ombrage.
Je redemandois Laure a l'Echo du vallon:

Et l'Echo n'avoit point oublié son doux nom.
Partout mes yeux cherchoient, voyoient Pe-
trarche et Laure;

Et par eux ces beaux lieux s'embellissoient
encore.

Quoted by Alison on the nature of the
emotions of the sublime and beautiful.

TRANSLATED.

—BUT not the vale, the spring, the sky
serene,

Touched, like th' inspiring genius of the
scene!

"Yes! here's the bank," I cried, "and
here the stream

"Where Petrarch sung, and Laura was the
theme;

"Where, while he pour'd to her th' impas-
sioned lay,

"Too late return'd, too quickly clos'd the
day.

"Sure on these rocks th' enquiring eye might
find,

"Trac'd by fond love, their tender names
combin'd!

"Say, lone recess!"—a secret grot was
near—

"Say, were these constant lovers happy
here?"

Shades there the stream a dark and rev'rend
pine—

Beneath that shade might Laura once recline.
I call on Echo, 'mid her deep retreats,

And faithful Echo "Laura" still repeats.
Petrarch and Laura blend with all around,

And breathe their int'rest o'er the magic
ground.

G. N.

LINES,

WRITTEN AT HAMPTON-COURT, HERE-
FORDSHIRE, FRIDAY, SEPT. 22, 1797.

LONG had this pile, deserted and forlorn
(O'erspread with brambles rude and
horrid thorn),

Stood, of its perfect form and style bereft,
Where owls and bats their midnight orgies
kept.

Here oft' were seen th' ancestral heroes'
shades,

By midnight moon, stalk o'er the checker'd
glades;

Here sometimes heard the lion's awful roar,
Which bade a superstitious king * of yore

Endow a minster and monastic cells,
Where *now* no cowed monk nor wailing
virgin dwells.

No more these rooms with shouts and cla-
mour ring,

No more in runic strains the warriors sing.
Once stern-brow'd chivalry was wont to tell

How by his arm the Painim-Caitiff fell;
His conquering sword the portals huge

obey'd,

Oped and set free each spell-enchanted maid.
But lately Taste † and Genius † bent their
way,

These once proud domes and ruins to survey;
At their approach the fable thicket's flew,

The sapping ivy, moss, and baneful yew;
They, with Viruvian art the stones replace,

And the grand mafs owns more than native
grace,

The trophied hall, that frown'd with nodding
plumes

And hideous shapes that grin'd in tap'stry'd
rooms,

* It is said a lion appeared in a vision or dream to King Mervald, by whom he was
instigated to found a minster in the neighbourhood, which was thence called Leominster.

† The noble possessors.

Yield to the works that milder scenes impart,
The pencil's * vivid glow and graphic art.
The roof that erst with uncouth legends rung,
Hears notes of harmony by beauty sung ;
Or from the lyre her skill sweet concords draw,

(Not such as when relentless Edward's law
The minstrels banish'd) but a heav'nly strain
To mark the blessings of a George's reign.
Whilst far around, the hills by nature drest
Unapprehensive wave their sylvan crest ;
No wood nymphs' shrieks, nor Druids' moans
upbraid

The gentle hands that their brown haunts invade ;

No ruthless axe (the spendthrift's sceptre)
wounds

The aged trunks that grace the hallow'd
grounds ;

In purer lymph the wanton Naiads sport,
For art with nature *here* holds equal court.

All, all his their's—scenes for a poet's theme,
Such as once sang on Avon's magic stream.

Long may the household Gods their hearths
possess,

Where reigns the will, and power to ease dis-
tress,

And godlike charity delights to dwell,

Of whose good works recording fame shall
tell.

AN AMATEUR.

TO A YOUNG LADY WHO IMAGINED THE
AUTHOR DISGUSTED BY HER SEEMING
NEGLECT, AFTER AN INSURMOUNT-
ABLE BARRIER HAD BEEN OPPOSED
TO THEIR MARRIAGE.

I.

RECKLESS of censure, negligent of praise,
Say, lov'd Louisa, may thy bard impart
In artless, unpremeditated lays

The proud assertion of a faithful heart ?

II.

Thy dear last letter, where affection wears
The garb of coy suspicion, needless came :
Ah ! trust me, vain are all thy tender fears ;
Nor fancied flights, nor death can quench
the flame

* Lady M. being one of the first dilettanti in this kingdom ; there are two miniatures very aptly decorating a small cabinet containing a white handkerchief stained with blood, with which Lord Coningsby staunch'd the blood of the wound King William received at The Boyne. These are miniatures of King William and Mary, in a style and height of finishing equal to any modern or ancient artists.

III.

That virtue cherisheth. For— though sweet
hope
Her first-born long hath buried—mid the
gloom
Of cypress and the willow's trembling slope,
Love's myrtle springs triumphant o'er the
tomb.

IV.

There shall it flourish ever. Let no hand,
No foot impertinently dare invade
The mournful mausoleum ! It shall stand
Inviolatè in consecrated shade.

ALEXIS.

Chelsea, March 12, 1793.

ANSWER TO UTRUM HORUM.

IF cruel pow'r the throne ascend,
Till humbled in its grave,
We find, instead of virtue's friend,
Each brutal passion's *slave*.

What tho' its might the despot's hand
Extend from pole to pole ?
True bliss, which it can ne'er *command*,
Is centred in the soul.

If treach'ry, murder, force be found
In Osmyn's savage reign :
His tortur'd thoughts were doubtless bound
In slav'ry's vilest chain.

The deeds of day in dreams appear'd,
His haunted soul confin'd :
Can Caled's bondage be compar'd
With bondage of the mind ?

The King, I hope, is prov'd a slave,
A far less easy thing
'Twill be, if Caius now should crave
The slave be prov'd a King.

In *dreams*, a sceptre Caled finds,
And grasps it with delight—
Such are the joys of human minds !
Mere visions of the night !

ERRATUM

IN MAG. FOR JULY 1797.

And dusky-mantled *Coe* had call'd,
read

And dusky mantled *Eve* had call'd.

JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

SECOND SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT OF GREAT BRITAIN.

[Continued from Page 131.]

HOUSE OF LORDS.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13.

THE Lord Chancellor presented two Messages from his Majesty, in purport, desiring the concurrence of their Lordships, in enabling his Majesty to settle a pension of 2000*l.* per annum each on Admirals Lords St. Vincent and Duncan, and on the two next heirs to their peerages, &c.

The Messages were forthwith taken into consideration, agreeably to the precedent of Lord Rodney's case in 1783, unanimously concurred in, and Addresses voted to his Majesty in consequence.

It was ordered by their Lordships, that the time limited for receiving Reports from the Judges upon Petitions presented for private Bills, be enlarged to the 4th of April.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15.

The Bills on the Table were forwarded in their respective stages.

The Supplementary Militia Bill was received from the Commons, and read a first time.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16.

The Duke of Bedford gave notice, that on Monday he should move for the House to be summoned, for a motion which he meant to submit to their Lordships.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17.

The Supplementary Militia Bill was read a third time, and passed.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19.

The Duke of Bedford said, that notwithstanding he had failed in impressing their Lordships with the necessity for addressing his Majesty to dismiss his present Ministers, he should once more bring the subject before them; and therefore he would move for the House to be

summoned on this day three weeks, or on an earlier day, if more agreeable, when he would make a motion to that effect.

Lord Grenville, for one, had no objection to meet the motion of the noble Duke, though, when he considered that his Majesty's Ministers, in one of the most arduous periods, had conducted the affairs of State to the satisfaction of the public, he was somewhat surprized that such a motion should be brought forward by his Grace. The motion was agreed to.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20.

The Royal Assent was given by Commission to the Supplementary Militia Bill, and two private Bills.

The House in a Committee of Privileges heard Counsel in support of the claimant of the Beaumont peerage.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22.

In an Appeal from the Court of Chancery, the Duchefs of Rutland and others against — Wakeman and — Eyres, Esq. their Lordships affirmed the decree, with 200*l.* costs.

The Bills on the table were read.

Mr. Dundas brought up Lords Duncan and St. Vincent's Annuity Bills, and a Bill to explain and amend a Bill relative to the Supplementary Militia, which passed this session. It was read a first, second, and third time.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23.

The Royal Assent was given by Commission to the amended Supplementary Militia Bill, and two private Bills.

The Commissioners were the Lord Chancellor, and Earls Spencer and Chelmsfield.

Adjourned,

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8.

THE Speaker read from a paper, which he had in his hand, the notices received by him from the Governor and Deputy Governor of the Bank of England, relative to the stoppage of the circulation of dollars, and of the payment in cash of the *one* and *two* pound notes.

Mr. Pitt moved, that the House do, on Monday se'night, resolve itself into a Committee of the whole House, to take into consideration the several Reports from the Select Committee of Finance. Agreed to.

The Act of last Sessions, empowering his Majesty to raise a Supplementary Militia, &c. having been read,

Mr. Dundas rose: he had to move for leave to bring in a Bill to repeal the said Act. The object of this Bill partly was also to ascertain how far his Majesty can have the power of calling out a certain portion of the militia within 21 days. That part of the Act which had just been read, which related to this circumstance, had been differently understood by different persons, and some delay and difficulty had arisen in consequence of it. In this Act his Majesty was only empowered to call out one-third of the militia; but that body having since been reduced by a draught of 10,000 men from it to the regular regiments, it was now found expedient that his Majesty should have the power of calling out one-half. It was found necessary, for the sake of the counties, that the business should be done with greater expedition than hitherto; and to effect this, and prevent too great an assemblage of the militia, he should propose that the men be called out in the subdivisions of the counties, and there ballot for the half that is to serve. It would be remembered, that it was towards the close of the sittings before the recess, a Bill was brought in for drafting that 10,000 men from the militia, and he had the satisfaction to say that the measure was attended with success. But it necessarily occasioned a deficiency in some corps, which it was now intended to supply by incorporating the Supplementary with the Regular militia. He did not mean to say, that a larger portion than one-half would at no time be called out; this would wholly depend upon the exigencies of the country. In

the present situation of public affairs, every measure of safety was to be taken, and the House would, he was sure, agree with him, that the preparations for our own security were to be governed considerably by the preparations of the enemy. But the country was not to be alarmed even at these preparations, nor the spirit in which they are made. He was convinced, that whatever might be the gasconading of the enemy, whatever the language they held out to the people of France, whatever the alluring pictures of the wealth of this country, and their incitements to attempt invasion for the sake of plunder, still the spirit of the Nation would not be appalled; Englishmen would not submit themselves willing sacrifices to an inveterate, marauding foe. He spoke it with warmth, because he spoke it to and with the country, that if the enemy should ever be so mad as to attempt an invasion, they would find a people great and wealthy, prepared and able to defend themselves. "And (continued Mr. Dundas) our measures will be such, that every man may lay in peace in his bed, on the faith of those exertions. And sure I am, that whenever the enemy will make such an attempt, they will be overwhelmed with confusion and destruction." He concluded with moving for leave to bring in a Bill for enabling his Majesty to call out such a portion of the Supplementary Militia as may at any time be found necessary, and to provide the necessary augmentation of the corps of the Regular Militia therefrom.—Agreed to.

Mr. Dundas brought up this Bill in pursuance of his motion, which was read a first time.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9.

The Sheriffs of the City of London brought up a petition from the Lord Mayor and Corporation, praying for the continuance of the Act for preventing Frauds in the Metage of Coals, which would otherwise expire with the present session.—Ordered to lie on the table.

