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EDINBURGH

ANNUAL REGISTER,

FOR 1812.

VOL. FIFTH.—PART SECOND.

EDINBURGH:

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FOR JOHN BALLANTYNE AND CO. EDINBURGH;
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AND THE OTHER PROPRIETORS.

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CHRONICLE.

JANUARY.

1st. **EDINBURGH.**—We regret to state, that last night, being the last of the year, and on that account devoted by immemorial usage, and the custom of