The Sheriff's also presented a petition against the Merchants' scheme for making Wet Docks in the Port of London, and praying to be heard by counsel against the same.

Mr. Alderman Lushington requested that it may be observed, that the general sense

fenſe of the Corporation was by no means againſt the meaſure. The merchants were at preſent employed in the formation of a new plan. Whether that may prove more acceptable he knew not, but at all events ſome meaſure was neceſſary to repair the meafure defective ſtate of the port of London.

The petition was ordered to lie on the table, and both parties to be heard by their counſel.

Mr. Serjeant Adair brought up a petition from Mr. Macklin, of Fleet-ſtreet, ſtating that he had propoſed to diſpoſe of his Gallery of Pictures, by way of chances dependant on the enſuing State Lottery. The ſtate of the times was, however, ſuch that he could diſpoſe of no more than *one fixth* of his whole number (2,500). The petition therefore prayed, that the deciſion of theſe chances may be poſtpoſed to, and depend on the State Lottery of the year 1799.

The petition was referred to a Committee.

Mr. Pitt brought up a meſſage from the King, of which the following is a copy :

“ G. R.

“ His Majeſty having taken into his Royal conſideration the eminent and ſignal ſervice performed by Adam Lord Viſcount Duncan, one of the Admirals of the Blue, on the Coaſt of Holland, in an engagement, in the month of October laſt, with a Dutch fleet, under the command of Admiral De Winter, not only highly honourable to himſelf, but greatly beneficial to his Majeſty's kingdoms, and being deſirous to beſtow upon the ſaid Adam Lord Viſcount Duncan ſome conſiderable and laſting mark of his royal favour, as a teſtimony of his Majeſty's approbation of the ſaid ſervice, and for this purpoſe to give and grant unto the ſaid Adam Lord Viſcount Duncan, and to the next ſucceeding heirs male of the body of the ſaid Adam Lord Viſcount Duncan, to whom the title of Viſcount Duncan ſhall deſcend, for and during their lives, a net annuity of 2000l. per annum ; but his Majeſty not having it in his power to grant an annuity to that amount, or to extend the effect of the ſaid grant beyond the term of his own life, recommends it to his faithful Commons to conſider of a proper method of enabling his Majeſty to grant the ſame, and of extending, ſecuring, and ſettling ſuch annuity to the ſaid Adam Lord Viſcount Duncan, and to the two next perſons on whom the title of Viſcount

Duncan ſhall deſcend, in ſuch a manner as ſhall be thought moſt effectual for the benefit of the ſaid Adam Lord Viſcount Duncan and his family.”

Mr. Pitt moved, that this Meſſage may be taken into conſideration by a Committee of the whole Houſe on Monday next.—Ordered.

Mr. W. Bird moved for an account of the produce of the taxes to the 5th of January 1798 ; and alſo for an account of the income of, and charges upon, the Conſolidated Fund to the ſame day.—Ordered.

Mr. Mainwaring obſerved, that ſeveral petitions from the workmen and dealers in clocks and watches now lay on the table. Several had been preſented ſince the reſceſs. It was not his intention to enter at preſent into the ſubject matter of theſe petitions, as he underſtood that no oppoſition was intended to be made to his motion. He ſhould therefore ſimply move, that theſe petitions ſhould be referred to the conſideration of a Committee.—Ordered.

The Committee was named, and ordered to ſit to-morrow.

Mr. Pitt moved the ſecond reading of the Bill for calling out a certain portion of the Supplementary Militia. This was a meaſure the utility of which was generally acknowledged. Some objections may ariſe when the Bill came to be diſcuſſed in detail. Theſe, however, would come forward more properly in the Committee. The Bill was ordered to be committed on Monday.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12.

Mr. Pitt moved the Order of the Day for the Houſe to reſolve itſelf into a Committee to take his Majeſty's Meſſage into conſideration. The order was accordingly read.

Mr. Pitt, alluding to ſome circumſtances which had lately come to his knowledge, reſpecting another illuſtrious Commander, who had gained a brilliant victory in a different part of the world, propoſed to defer the conſideration of the Meſſage to Wednesday next, in order to take both caſes into conſideration at the ſame time.

Mr. Jekyll ſaid, he preſumed that the alluſion was to Lord St. Vincent.

Mr. Pitt expreſſed his aſſent by a nod.

The motion for poſtpoſing the conſideration of the Royal Meſſage was put and carried.

The Supplementary Militia Bill went through the Committee.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13.

Mr. Pitt brought up a Message from his Majesty, which was couched in the following terms:

“G. R.

“His Majesty having taken into his royal consideration the eminent and signal services performed by Earl St. Vincent, Admiral of the Blue, in an engagement with the Spanish fleet, under the command of Admiral Don Joseph de Cordova, on the 14th of February 1797; a service not only honourable to himself, but highly beneficial to this kingdom; and his Majesty being desirous to bestow some permanent mark, in testimony of his royal approbation, on the said Admiral Earl St. Vincent, for such signal service, has determined to give and grant to the said Earl St. Vincent, and to his two next succeeding heirs male, on whom his title shall descend, a net annuity of 2000l. But his Majesty, not having it in his power to give or extend the same beyond the term of his own life, recommends to his faithful Commons to take his royal intention into consideration, and to adopt the necessary measures to enable his Majesty to grant, secure, and settle the above mentioned annuity on the said Earl St. Vincent, and his two next succeeding heirs, on whom the title shall devolve, in such manner as shall be most effectual for their benefit.”

The Message was ordered to be taken into consideration to-morrow.

The Town Corporate Jurisdiction Bill went through the Committee. The Report was ordered to be received to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14.

Mr. Pitt moved the Order of the Day, for the House to resolve itself into a Committee to take into consideration his Majesty's Messages, recommending a parliamentary provision to be made to Admirals Earl St. Vincent and Lord Viscount Duncan, for their distinguished professional services. The exploits achieved by these two gallant Commanders were, he remarked, so similar in brilliancy and importance, that he hardly knew to which the precedence ought to be given in the Committee. As Lord St. Vincent's victory claimed it in point of date, and as this was the anniversary of that memorable event, he proposed that the resolution respecting the noble Earl should have the priority. In the Committee a resolution, reciting the heads of the message, and expressing the readiness of the House to enable his

Majesty to carry his wish into effect towards Earl St. Vincent, was read.

Mr. Jekyll remarked, that the House and the Public must feel that this was a compulsory act of gratitude. A reference to dates would shew how tardy Ministers were in rewarding merit in one instance, and with what alacrity they could do it in another. To establish this point, he adverted to the Address of Thanks voted on the 2d of March to Lord St. Vincent, for his unparalleled victory. On that occasion the question of form was interposed to a proposition for some signal mark of approbation. But when the relative of a person high in office distinguishes himself, a peerage is spontaneously granted, and before those shoes were old in which he walked to the House of Lords, a pecuniary recompence is proposed.

Mr. Pitt said, with respect to the tardiness complained of in the one instance, and the alacrity in the other, he had only to remark, that Lord Duncan's circumstances were known to be unequal to supporting the dignity of the peerage without a pecuniary provision at the time the title was bestowed, but declared that he was not in possession of the information respecting Lord St. Vincent's inability to support the dignity, more than twenty-four hours before the communication was presented to the House.

Mr. Nicholls did not think the present situation of the country warranted the proposition.

Mr. Dundas admitted his affinity to Lord Duncan, and asked if it was reasonable that a man's services should not be requited, because he happened to be related to his Majesty's Ministers? He then bestowed some handsome compliments on the public and private character of his Lordship, and declared, that unless he received the proposed reward, it would be an injustice to the country.

Sir W. Dolben suggested the propriety of granting the pension to the family in perpetuity.

After a few words from Mr. Jones and Mr. Pitt, in explanation, the Resolutions were put and agreed to, *nem. con.*

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15.

Mr. Hobart brought up the Report of the Committee to whom were referred the Royal Messages, recommending pecuniary remunerations to Admirals Earl St. Vincent and Lord Viscount Duncan. The Resolutions were agreed to, and Bills ordered.

The Order of the Day was read for the third reading of the Supplementary Militia Bill.

Sir J. Sinclair said, before the Bill was read, he wished to suggest the propriety of an alteration in the preamble. It was stated, "Whereas it is expedient to call out half of the Supplementary Militia," from this it should appear, that only part could be embodied. He knew not what information Ministers were in possession of, but from the great military preparations of the enemy, it was incumbent upon us to be prepared for an effectual resistance, if they should attempt to carry their menaces into execution. To leave it open therefore to call out the whole, he should propose that the words *may be* should be subscribed for the word *is*.

The Bill was then read a third time, after which the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Pitt moved, that the Order for taking into consideration the different Reports of the Committee of Finance on Monday next, should be enlarged to Wednesday.

Ordered.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16.

Mr. Rose brought up the Bills for settling and securing the annuities agreed to by the House on Admirals Earl St. Vincent and Lord Duncan, which were severally read the first time.

The Quarantine Bill was brought in and read the first time.

Mr. Rose moved, that the House should resolve itself into a Committee on Monday next, to consider the propriety of bringing in a Bill to repeal so much of the said Acts as relates to the Duty on Gold and Silver used in the manufacture of Watch Cases.

An Estimate of the Navy Debt, as it stood on the 31st of December 1797, was ordered to be laid on the table.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17.

Macklin's Lottery Bill was read a second time.

Mr. Serjeant Adair stated, that unless the Bill was passed before the drawing of the Lottery, Mr. Macklin, for whose benefit this Bill was intended, would be utterly ruined. He therefore moved, that the Bill should be committed on Monday next, though it was always usual that a longer space should intervene between the second reading and the Committees upon private Bills.

The motion was agreed to.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19.

Lord Duncan's and Earl St. Vincent's Annuity Bills were read a second time, and committed.

Chilton Inclosure Bill was read a first time.

The Corporation Causes, and Macklin's Lottery Bills, were reported, and ordered to be engrossed.

A petition from the Commissioners of the Tower Sewers was presented against the London Docks' Bill, and ordered to be heard on the second reading of the Bill.

The Resolutions of the Committee of Supply were reported, and agreed to.

An Account of Regulations in Offices made by the Treasury was presented, and ordered to lie on the table.

The House, in a Committee, went through the Land Tax Commissioners' Bill, and ordered it to be reported.

The Order of the Day was read for the House to resolve itself into a Committee for the consideration of certain duties, imposed by two Acts of his present Majesty, on Gold and Silver Manufactured Plate.

Mr. Rose said, the produce of the tax on Plate thus manufactured was no object to Government, whilst its remission was stated to be a great relief to the trade.

The House then resolved itself into a Committee. The Resolution was, "That the Duties on Gold and Silver Plate, manufactured into Watch cases, shall cease and determine." The Resolution to be reported to-morrow.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20.

The Committees on Earl St. Vincent's and Lord Duncan's Annuity Bills went through, and ordered them to be reported.

Three accounts from the Treasury, and two accounts from the Navy Office were presented, and ordered to lie on the table.

Macklin's Lottery Bill was read a third time, and passed.

Petition for Kennet and Avon Canal was presented, and a Bill ordered.

Mr. Rose moved for leave to bring in a Bill for continuing the Act of last Sessions for regulating the Distilleries in Scotland, which was agreed to, and the Report ordered to be received to-morrow.

Mr. Wilbraham Bootle moved, that the Order of the Day for taking into consideration the Election Treating Act should be postponed to this day fortnight.

Mr. C.

Mr. C. Dundas suggested the propriety of deferring the order one month, on account of the Assizes, which would oblige several Gentlemen, who might wish to deliver their sentiments, to be in the country.

Mr. Tierney thought it would be better to commit the Bill this day week, and to fix a distant day for the consideration of the Report. The original motion was withdrawn, and the Committee on the Bill ordered for this day week.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer moved the Order of the Day on the Reports of the Committee of Finance; which being read,

He moved, that the proceedings of the Commissioners of the Treasury had in consequence of such Reports be referred to the same Committee.—Ordered.

The House resolved itself into a Committee of the whole House, to consider of all these proceedings.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer then observed, that the proceedings which had been had upon the subject now before the Committee were necessarily of great length. There were many things which must hereafter come before the House for discussion. Many other things had been under the regulation of Executive Government, and arrangements made, agreeing in general with the opinions and suggestions of these Committees. There were not many points that would require the intervention of Parliament to carry the suggestions of the Committee into effect; at least he should not have many of them to bring forward now. He should only move some of the points that had been suggested by the Committee; and here he must observe, that after the Bills for which he should move were brought in, Gentlemen would have an opportunity of discussing the points better than could be done at present. That to which he now chiefly referred was to be found in the Fourth Report: the first part related to general finance, of which he did not at present mean to take any notice. The part to which he wished to draw the attention of the Committee related to the necessity of making some Parliamentary regulations with regard to public offices; and his chief object was to give a Parliamentary sanction to the suggestions of the Committee upon that subject, many parts of which had been already carried into execution by Exe-

cutive Government, they having power to do so without legislative authority. Much of the plan of the Committee had been put in a train during the last fourteen years; but there was some modification of offices which had been deemed advisable by the Committee that could not be carried into effect without legislative authority, and therefore it became necessary for him to move for leave to bring in Bills for these purposes. Few of these measures were expected to be of immediate public benefit, but they were expected to be hereafter beneficial to a considerable extent. They differed perhaps from some parts of the Reports of the Committee, but in general they were in conformity to such Reports. He should move that leave be given to bring in a Bill to abolish certain offices in the Customs, and for regulating others, &c. He said it had been long under consideration to abolish certain fees, and to introduce some regulations instead of them at the Customs; but he apprehended that the question would be attended with considerable difficulty, and he was extremely doubtful whether any mode could be found that would be more satisfactory to the Merchants than the mode now adopted. For that reason no arrangement had hitherto been attempted to be made; nor had he at present any thing to propose upon that head. He had heard a great deal, and many plans had been submitted upon that subject; but he had not yet been able to form a decided opinion upon any of them.

Another measure was relative to the Customs and other Offices, upon which he had a proposition to submit to the Committee, which was, "That leave be given to bring in a Bill to abolish the unnecessary number of holidays at the Customs and other public offices, and for enforcing the personal attendance of certain officers belonging thereto."

Another measure was, one also founded on the Report of the Committee; it was an alteration of the mode of collecting the revenue on the article of salt. This he proposed doing by transferring the management of that duty to the management of the Officers of Excise.

Another measure was, one that was more of a question of police perhaps than any other, he meant some better regulation with regard to hawkers and pedlars.

He then moved for leave to bring in the different Bills, the object of which

he had thus shortly opened, and leave was given for each in its order.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer then said, that the next object he had to submit, was one that related to the Land Tax and the Assessed Taxes of Scotland. He moved, that leave be given to bring in a Bill to provide for the more speedy collection and remittance of the Land Tax and Assessed Taxes in Scotland.

Sir John Sinclair said, he entertained doubts whether this motion would answer any good purpose, or whether it contained all that ought to be specified in order to attain the object which the Right Hon. Gentleman seemed to have in view. This, however, was not his chief reason for rising; what he wanted chiefly to know was, whether the Finance Committee was to be revived or not?

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said, that he had not submitted all he had to submit to this Committee. The Hon. Baronet might have collected from what he said, that he should have some motion to that effect, and it happened singularly enough, that he held now in his hand a motion to revive that Committee. He stated that few of the objects comprised in the Reports of the Committee were such as to require Parliamentary provision; that most of them might be well managed under the regulation which had been adopted by Executive Government, and that some of these regulations had already been carried into effect. How far others that had been suggested might need improvement, he would not presume to determine; but when they came to be laid before the House, every Gentleman would have an opportunity of delivering his opinion upon them, and the House would undoubtedly supply any unintentional omissions of the Executive Government: and an opportunity would be given to the Committee to suggest any further improvements that might appear to them to be practicable. In order to keep this matter before the House, he meant, after this Resolution should be disposed of, to move, that the Chairman be directed to move the House for leave to sit again.

The question was then put and carried.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer made a motion for the revival of the Select Committee of Finance, which was agreed to.

The House being resumed, Mr. Hobart reported the Resolutions, and asked leave to sit again, which was granted.

The Finance Committee being nominated, it consisted of the same names as the former. Mr. Sheridan's being the last upon the list.

Mr. Wilberforce doubted the propriety of suffering the name of any Member who had seceded from the House upon any Committee, because it was important that none should be nominated upon such Committees but those who were likely to do their duty.

The question being put, that these be the names of the Committee,

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said, that if it should appear there was a deficiency of attendance, the House possessed, and would exercise the power of substituting other Members for those who absented themselves. But it did not appear to him to be necessary to make any alteration in a Committee whose Report gave so much satisfaction. But as to those who chose to absent themselves, he could only say it was utterly impossible for any Gentleman, consistently with the duty he owed to his constituents, to absent himself; and as impossible for him to say in that House that he would not attend it, without being subject to the censure of the House. Whether any thing of that kind had been said any where else was not then to be inquired into. The House could not be guided by any rumour of secession. As to some of the Members of the Committee, their absence was unavoidable, for they were upon military duty. He did not think that there would be any material deficiency of attendance of the Committee, and therefore he did not move for any additional names.

The question was then put and carried.

The House agreed to go into a Committee of the whole House on Monday se'nnight, to consider further of the Report of the Committee of Finance.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer moved the Order of the Day, for the House to resolve itself into a Committee of the whole House, to consider of Ways and Means for raising a Supply. The House having resolved itself accordingly,

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said, he had now to move for the usual sum to be raised on Exchequer Bills, that was, he proposed the same sum as was granted last Session of Parliament. The particulars of this motion he would state to the Committee. From the circumstances of the country he had thought it proper to defer the opening the Ways and

Means for raising the Supply for some weeks, for which there were various reasons. There was reason for thinking that leaving this matter open for a time may render a Loan less necessary than it would otherwise be. The liberality and public spirit which had already displayed itself, and the spirit which had already been manifested, and which he trusted would soon spread all over the kingdom, was of a very flattering nature, and he thought it advisable to give time for the operation of that spirit before he opened the Ways and Means for raising the Supplies of the year. Another reason was, that by the delay he proposed in this respect, an opportunity would be had to see the effect of the late Assessed Taxes, by allowing the time for the first instalment to pass before the Ways and Means were opened. He then moved a Resolution, "That three millions be raised on Exchequer Bills."

Sir John Sinclair said, he doubted the policy of this measure. If there were any circumstances that rendered it probable that money would be less scarce hereafter than it was at present, then the postponing the Ways and Means would be a wise measure; but he apprehended the contrary, and therefore the Minister might have reason to repent of this delay. He complained of the complex manner in which the public finances were brought forward. In former times the whole income and expenditure of the Country were brought on together, so that both could be seen at a view; but by this complex mode of proceeding, the finance of the country could not be well understood. This was a new confusion in our accounts, and he must object to this Resolution.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer observed, that he believed there never was a period in the history of this country in which the subject of finance had been rendered so accessible to every understanding as the present period. True it was that in former times the matter was laid before the House at one time, but that did not imply that they were clearer on that account; and in reality they were so far from being so, that they were intelligible only to those who had made finance the whole study of their lives. The reason why he stated these things more than once, was for the purpose of explaining each article under its own particular head; and it was singular that the Hon. Baronet, who complained of the confusion of our finances, should be

against a system that had explanation for its object.

The Resolution was then put and carried.

The Report of Lord Duncan and Earl St. Vincent's Annuity Bill was brought up, read, and agreed to, after which the Bill was ordered to be read a third time to-morrow, if then engrossed.

A Bill was ordered to be brought in pursuant to the Resolution of a Committee relative to the Scotch Distillery. It is to be a temporary measure only. Some letters upon this subject directed to Mr. Rose and the Officers of the Treasury from the Collectors in Scotland, were ordered to be laid before the House.

Sir John Sinclair brought up a petition from the Board of Agriculture, which was ordered to be laid on the table.

Mr. Rose brought up a Bill to repeal the late duty imposed upon gold and silver used for watch cases. Read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

The other orders were deferred.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22.

The Bill for permitting the importation of salt from Portugal in neutral bottoms was brought in and read a first time, as were the Bill for the abolition of superfluous Offices in the Customs, the Bill for reducing the number of Holidays at the Public Offices, and the Scotch Distillery Bill.

Earl St. Vincent's and Lord Duncan's Annuity Bills were read a third time, and passed *nem. con.*

Mr. Hobart brought up the Report of the Committee of Ways and Means, and a Bill was ordered to enable his Majesty to raise three millions on Exchequer Bills.

The Solicitor General gave notice, that on Monday next he would move for leave to bring in a Bill to prevent the enemy from drawing any resources from this country through the medium of the United Provinces.

Mr. Baker moved for an account of the proceedings of the Admiralty and Transport Boards, and of the Sick and Hurt Office, with respect to the treatment of French prisoners of war.

Mr. Rose seconded the motion.

An account was then moved for, of the expences incurred by the prisoners of war, from the commencement of the war, together with the daily or weekly allowance to each individual: also an account of the rations issued daily by the
Com-

Commissioners for French prisoners, up to the 1st of February; and a copy of instructions to Captain Coates, relative to the regulations of English prisoners in France. Agreed to.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23.

Mr. Huskisson moved, That there be laid before the House extracts from the

letters and correspondence respecting the detention and confinement of Sir Sidney Smith, and the negotiation entered into by the two countries respecting prisoners of war.

Captain Berkeley seconded the motion, which was agreed to.

Adjourned.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EUROPEAN MAGAZINE.

SIR,

IF you think the following Account of the Cape of Good Hope, so far as relates to the Salubrity of the Climate, worth inserting in your useful Publication, please to give it a place. It is an Extract from the First Part of an Inquiry into the Causes which produce Disease among the Troops at the Cape of Good Hope, with a View of discovering the most effectual Means of Prevention. By Mr. Stewart Henderfon, Apothecary to his Majesty's Forces at the Cape.

Your's,

AN OLD CORRESPONDENT.

TRAVELLERS, who have visited this part of Africa for the purpose of investigating the natural history of the country, speak with rapture of the salubrity of its air, and natural productions. I think it will be found, upon inquiry, to merit the most favourable opinion with respect to them. The face of the country, for a considerable distance (except the land which forms the Cape) is rather low, but open and well cultivated, of a sandy and marly soil, which soon absorbs the rain, thereby preventing those noxious exhalations, which are so productive of sickness in hot climates. The air, except a few months, may be called temperate; the atmosphere is seldom loaded with moisture, but possesses a degree of elasticity not often felt in any other country. And although Fahrenheit's thermometer, during the summer months, ranges from 80 to 90, and frequently a considerable variation is suddenly experienced, yet from the dryness of the atmospheric air, and a brisk circulation of it being kept up by the prevailing South-east winds, the constitution suffers little from relaxation. Invalids from India, labouring under complaints of debility, the effect of great heat, soon recover their strength here, by the temperate and bracing air of the winter months. And as a further proof of its salubrity, the florid and healthy looks we perceive in the Dutch inhabitants, especially those who live in the country, and are not enervated by luxury and indolence. Though it is remarked that there are not many instances

of longevity among them, in a great measure owing to their habits and manner of life, yet they are happily exempt from many of those endemic and epidemic diseases which rage in other parts of the world, and annually carries off great numbers. The small-pox, measles, remittent and intermittent fever, and that most fatal of all diseases the jail, hospital, or ship-fever, which destroys so many of the human species in every part of Europe, are never generated here; and are unknown but when introduced, which, unfortunately for the natives, has sometimes happened. We likewise find that neither the inhabitants or officers are attacked with the diseases which prevail among the soldiers; and it is a singular circumstance, that not an officer of the army or navy has died of disease contracted here, since the British forces arrived at the Cape; which I think clearly proves, that no noxious quality exists in the air of this country, which has been by some imagined, and erroneously blamed, as the cause of the malignity of the disorders, and the many deaths that have occurred in the General Hospital. We must therefore look for other causes than those assigned.

The natural productions for the use of man perhaps exceed in variety most parts of the world. At that season of the year when great heat prevails, nature has made ample provision to lessen its influence on the human body, by the abundance of sweet acid fruits, which instinct and our reason dictate the use of. Upon

the whole, considering its situation, climate, and natural productions, so far from being deemed unhealthy, it may more properly, in my opinion, be filed the Montpellier of the Southern Hemisphere.

After enumerating the causes of disease, and pointing out the means of prevention, he concludes with observing, that by attention to cleanliness, ventilation, proper

diet, cloathing, bedding, and preventing the use of ardent spirits, the most beneficial and salutary effects would doubtless be produced in a country where the climate is so favourable to health; and I think is proved to have little or no share in occasioning the diseases which are so destructive to the troops.

*Cape Town, Good Hope,
Dec. 16, 1797.*

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, FEB. 6, 1798.

Copy of a Letter from Admiral the Earl of St. Vincent, K. B. Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Ships and Vessels on the Coast of Portugal, to Evan Nepean, Esq. dated on board the Ville de Paris, in the Tagus, the 20th of Jan. 1798.

SIR,

I ENCLOSE Letters from the Captains of L'Aigle, Alcimene, and Mercury, Speedy, and King's Fisher sloops, reciting the captures of French and Spanish privateers, made by the ships and sloops under their commands. The judgment displayed by Capt. Pierrepont, joined to his spirited conduct, and that of the Officers and crew of his Majesty's sloop King's Fisher, in the action with the Betsey, does credit to them, and honour to his Majesty's arms; and the activity of all the cruisers under my command is worthy of commendation.

I am, &c.

ST. VINCENT.

L'Aigle, at Sea, Jan. 5.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship, on the 4th inst. off the coast of Corunna, I chased and captured a French privateer ship, of 20 guns and 90 men; been out eight days from l'Orient; she is coppered, and a fast sailer; not made any capture.

I have the honour to be, &c.

CHA. TYLER.

Earl St. Vincent, &c.

Alcimene, at Sea, Jan. 9.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour of informing your Lordship, that the Buonaparte French privateer, carrying two guns, some swivels, and 40 men, was last

evening chased by the Squadron under my command, and captured, after a few hours chase, by his Majesty's ship Lively; she has been out nine days from Cadiz, without taking any thing.

I have the honour to be, &c.

GEO. HOPE.

Admiral the Earl St. Vincent.

*His Majesty's Ship Mercury,
at Sea, Jan. 15, 1798.*

MY LORD,

I HAD the honour to acquaint you, in my letter of the 6th inst. of having captured Le Benjamin French ship privateer, belonging to Bourdeaux. I have now the satisfaction to inform your Lordship, that this morning, Cape Finisterre bearing East half North 40 leagues, we discovered two sail to leeward, and, upon chasing them, soon found they were armed vessels. They continued near together until the Mercury came almost within gunshot of the sternmost, intending, as I supposed, to support each other; but, upon being close pressed, they steered different courses, and I was enabled to come up with only one of them, after a chase of eight hours, who fired a few shot, and struck his colours. She proves to be Les Trois Sœurs French brig privateer, belonging to Rochelle, pierced for 18 guns, but mounting 16 six-pounders, and 100 men, copper-bottomed, sails remarkably well, and only five days out of port on her first cruise.

I have the honour to be, &c.

THO. ROGERS.

To the Earl St. Vincent.

Speedy, off Oporto, Jan. 4.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, that his Majesty's sloop Speedy, having under convoy the brigantine Sally and Active, to see them clear of the

the coast from the Spanish row-boats, captured, on the 1st inst. 15 leagues West of Viana, La Oliva, a Spanish schooner privateer, mounting 4 carriage guns and 12 swivels, and manned with 40 men; she is new, and coppered, out from Vigo ten days, and has not taken any thing.

I have the honour to be, &c.

HUGH DOWNMAN.

Earl St. Vincent.

King's Fisher, Tagus, Jan. 12.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship, that on the morning of the 8th instant, the Burlings bearing East, distant 50 leagues, at day light we discovered a ship in our weather quarter, and soon after perceived her to bear up and stand towards us; at nine we tacked, and at half past she hoisted French colours, and began firing, which we returned as we passed on different tacks, but at too great a distance to do much execution; she then wore: finding we could not weather her as I wished, we shortened sail for her to get abreast of us, when we began to engage, and continued for an hour and a quarter; falling little wind, and our jib-boom being carried away, she shot ahead of us, and endeavoured to make off, crowding all sail, and firing her stern chacers. Having got out another jib-boom, and the wind freshening, at one P. M. we were enabled to renew the action, which was continued for half an hour, when she struck. She is called *La Betsey*, a ship privateer, fitted out at Bourdeaux, copper-bottomed, pierced for 20 guns, and mounting only 16 six-pounders, and had on board 118 men, one of whom was killed; the first and second Captain and six seamen wounded; the second Captain and three seamen since dead of their wounds. She had been out fifteen days, but made no capture.

The damages sustained by the King's Fisher in hull, sails, and rigging, are trifling; and I am happy to add, that one man only is slightly wounded.

I beg to express my entire approbation of the steadiness and good conduct of the Officers and ship's company during the action, and have the honour to be, &c.

CH. H. PIERREPONT.

Earl of St. Vincent, &c.

Copy of a Letter from the Earl of St. Vincent, K. B. to Evan Nepean, Esq. dated on board the Ville de Paris, River Tagus, Jan. 20, 1798.

SIR,

I ENCLOSE a letter I have received from Captain Williams, Commander of his Majesty's store ship the *Gorgon*, whose judgment, in bearing away for Lisbon upon the intelligence he had obtained, merits my full approbation; and you will acquaint the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty with his subsequent success.

I am, &c.

ST. VINCENT.

*His Majesty's Ship Gorgon,
Tagus, Jan. 16.*

MY LORD,

I HAVE the pleasure of acquainting your Lordship, that at half past noon, on Saturday the 13th, in lat. 46 deg. 9 min. long. 7 deg. 33 min. Cape Finisterre bearing S. 20 W. distance about seventy leagues, I fell in with and retook the *Ann brig*, of Dartmouth, bound from Newfoundland to Lisbon. She had been taken fifteen days by a French privateer; and, whilst exchanging people, another brig, under National colours, bore down upon us, who, after a few shot being fired at her, struck to his Majesty's ship under my command; she proves to be *Le Henri*, a French privateer, from Nantes, carrying 14 guns, and 108 men; she had thrown five of her guns overboard, had been out five days, and taken nothing. I immediately ordered my first Lieutenant Archbald, with Mr. Tritton and sixteen other supernumeraries belonging to *L'Aigle*, to take possession of her, and proceed in company with me to Lisbon, where I have the additional pleasure to inform your Lordship she is safe arrived, and have every reason to expect the brig will shortly join us.

I have the honour to be, &c.

RICH. WILLIAMS.

To the Earl of St. Vincent, &c.

*Copy of a Letter from Sir Edward Pel-
lew, Bart. Captain of his Majesty's
Ship Indefatigable, to Evan Nepean,
Esq. dated at Sea, the 28th ult.*

SIR,

I HAVE the pleasure to inform you, that I this day, in company with his Majesty's ship *Cambrian*, captured the

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French

French ship privateer L'Heureuse Nouvelle, of 22 guns, and 130 men, from Brest thirty-six days, in which time they had taken nothing but a large ship, an American, called the Providence, loaded with sugar and cotton, which I am in hopes of retaking, having left the Cambrian in chace of her.

I have the honour to be, &c.

EDW. PELLEW.

ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, FEB. 13, 1798.

Extract of a Letter from Admiral the Earl of St. Vincent, K. B. Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Ships and Vessels on the Coast of Portugal, to Evan Nepean, Esq. dated on board the Ville de Paris, in the Tagus, the 26th of Jan. 1798.

I ENCLOSE an Extract of a Letter from Captain Digby, of his Majesty's ship Aurora, relative to the capture of a Spanish schooner letter of marque, from Lugaira.

Extract of a Letter from Captain Digby, of his Majesty's Ship Aurora, to Admiral Earl of St. Vincent, dated the 26th of Jan. 1798.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, that I captured on the 17th instant, to the westward of Cape Finisterre, La Casualided Spanish letter of marque, schooner rigged, mounting 6 guns and 17 men, Don Ysidro Orneze, Commander: 47 days from Caraccas, with a cargo of cocoa.

ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, FEB. 13, 1798.

Copy of a Letter from Vice-Admiral Kingmill, Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Ships and Vessels on the Coast of Ireland, to Evan Nepean, Esq. dated at Cork, the 4th inst.

SIR,

PLEASE to lay before my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty the accompanying letter to me from Captain Fraser, of his Majesty's ship Shannon, giving account of his having captured, off Cape Clear, on the 2d inst. a large French ship privateer, mounting 24 guns and 150 men, with which he arrived here last evening.

I have the honour to be, &c.

R. KINGSMILL.

Shannon, Cove of Cork, Feb. 3.

SIR,

I BEG to acquaint you, that yesterday, at three P. M. being six or eight leagues to the southward of Cape Clear,

with his Majesty's ship under my command, I saw and gave chase to a ship in the N. E. She at first hoisted English colours, but on the Shannon's firing a shot towards her, she hauled them down, and hoisted the National flag, and fired her stern chacers, continuing to do so (without effect) until the Shannon's shot fell far beyond her, when she struck her colours, and brought to at five P. M.

She is called Le Duguay Trouin, a privateer of St. Malo, commanded by Citizen Legue, mounting twenty-four six-pounders, several of which were thrown overboard during the chace, and armed with 150 men.

She sailed from St. Malo the 3d of November, but having been forced into the river Benois, in Brittany, by bad weather, she had been only eight days from thence; she had taken nothing until early in the morning of the day I fell in with her, when she captured the Wilding, of Liverpool, Henry Ward, master, from Jamaica, 23 of whose crew I found on board her. I have to regret the extreme haziness of the weather all day, which prevented any object from being seen at more than four or five miles distance, otherwise I think I must have seen and recaptured that ship; but it blowing very fresh at west, it was late in the night before the prize could be secured and the prisoners shifted, which having done, I thought it necessary, from the number on board, and the state of the Shannon's rigging, which had suffered much in the late gales, to proceed for this port.

Le Duguay Trouin is 112 feet long on the gun deck, and 30 feet broad; she is very well found in every thing as a privateer, and sails fast.

I have the honour to be, &c.

ALEX. FRASER.

Vice-Admiral Kingmill, Cork.

ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, FEB. 17, 1798.

Extract of a Letter from Vice-Admiral Kingmill, Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Ships and Vessels on the Coast of Ireland, to Evan Nepean, Esq. dated at Cork, the 9th inst.

I REQUEST you will lay before their Lordships the accompanying letter to me from Lord A. Beauclerk, giving an account of his having captured and brought in here Le Mars, of Nantes, a new coppered ship privateer, mounting 16 guns and 220 men.

Dryad,

Dryad, Cork Harbour, Feb. 9.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to inform you, that on the 4th inst. at five A. M. Cape Clear N. E. twenty leagues, I captured *Le Mars*, a stout fast-sailing privateer, from Nantes, pierced for 20 guns, and mounted 12 twelves, 2 eighteens, and 2 twelve pound carronades, with 222 men; had been out 49 days, and not captured any thing.

I am, &c.

A. BEAUCLERK.

Vice-Admiral Kingmill, Cork.

ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, FEB. 20, 1798.

Copy of a Letter from the Right Hon.

Admiral Lord Bridport, K. B. to Evan Nepean, Esq. dated the 16th instant.

YOU will herewith receive, for their Lordships' information, a copy of a letter from Captain Durham, of his Majesty's ship *Anson*, stating his having captured *Le Jafon* ship privateer, of Nantes, coppered, mounting 12 guns, and 108 men.

You will also receive a letter from Captain Herbert, of his Majesty's ship *Amelia*, dated the 14th inst. stating his having captured *La Branche d'Olive*, a French merchant brig, laden with flour, beef, wine, and brandy; and with his having fallen in with a small convoy in the *Passage du Raz*, and captured *Le Cultivateur de Rochelle* brig, and an armed chaffe marée; but the latter having struck upon a rock, he was obliged to destroy her.

I am, &c.

BRIDPORT.

Anson, at Sea, Feb. 3.

MY LORD,

I BEG leave to acquaint your Lordship, that I have this day captured *Le Jafon* French privateer, of 12 guns and 108 men, belonging to Nantes, copper-bottomed, out two days, and made no captures.

I have the honour to be, &c.

P. C. DURHAM.

The Rt. Hon. Lord Bridport, K. B.

Amelia, Plymouth Sound, Feb. 14.

MY LORD,

I HAVE to inform your Lordship of the arrival of his Majesty's ship *Amelia* here this morning. Your Lordship will from Captain Stirling have heard of my parting from him in a heavy gale of wind, on the 31st ult. As soon as the weather made it possible I returned off Ushant, according to my

orders. I made a night attempt to destroy a man of war, brig, and cutter, just to the northward of Point St. Matthew's, but quitted it almost immediately, finding from their situation it was impossible to effect it. At dark I came to an anchor off the *Cap-du-Cherri*, and sent all the boats armed close into Point St. Matthew's, in hopes of taking part of the convoy under the protection of the vessels above-mentioned, if they attempted to go into Brest that night. One boat, however, only fell in with and captured *La Branche d'Olive*, a French merchant brig, of about 170 tons, laden with flour, beef, wine, and brandy. The next day, having seen her safe to the northward of Ushant, I got in by dark close to Point du Raz, and at day-light saw a convoy, of one brig and some chaffe marées, under protection of a small lugger, coming through the passage. The lightness of the wind enabled the lugger and most of the chaffe marées to escape, but the brig *Le Cultivateur de Rochelle*, and an armed chaffe marée, *Le St. Pierre's*, were captured. The latter, having struck on a rock in the passage, I was obliged to destroy her, having taken out of her part of her cargo, consisting of officer's baggage.

The brig is about 133 tons, laden with brandy, wine, and groceries.

I am, my Lord, &c.

CHARLES HERBERT.

Right Hon. Lord Bridport,

K. B. &c. &c.

ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, FEB. 24, 1798.

Copy of a Letter from Admiral the Earl of St. Vincent, K. B. Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Ships and Vessels on the Coast of Portugal, to Evan Nepean, Esq. dated on board the Ville de Paris, in the Tagus, the 31st of Jan. 1798.

SIR,

I ENCLOSE a letter from Captain Rogers, of his Majesty's ship the *Mercury*, acquainting me with his having captured *La Constance* French privateer, of 18 guns, the third taken by that ship since her arrival from Newfoundland.

I am, &c.

ST. VINCENT.

His Majesty's Ship Mercury, at Sea, Jan. 25.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship, that this day at noon, the

Bur.

Burlings bearing S. E. 42 leagues, I fell in with La Constance French brig privateer, belonging to Nantes, which I captured after a chase of five hours; she is a remarkable fine vessel, pierced for 18 guns, but has only 12 six and nine-pounders on board, and 96 men, copper-bottomed, quite new, sails very fast, and is only ten days from Nantes, on a cruise off the Western Islands.

I have the honour to be, &c.

THO. ROGERS.

Earl St. Vincent, &c.

ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, FEB. 27, 1798.

Copy of a Letter from Captain Charles Stirling, Commander of his Majesty's Ship Jason, to Evan Nepean, Esq. dated at Sea, the 23d of Feb. 1798.

SIR,

HIS Majesty's ship under my command this day captured Le Coureur, a corvette belonging to the Government of France, and commanded by the Officers of the Navy, but lent to the Merchants for a privateer; she mounts 24 guns, and has 150 men.

I have the honour to be, &c.

CHA. STIRLING.

[FROM OTHER PAPERS.]

Hague, Feb. 10.

Several Representatives have declared that they cannot sign the declaration required of them; so that now no less than sixty-three have resigned their seats.

The *Constituent Assembly*, for by that name the Convention is now called, has abolished all the provisional Administrations by the decree of Unity, of Sovereignty, and Territory; so that we are no longer Hollanders or Utrechters, but appertain equally to the Batavian Republic.

The French head-quarters will for the future be at the residence of General Joubert, for whom Government has hired the hotel formerly occupied by the Prussian Envoy. General Joubert is Commander in Chief of the French and Batavian troops, but cannot send the latter out of the country without the consent of the Constituent Assembly.

All the Commanders of the French troops in the Republic have received orders to carry into execution the decrees of the Constituent Assembly, which unites in itself all power.

The Members of the Constituent Assembly wear a tri-coloured scarf, on

which are embroidered the arms of the French Republic.

The Ministers under the orders of the Executive Directory will be in number six, viz. A Minister for Foreign Affairs; another for Internal Affairs; the Ministers of Justice, the Finances, War, and the Marine. All public Officers must take the oath of hatred to the Stadtholdership, Aristocracy, Federalism, and Anarchy.

The principles of our new Constitution, according to the late decrees, are to be the abolition of the respective sovereignty of the provinces, and of the feudal system; the exclusion of the Orange party, and the enemies of the Sovereignty of the People, from the right of voting for ten years after the acceptance of the Constitution; a plan of a new system of finance, founded on the relative abilities of individuals; the abolition of provincial quotas; (the Executive Government will fix the imposts, subject to the ratification of the Legislative Body;) the separation of the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial Powers; an annual responsibility for the public expenditure; a strict alliance with the French Republic, &c.

On the 5th inst. the Directory completed the new organization of the Provincial Administrations. In the province of Holland, not only the 55 Members of the late Provincial Administrations, but the 28 Members of the Provincial Committee have been set aside; and in their stead one body only appointed, consisting of 20 Members, with Citizen Hovens, of Haerlem, for their President. These are all tried men, whose political principles are known to be perfectly agreeable to the new system. They have received instructions from the Directory, contained in twenty-five articles. Their authority is, however, in every thing entirely subordinate to that of the Directory. Their function is to maintain order and tranquillity in the Province of Holland; to collect the imposts, which, till the new Constitution shall be completed, will remain on the former footing; to pay the pensions charged on the Province until further considerations and directions. They are all required to take the oath of hatred to the Stadtholdership, Aristocracy, Federalism, and Anarchy. They may employ military force in case of necessity, but must give immediate notice to the Directory; and they may immediately set aside from their office all Magistrates who

who are inactive, or disinclined to the present system. The great power entrusted to them has caused a considerable fermentation, and greatly alarmed many persons.

The National Assembly has decreed, that those who have resigned their seats as Representatives, shall be considered as having lost the confidence of the Constituent Assembly, and of the Batavian people.

The Batavian Constituent Assembly has fixed its new Government on Constitutional bases. The bases are as follows :

“ The abolition of the Division into Provinces. The consolidation of the debts of the different Provinces. The abolition of the Feudal System.

“ The separation of the Church from the State. No Corporation to have any regulations contrary to the laws of the Republic.

“ The exclusion of all the friends of the House of Orange from the right of voting, and also of the enemies to the power of the people, and to the unity and indivisibility of the Republic, for the space of ten years. This exclusion to be exactly defined, that no scope may be left for arbitrary decisions.

“ The formation of a Democratic Representative Republic, by the establishment of a Legislative Body, consisting of two Councils, and by the establishment of an Executive Power, consisting of Five Members, acting by their subordinate agents.

“ The investment in the National Treasury of all the public revenues of every kind and description.

“ The formation of a new Plan of Finance, founded on the relative abilities of every citizen.

“ The abolition of all the Provincial Quotas.

“ The Executive Power to furnish every year the state of the expences, both ordinary and extraordinary. The Legislative Bodies to examine into these accounts, for the purpose of granting or rejecting them by a formal decree.

“ The Commissioners of the Treasury to be named by the Executive Power. Those of the Chamber of Accounts by the Legislative Body.

“ The territory of the Republic to be divided into a convenient number of departments.

“ There shall be a distinct division between the Executive, the Legislative, and the Judicial Powers.

“ Commissaries from the Executive Power to watch over the Administrative and Judicial Authorities.

“ A High National Court to be formed, to judge of the offences which may be committed by the Members of the Legislative Assemblies, and of the Executive Power, in their respective functions.

“ The formation of a Court of Judges of the Peace, whose interference may conciliate the contending parties previous to their entering on a suit at law.

“ A reform of the Civil and Penal Codes, and new Laws to be framed for this purpose, at the least within the terms of three years.

“ The right of petitioning individually, to be granted to every citizen. The Popular Societies to be united with the Constitutional Circles.

“ The Revision of the Constitutional Act after the term of five years. The subsequent periods of revision to be decided by the Constitution.

“ The Organization of a National Guard throughout the Republic.

“ An annual account to be publicly given by the Administrators of the National Funds.

“ An oath to be unavoidably taken of hatred to the Stadholderian Government, to Federalism, Aristocracy, and Anarchy, by all persons employed by the Government.

“ No power to have a right to interfere with the Banks in the different cities of the Republic. They shall be considered as sacred pledges and supports of the credit of the Republic.

“ Institutions to be established for public instruction in the arts and sciences, and also for the encouragement of commerce, navigation, agriculture, manufactures, fisheries, &c.”

The last article of this Code, which consists of twenty-eight, states,

“ That there shall be a strict union between the French and the Batavian Republics, in such a manner, that the latter, though considered as completely free, can entertain no political or commercial connection with the enemies of France; and that, in future, the two Republics shall consider the cause of either as a common cause.”

Rayladi, Feb. 3. The following is the answer of the French Ministers to the note of the Deputation of the Empire, in which they declared that they could not agree to the cession of the left bank of the Rhine, and that the indemnification proposed for the powers who have possessions

sessions on the left bank of the Rhine, at the expence of those on the right, and the secularization of the Electorates or Bishoprics, is impracticable. It concludes with entreating the French Ministers to propose more reasonable bases in the following words :

“ The Deputation of the Empire has been compelled formally to admit that the Republic would not acquire a considerable accession of power and greatness by the acquisition of the Trans-Rhinane provinces, either in respect of their extent, their language, their customs, and their modes of thinking. From this observation it indisputably follows, that it is not from a desire of aggrandizement that the French Republic desires the boundary of the Rhine, and that its demand rests upon a basis much more forcible, upon a motive common to the two powers, that of providing by invariable boundaries for their future tranquillity.

“ Such is the object at present to be settled, and not that series of questions which the Deputation of the Empire endeavours to substitute in the room of the true object of discussion. The undersigned shall add only a single reflection, and it is, that the prompt accession to the demand of the French Republic, the subsequent examination of the accessory questions, and the conclusion of a solid peace will remove all pretext for mutual complaints. This is the true way to prove that we respectively wish in reality, and not in appearance, to put a period to the calamities of war.”

TREILHARD and BONNIER,
Members Plenipotentiary of the
French Republic.

Jan. 29, Year 6.

To this the Deputation returned an answer, in which they ascribed the war to the aggression of the French, and hope the Directory will see the importance of their objections.

REVOLUTION IN ROME.

The Directory have sent a message to the Councils, on the subject of the late events in Rome. This message details the events which have characterized the present Revolution. It expatiates upon the crimes of the Popes, Cardinals, and Priests, who have for 1400 years formed the Theocratic Government of Rome, which in prosperity and adversity was uniformly perfidious.

The Roman people declare, in their act of Sovereignty, published on the 27th Pluviose, that it is their wish to preserve

the religion which they venerate and practise, and to leave untouched the dignity and spiritual authority of the Pope. They farther declare, that their Representatives shall provide in a suitable manner for his maintenance, and the safety of his person shall be secured by the National Guards.

On the 2d Ventose, at four in the morning, the Pope left Rome; he was followed by a guard, and treated with the respect due to his age. A Provisionary Government, consisting of seven Consuls (six of whom had been chosen) was established; the Municipalities, Civic Guard, &c. had been organized, and the oath of fidelity to the new Republic had been taken. In honour of this Revolution, which was effected without bloodshed, *Te Deum* was performed in all the churches of Rome, on the 30th Pluviose. Fourteen Cardinals joined in singing this hymn in the church of St. Peter.

The Pope on leaving Rome went to Florence, and from thence no one knows where. It appears that the King of Naples has refused him an asylum. The courier who brought the news of the departure of the Pope, met Cardinal Maury flying from Piza.

Relative to the entry of the French into Rome, the *Redacteur*, and all the other papers, contain the following article :

ARMY OF ITALY.

“ Rome is free. The people have resumed their rights of Sovereignty, by proclaiming their independence — by giving to themselves the Government of ancient Rome, and by constituting the Roman Republic.

“ The following are some of the details respecting this memorable event :

“ On the 15th of February, the people repaired in great crowds to the place Campo Varino. It was there that with shouts they proclaimed their liberty, and that the Roman Republic was resuscitated by an act signed by several thousands of the citizens. The Tree of Liberty was afterwards planted before the Capitol, and in several of the public places.

“ At noon a Deputation from the people, bearing the colours of the Roman Republic, went to find the General in Chief, Berthier, in the French camp, under the walls of Rome, and presented to him the wishes of the Roman people, and also their Provisional Government. The Commander in Chief, after having received the Deputation, proceeded immediately

mediately to the Capitol. He arrived there, preceded by the music and by the grenadiers of his army, and followed by his *Etat-Major*, with 100 horsemen from every regiment of cavalry. The procession passed through the city in the midst of an immense crowd of people, who were electrified by the most holy enthusiasm.

"In fine, the Revolution is effected at Rome. The altars of liberty have been raised in the Capitol. Five Consuls are there invested with the Executive Power. The other Members of the Provisional Government are installed in the place of the Papal Government. Persons and property are every where respected, and every where blest the prudent demeanour of our troops. We here transcribe the dispatch by which General Berthier informs the Directory of this new success:

*"Head-Quarters at the Capitol,
Feb. 15.*

"Citizen Directors,

"The French army has been at the Capitol to render homage to the great men of the fairest times of Rome. The Roman people have declared their resumption of those rights which have been usurped from them, and have demanded from me the protection of the French Republic—and Rome is free.

"Health and respect,

"ALEX. BERTHIER."

Some of the last French papers contain a sort of Proclamation of a very extraordinary nature, addressed to the Emigrants. It begins with exhibiting to them the miseries of their present residence in foreign countries, and the impossibility of their return to France; it then endeavours to excite in them an indignation against England, and finally invites them to assemble in America, for the purpose of invading Canada, wresting it from England by an union with their countrymen there, and of submitting it to the protection of their mother country, who, though it will not receive them at home, may assist them abroad. We should scarcely have thought this Paris speculation worthy of notice, if it had not been drawn up with some ability, and inserted in their official journals.

IRELAND.

Feb. 9. The following is the account of the murders committed on Colonel ST. GEORGE MANSERGH and JASPER UNIACK, Esq. as proved at the Coroner's Inquest, by the different witnesses examined:

"Mr. St. George Mansergh, who had a considerable estate in Ireland, which mostly lies in the Glyns of Ariglin, came there some time ago to assist in quieting the country, his tenantry in particular. He was very active, and from his exertions, with the assistance of the military and yeomanry, much good was expected, and in some degree thought to be effected; but his conduct was in a great measure marked with fool-hardiness, as appears by the last imprudent act. He had a confidential serjeant, who always attended him with a sword, a blunderbuss, and a case of pistols. In general he would not go from one house to another, without this man; he frequently went to these Glyns, but always had this serjeant, and usually some soldiers with him. One day he set fire to, and burnt a house, where he was informed meetings of those people called United Men were held; but here he was assisted by some of the military. He declared publicly that he would burn and demolish every house in the Glyns, and that he would first begin with his own tenantry. The day of the night he was murdered, he went out to those Glyns, about eleven o'clock in the morning, to view some depredations that were committed on his woods; he took a Gentleman, a Magistrate, who lives in that town, his orderly serjeant, and two soldiers with him, but would not suffer them to take any arms with them. He met a number of people in a field on his own estate, mostly his own tenantry; and after declaring his intention of burning, &c. he told them he would sleep at Mr. Uniack's that night unprotected, where he did not fear to meet Captain Doe, a title assumed by the leader of these insatuated men; he accordingly came to Mr. Uniack's, made the Magistrate return home, and sent away likewise the serjeant and soldiers. Mr. St. George dined and spent the evening at Mr. Uniack's; between ten and eleven o'clock Mr. Uniack went up stairs to shew Mr. St. George his bed-chamber; soon after a number of armed men entered the house, passed through the parlour where Mrs. Uniack was with her son, a boy about thirteen years of age, rushed directly up stairs, where they met Mr. Uniack and Mr. St. George, whom they dragged down to the kitchen, where they murdered them in a most barbarous manner, having fractured their skulls by repeated blows. Mrs. Uniack endeavouring to prevail on them to spare her husband, was knocked down at the parlour door,

where she lay till the party had left the house. Unfortunately it so happened, that Mr. Uniack's house was totally unprovided with arms, which prevented the possibility of making any defence."

19. The Earl of Moira brought forward, in the Irish House of Lords, his expected proposition for a change of system in the internal Government of that kingdom. His Lordship, after alluding to the calumnies heaped upon him in the Ministerial prints, and lamenting that men in official situations should descend to such contemptible and degrading expedients, proceeded earnestly to pray their Lordships to put an end, by their resolutions of that day, to the system of terror, of cruelty, and oppression, under which the nation groaned; for he insisted, and would prove, that Government had been guilty of the most wanton and unprovoked acts of cruelty. The affection of the Irish people (still fixed on their Sovereign and his heir) might be yet recovered, even by Government, if they would adopt the principles of moderation and conciliation. If they did not, and their present system was continued, he predicted the most melancholy catastrophe, not only to Ireland, but to the whole British Empire. His Lordship concluded by moving an Address to the Lord Lieutenant, "recommending the adoption of such conciliatory measures as may allay the apprehensions and extinguish the discontents unhappily prevalent in this country."

His Lordship's motion was warmly opposed by Lord Glentworth, who was convinced his Lordship was much imposed on by misrepresentation, and mistook the causes for effects.

The Bishop of Downe, in a warm speech, supported the motion, and concluded in the following words: "Whatever, my Lords, may be the fate of the country, it will be imputable solely to his Majesty's Ministers."

Lords Duffaney and Bellamont also supported it.

The Lord Chancellor (the Earl of Clare) in a most able speech of four hours continuance opposed the motion. He justified all the measures adopted by the

Legislature: without them Ireland would have been by this time in complete rebellion. His Lordship concluded by arguing against the policy of Catholic Emancipation and Parliamentary Reform at the present moment; and on a division there appeared for Lord Moira's motion 9—against it 44.

Dublin, March 8. In consequence of information received, that Mr. Arthur O'Connor, the sworn proprietor and publisher of *The Press*, had been seized at Margate, in the actual attempt of taking his passage for France, with Quigley, the Priest of Dundalk, Alderman Alexander, on Tuesday, having received proper information upon oath, proceeded to seize the materials and papers of *The Press*; it became a matter of immediate and indispensable necessity to prevent a fugitive from Ireland, accused of treasonable libels here, and endeavouring to fly from England to France, from exciting any longer the people to insurrection, whilst it was incumbent on Government to procure every proper evidence for corroborating and substantiating the proofs of his guilt.

The Superintendent Magistrate, in searching the place where the above-mentioned Paper was printed (the house, No. 62, Abbey-street) seized a quantity of seditious papers in manuscript, with some ball cartridges, which a woman was endeavouring to convey out of the house while this Magistrate was doing his duty. Some of the workmen of the above newspaper were taken into custody, but afterwards discharged.

Among the persons in the house where *The Press* was printed, were found Lord Edward Fitzgerald, Counsellor Sampson, and Mr. Swift, sen. whose punishment of imprisonment in the New Gaol, for a libel against certain of the Fellows of Trinity College, some time ago, had been humanely remitted by Government, and whom it was supposed then acted as director of that paper.

None of these leaders were detained that night, having pledged themselves to be forthcoming in the morning to answer any charge that might be alledged against them.

DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE.

FEBRUARY 20.

OUR Readers will recollect the public Meeting called under the auspices of the Corresponding Society, on

the 31st of July last, in a field near Pancras, at which Sir William Addington took into custody a young barrister of the name of Fergusson, who thought proper

to appear there in a very conspicuous situation. For this Mr. Ferguson brought an action against Sir William, which was this day tried in the Court of King's Bench. Mr. F. conducted his own cause; and after a very long speech, brought forward some evidence of the transactions of the day, previous to producing a copy of *the Notice* served on Sir William, of Mr. F.'s intention to commence the action. This irregularity was objected to; but when the notice came to be produced, it appeared that it was *informal*, the place of residence of the attorney not having been indorsed thereon; and he was *non-suited*. Mr. F. had laid his damages at 5000l.

MARCH 1. Arthur O'Connor, Esq. proprietor of a newspaper called *The Press*, printed in Dublin, John Binns, a celebrated Member of the Corresponding Society, John Allay, James Favey (alias Colonel Morris, alias Captain Jones, a Romish priest), and Patrick Leary, servant to Mr. O'Connor, were brought to town from Margate, in four post chaises and a post coach, by Fugion and Revett, two of the Bow-street Officers, escorted by a party of light dragoons. In the evening they underwent a private examination before Mr. King, the Under Secretary of State, and Mr. Ford; from which it appeared, that they had been taken into custody on suspicion of holding a treasonable correspondence with the French Government, and of having an intention to obtain a passage from Margate to the nearest port in France, for which purpose they offered a fisherman at Margate 150 guineas, and to leave 300 guineas more, as a security, in case the boat should be taken by the French. It was stated, that they went from London on Sunday last by a Whittable hoy, but finding themselves suspected at that place, they hired a cart to carry their baggage, and, accompanying it themselves on foot, walked across the country to Margate, where they arrived on Tuesday evening, and put up at a little public house, called the King's Head, on the Sands, where Favey passed as Colonel Morris, and the others as his servants; but their conduct being here also suspected, and the fisherman being fearful to embark with them for France that night, they were detained; and early the next morning the above-mentioned officers, who had heard of their route at Gravesend, came to the house, and having four of the light dragoons to assist them, in case of need, took them into custody, and secured all their

baggage, which completely filled a post-chaise. It consisted of a number of small trunks, boxes, and parcels, packed up extremely close, and very heavy, supposed to be ready for the purpose of sinking, in case of necessity. About sixty guineas were found in the possession of the prisoners, together with some fire-arms, cutlasses, and a quantity of baggage; and from Favey, alias Captain Morris, the officers took a very sharp dirk or dagger; on Binns was found a pair of loaded pistols, and in the pocket of a coat, supposed to belong to Favey, a paper was found, purporting to be an *Address from a Secret Committee in Ireland to the Executive Directory of France*, and which contained many treasonable expressions: this, however, the prisoners disclaimed any knowledge of, nor would they own any part of the baggage, except such articles as they were sure would not criminate them. The prisoners all, except Favey, declined saying any thing in reply to the charge; and he merely said, that he went to Margate for his health, from whence he intended to go by a trading vessel to Ireland. They were all committed for further examination to separate prisons.

The mahogany boxes, part of the baggage of the prisoners, and in which their papers were deposited, were of singular formation, having, at the bottom and sides, several concealed drawers for the secretion of papers; in other respects they resembled medicine chests, and the locks were of such excellence, that no key or pick could be found to open them, and the boxes were nearly broken to pieces in order to attain their contents.

Mr. Arthur O'Connor is nephew to Lord Langueville, whose fortune he was to have inherited; but it seems, that from the violent opposition of Mr. O'Connor to the Government, his Lordship has disinherited him of as much of his estates as the law would allow him to do. Mr. O'Connor, who is himself in possession of a considerable fortune in Ireland, was educated in the College of Dublin, where he was distinguished by the eccentricity of his manners, and the sudden effusions of his genius.

12. Was executed at Execution Dock, George Jay, a native of Hull, aged 54 years, pursuant to his sentence passed at the last Admiralty sessions, for piracy and traitorous fighting against his country. He conducted himself with a decorum becoming his melancholy situation. An astonishing concourse of people attended.

13. John Peak, a hackney-coachman, was brought before Nicholas Bond, Esq. the Sitting Magistrate, at the Public Office, Bow-street, charged on suspicion of being concerned with several others in stealing the corpses of four women, four children, and an aged man, from the burial ground belonging to Tottenham-court Chapel. It appeared that a watchman near the Chapel, between three and four o'clock yesterday morning, observed three men get out of the prisoner's coach; suspecting their design, he informed the patrol, and on their approaching the men, they ran off: on searching the coach they found the body of a child wrapped up in some cloth, upon which they took the prisoner into custody; and in a short time after, on the appearance of daylight, the other bodies were found in sacks in a ditch, near the burying ground. The prisoner denied any knowledge of the men who were in his coach, or that he even knew the body was in his coach; but, after a considerable investigation, it came out that the prisoner was nick-named *Louisy Jack*, that he was connected with Resurrection Men, and that he had been implicated in the robbery of Hampstead Church-yard some time since, upon which he was committed for further examination.

There had been six funerals on Thursday afternoon, and the whole of the bodies were in the sacks, and among them was a woman who died in her lying-in, with her infant, who were interred together. The greatest scene of distress was exhibited round the Chapel yesterday by the relatives of those who have lately been buried in that ground, and the whole of the bodies, except one woman, were owned in the course of the morning.

The Sexton, who has a house in the Chapel yard, slept from home on Thursday night.

THE HERMIONE FRIGATE.

From the account of Fanny Martin, wife of the boatwain, now at New York, it appears that the mutiny which took place on board this vessel on Thursday night, in the beginning of August last, was headed by William Farmer, master's mate. That the Captain, nine officers (including her husband), and two Lieutenants of Marines, were murdered and

thrown overboard: that a few days afterwards the vessel got into Lagaira, from whence she was permitted, by the Governor, to go to that city. The master, gunner, and carpenter, with two midshipmen, were prisoners at Lagaira, when she left it.

OFFICERS MURDERED.

Captain Pigot,
Lieutenant Spriggs,
Lieutenant Douglas,
Lieutenant Fanshaw,
Mr. Percey, Purser,
Dr. Sanfom,
Mr. Manning, Captain's Clerk,
Mr. Smith, Midshipman,
Mr. Martin, Boatwain,
A Lieutenant of Marines, name forgot.

On the ship's arrival at Lagaira, the Governor gave each man 25 dollars. She was afterwards fitted out, and is now cruising, and W. Farmer is second Captain, with a number of the old crew, the greatest part of which were Frenchmen. The Lieutenant of Marines, though sick in his cabin, was taken out and thrown overboard: the other officers were cut to pieces.

The following is stated as the cause of M. Gallois's return to France:

At the first interview between Lord Grenville and M. Gallois, his Lordship asked him, if he was prepared to treat for an exchange of prisoners on the basis laid down by M. Swinburne at Paris in February 1797, and then acceded to by the Directory; M. Gallois said he was not, and in return proposed a "liberal exchange," as he termed it; which was no other than that we should restore all the French prisoners in England, for the comparatively few of our own in France. Lord Grenville objected, and asked Gallois if he would chuse to write to his principals for further instructions. He answered "No, as the Directory had in its wisdom marked out a line of conduct, which he would abide by." Lord Grenville then said, that if M. Gallois had any business left to be transacted, he might remain in England, until it was done; but in the mean time he wished him to remove ten miles from London. On this, M. Gallois took fire, and immediately demanded a passport.

SHERIFF APPOINTED FOR THE COUNTY OF LINCOLN,

MARCH 14, 1798.

BURTON SHAW, of West Willoughby, Lincolnshire, Esq.

MONTHLY

MONTHLY OBITUARY.

* * * The Death of Captain Atkinson Blanchard, announced in our last (p. 143), and in several of the Daily Papers, is a mistake.

JANUARY 21.

MR. Joseph Davies, surgeon, at Llandilo, Carmarthenshire.

FEB. 7. At Loughbrickland, the Rev. Osborne Shell, LL.D. vicar of Agharding, and vicar-general of Dromore.

10. The Rev. H. Powell, rector of Minister Lovell, in Gloucestershire.

11. At Bath, aged 66, Mrs. Juliana Mackworth, sister of the late Sir Herbert Mackworth; she attended the service at Lady Huntingdon's chapel, which being finished, she unfortunately attempted to walk from thence to her lodgings on the South Parade. Having got some yards from the chapel, and there being no railing for the protection of passengers against a sudden descent from the pavement into the road, the evening also being dark, she fell a considerable height from that most dangerous spot. She was immediately taken up senseless, and carried to an Apothecary, from whom, after a short time, she was conveyed to her lodgings on the South Parade. She remained in a state of insensibility till the Tuesday evening when she expired.

12. At Newhouse, near Durham, the Rev. Ferdinand Ehmall, a Roman Catholic Clergyman, in the 104th year of his age, and 73d of his ministry.

Edward Mosley, esq. aged 81, alderman of Newcastle.

13. At Thornbury, Gloucestershire, in his 73d year, the Rev. William Holwell, B. D. formerly student of Christ Church, Oxford, and chaplain in ordinary to his Majesty. For the last 40 years of his life he was vicar of Thornbury, and upwards of thirty, one of the justices of the peace. He took the degree of M. A. the 28th of April 1748, and B. D. the 31st of October 1760, and was the publisher of

(1) The Beauties of Homer, selected from the Iliad, 8vo. 1775.

(2) Extracts from Mr. Pope's Translation, corresponding with the Beauties of Homer selected from the Iliad, 8vo. 1776.

In Argyle-street, General Maclean.

14. Thomas Whitehead, esq. banker, Bristol.

15. Mr. Christopher Bearpark, at York, aged 74.

16. Ralph Darling, esq. aged 70, alderman of Hull.

At Haverhill, in Essex, George Howland, esq. uncle of Sir George Howland Beaumont, bart.

17. At Morden College, Blackheath, Mr. Thomas Luffingham, late a merchant in London.

At the Royal Hospital, near Plymouth, Dr. Francis Geach, principal physician to the said hospital. He was author of

(1) Medical and Chirurgical Observations on Inflammations of the Eyes. On the Venereal Disease. On Ulcers and Gunshot Wounds, 8vo. 1766.

(2) Some Observations on Dr. Baker's Essay on the Endemial Colic of Devonshire, 8vo. 1768.

(3) A Reply to Dr. Saunders's Pamphlet relative to the Dispute concerning the Devonshire Cyder, 8vo. 1769.

(4) Some Observations on the present Epidemic Dysentery, 8vo. 1781.

(5) Two remarkable Cases in Surgery. Phil. Transf. 1764.

At Ayr, in Scotland, in his 82d year, William Logan, esq. sheriff substitute for that county.

18. Mr. Ham, sen. of Spital-square.

At Montrose, Robert Stephen, esq. of Letham.

19. At Lancaster, Miss Lydia Rawlinson.

Mr. Francis Jackson, underwriter of Hull.

Mr. Williamson, of Exmore Green, near Conover.

At Walworth, Mr. William Leslie, army surgeon.

Mr. William Maddox, surgeon and man-midwife, Rotherhithe.

20. Mr. Robert Taylor, of Plewland, in Holderness.

At Sandwich, Richard Harvey, esq. late of Barfrestone, in his 84th year.

John Lamb, esq. of Golden square.

John Marsh, esq. late captain of the 66th regiment of foot.

21. In Great Marlborough-street, Ambrose Marquis Du Dresnay, general officer in the King of France's service, and late colonel of a foot regiment of his name in the service of Great Britain.

At Milford Castle, aged 80, Benjamin Pugh, M. D. formerly a physician at Chelmsford. He was formerly a surgeon, and author of

(1) A Treatise of Midwifery, chiefly with Regard to the Operation, with several Improvements in that Art, 8vo. 1748, 1754.

(2) Account of the Success of the Bark in the Small pox, Gent. Mag. 1752.

(3) Observations on Inoculation, Ibid. 1753.

22. At Ashford, the Rev. Philip Hawkins, M. A. rector of Kingnorth, Kent.

At Brecon, William Morgan James, esq.

At Bath, James Morley, esq. late of Bombay.

Mr. Alderman Pardoe, of Kidderminster, one of the most eminent carpet manufacturers in the kingdom.

The Rev. John Pinnel, B. D. nearly 50 years rector of Ducklington, Oxfordshire, and formerly fellow of Magdalen College. He was aged 89 years, and had resided constantly at his parsonage house the last 47 years.

23. At Epsom, Thomas Ellis, esq.

The Rev. Thomas Green, M. A. in his 80th year, 44 years rector of Kilton in Somersetshire.

At Craigvechan, near Fort William, Alan McLean, esq. at the advanced age of 107.

Lately, Nathaniel Beard, esq. of Newcastle under Line.

24. At East Malling, Miss Catharine Popham.

Mr. Garfide, of Congleton, aged 64 years. Thomas Williams, esq. of Wimpoie-street, Cavendish-square.

Lately, Richard Griffiths, esq. formerly manager of the Theatre at Norwich.

Lately, at Fulham, Thomas Birch, esq. of Thorpe Hall, Lincolnshire.

Lately, at Edinburgh, Sir John Clerk, of Pennycink, bart.

Lately, at Gravend, Mr. George Cooper, surgeon.

25. At Bath, John Saxon, esq. in the 85th year of his age.

In Berners-street, John Routledge, esq. in his 76th year.

Joseph Lockey, esq. of Lambeth road, St. George's fields, aged 63; supposed to be as corpulent a man as any in the country, measuring, when alive, 6 feet 6 inches in the girth, and 6 feet in height.

Mr. Philip L. Rees, youngest son of the Rev. Dr. Rees.

At Lanwenarth Great House, Joshua Morgan, esq. lately appointed high sheriff of Monmouthshire.

26. At Kensington, Haldane Stewart, esq. of Ely-place, Holborn.

At Irvine, the Hon. Patrick Boyle, esq. of Shewalton.

Mr. Abraham Davis, jun. woolstapler, Gloucester.

Lately, at Southripps, Norfolk, aged 47, the Rev. Erasmus Druery.

27. Mrs. Catherine Wachsel, wife of the Rev. Dr. Wachsel, pastor of the German Lutheran Church, Goodman's fields.

Charles Little, esq. surveyor of the Westminster fire office.

Lately, at Carlisle, Mr. Joseph Strong, aged 66. This very extraordinary man, whose rare talents have been the frequent theme of conversation, was blind from his infancy; yet he afterwards distinguished himself by a wonderful proficiency in mechanics. At a very early age he constructed an organ; all his knowledge of such an instrument having been previously obtained by secreting himself in the cathedral one day after evening service, and thereby getting an opportunity of examining the instrument. Having disposed of this organ, he made another, upon which he was accustomed to play during his life. By the time he was twenty years of age, he had made himself almost every article of dress; but as he has been often heard to say, "the first pair of shoes which he made, was for the purpose of walking to London, to visit the celebrated Mr. Stanley, organist of the Temple church." This visit he actually paid, and was much gratified with the jaunt. He indulged his fancy in making a great variety of miniature figures and machines, besides almost every article of household furniture: but these amusements did not prevent his following with great assiduity the business of a weaver! And, we are informed, that he was accounted a good workman. The powers of his mind were amazingly strong, and had it been properly cultivated in early life, it is highly probable, he might have ranked with those who, deprived of one inestimable sense, have nevertheless soared with eagle-wing "beyond the visible diurnal sphere." He was, till within a few months of his death, a constant attendant at the cathedral; but not being able to accompany the choir in chanting the psalms, he composed several hymns in a measure which corresponded with the music, and which he substituted as an act of private devotion during the performance of that part of the public service. He married at the age of 25, and had several children, some of whom are now living.

28. Mr. Lettley, of Northumberland-street, Strand.

At Canterbury, Mrs. Walsby, late of the city of Norwich.

Peter Nicol, esq. of Palace-yard, Westminster.

In Carlisle-street, Soho, Mr. Jenkins, sen. teacher of Scotch dancing.

MARCH 1. At Dumfries, James Carruthers, esq.

The Rev. Henry Newman, upwards of 40 years rector of the parishes of Shipton Beauchamp and Sparkford in Somersetshire.

Mr. Long, one of the oldest graziers in Romney Marsh.

Lately, Shaftoe Vaughan, esq. of East Shaftoe, Northumberland.

Lately, Mr. Thomas Powell, aged 57 years, many years of the York theatre, and formerly one of the managers of the theatre at Worcester.

3. Mr. William Turner, silk mercer, High-street, Borough.

At Bath, Mr. Thomas Orpin, organist of St. Margaret's chapel, aged 76.

Lately, the Rev. William Layton, vicar of Thornton and Barnby, in Yorkshire.

Lately, in Broad-street, Carnaby-market, Mr. Turenne, a performer on the violin, and said to be lineally descended from the celebrated Marshal Turenne.

4. The Rev. Maurice Griffith, D. D. senior fellow of the Collegiate Church, and rector of St. Mary's, and rural dean of the deanery of Manchester, aged 76.

Mr. Hardcastle, cashier at Messrs. Hammerleys.

Mrs. Castell, wife of Mr. Castell, banker, of Lombard-street.

At Snarebrook, Essex, William Quaril, esq. justice of peace.

Lately, Richard Cooksey, esq. formerly of Braces Leigh, Worcesterhire.

5. Mr. Nicholas Browning, common council man for the ward of Cripplegate Without.

At Greenwich, Henry Taylor, esq. late in the civil service at Bengal.

Lately, Sir William Moleworth, bart. of Tilecot, Devonshire, and representative in two parliaments for the county of Cornwall.

Lately, Spencer Broughton, esq. son of Sir Thomas Broughton, bart.

7. Mr. Berwick, banker, at Worcester.

At Newcastle upon Tyne, James Hubbard, esq. lieutenant-colonel of the eastern regiment of Middlesex militia.

8. Thomas Gresley, esq. at Tamworth.

9. The Rev. Mr. Reynolds, rector of Parnock, near Stamford, aged 79.

Lately, in East-street, Red-lion square, Joseph Ward, esq. many years surgeon to the East India Company at Bengal.

10. Mr. Samuel Hayces, sen. aged 74, formerly a merchant at Birmingham.

Thomas Millington, esq. St. James's parade, Bath.

11. Francis Hammond, esq. of Potter's Barr, Hertfordshire.

12. William Read, esq. of Lingham, Dorsetshire.

13. Robert Thistlethwaite, esq.

Mr. Charles Wilkins, aged 78, many years deputy of Tower ward.

General Hale.

14. At Newcastle, Mr. Peter Rothe, of the royal navy.

Lady Tynte, widow of Sir Charles Kemys Tynte, late of Halfewell House, in the county of Somerset, bart. dec.

At Richmond, Mrs. Vanneck, privy purse to the Princess of Wales, and sister to Lord Huntingfield.

At Salisbury, in her 90th year, Mrs. Long, relict of the late Walter Long, esq. of that city.

15. Mr. John Samuel, assistant secretary to the society for the encouragement of arts, &c. Adelphi.

Charles Weston, esq. F. A. S. aged 87, alderman of Norwich, and justice of peace for Norfolk.

Lately, at Lawhiton, near Launceston, in Cornwall, the Rev. Roger Maffey, formerly of St. John's College, Cambridge, B. A. 1783, M. A. 1786.

16. The Right Hon. Henry Gough Calthorpe Lord Calthorpe.

17. James Whatman, esq. at Vinters, near Maidstone.

19. John Moultree, esq. Great Portland-street.

DEATHS ABROAD.

JUNE 6, 1797. In the East Indies, near Dinapore, on his passage from Chunar to Calcutta, Captain Cowley, husband of Mrs. Cowley, the dramatic writer.

Lately, at Berne, in Switzerland, Lady Keith, relict of Sir Basil Keith, late a captain of the royal navy, and formerly governor of Jamaica.

OCT 3, 1797. At Madras, Captain Francis Stuart, of the 72d regiment.

FEB. 11, 1798. At Petersburg, Stanislaus, late king of Poland, in a fit of apoplexy. He appeared to be in good health in the morning, but soon after breakfast was seized with the fit, and expired at night. He was born Jan. 18, 1732, and elected king of Poland Sept. 7, 1764, but deposed by the late empress of Russia in 1794.



EACH DAY'S PRICE OF STOCKS FOR MARCH 1798.

Days	Bank Stock	3perCt. Reduc.	3 per Ct. Consols	3perCt. Scrip.	4perCt. 1777.	5perCt. Ann.	Long Ann.	Ditto. 1778.	S. Sea Stock.	Old Ann.	New Ann.	3perCt. 1751.	India Stock.	India Scrip.	India Bonds.	New Navy.	Exche. Bills.	English Lou. Tick.	Irish Ditto.
23	122	50	49 $\frac{7}{8}$ a $\frac{3}{8}$		61	71 $\frac{1}{2}$	14											12l. 10s.	
24																			
25	Sunday																		
26	121 $\frac{1}{2}$	49 $\frac{7}{8}$	49 a $\frac{1}{8}$		60 $\frac{3}{4}$	71 $\frac{1}{2}$	14	6 $\frac{5}{8}$					147					12l. 1s.	
27	122	49	49 $\frac{1}{8}$ a $\frac{1}{4}$		60 $\frac{1}{4}$	71 $\frac{1}{2}$	14											12l. 4s.	
28	122 $\frac{3}{4}$	50	49 $\frac{1}{2}$ a $\frac{3}{8}$		61	71 $\frac{1}{2}$	14 1 16	69-16										12l. 3s.	
1	122 $\frac{1}{4}$	50	49 $\frac{3}{4}$ a $\frac{7}{8}$		61 $\frac{1}{8}$	72 $\frac{1}{8}$							149						
2	122 $\frac{3}{4}$	50	49 $\frac{7}{8}$ a 50 $\frac{1}{8}$		61 $\frac{3}{8}$	72 $\frac{1}{8}$		6 $\frac{5}{8}$											
3			49 $\frac{7}{8}$ a 50		62	72		69-16										13l. 15s.	
4	Sunday																		
5			50 $\frac{1}{4}$		61 $\frac{3}{8}$	73 $\frac{1}{8}$		6 $\frac{5}{8}$										13l. 18s.	
6			50 a $\frac{1}{8}$		62 $\frac{1}{4}$	73 $\frac{1}{8}$												14l. 3s.	
7																			
8			50 $\frac{1}{2}$ a $\frac{1}{4}$			73 $\frac{1}{8}$													
9			50 $\frac{1}{2}$ a $\frac{3}{4}$			73 $\frac{1}{8}$												15l. 16s.	
10			50 $\frac{1}{2}$ a $\frac{7}{8}$			74 $\frac{1}{8}$													
11	Sunday																		
12			50 $\frac{7}{8}$ a 51 $\frac{1}{8}$			75 $\frac{3}{8}$												17l. 5s.	
13			49 $\frac{7}{8}$ a 50 $\frac{7}{8}$			75 $\frac{1}{8}$												17l. 10s.	
14			49 $\frac{1}{2}$ a $\frac{1}{8}$			74													
15			49 $\frac{1}{8}$ a 50 $\frac{1}{8}$			73 $\frac{1}{8}$													
16			50 a $\frac{1}{8}$			73 $\frac{1}{8}$													
17			49 $\frac{7}{8}$ a 50			73 $\frac{1}{4}$												15l. 13s.	
18	Sunday																		
19			49 $\frac{1}{8}$ a $\frac{3}{4}$			72 $\frac{7}{8}$												15l. 4s.	
20			49 $\frac{3}{8}$ a 50			73 $\frac{1}{8}$												15l. 14s.	
21			49 $\frac{1}{8}$ a $\frac{7}{8}$			73 $\frac{1}{4}$												16l. 10s.	
22			49 $\frac{1}{2}$ a $\frac{1}{4}$			73 $\frac{1}{2}$												16l. 5s.	
23			49 $\frac{1}{8}$ a $\frac{1}{4}$			73 $\frac{1}{8}$												14l. 16s.	

N. B. In the 3 per Cent. Consols the highest and lowest Price of each Day is given ; in the other Stocks the highest Price only.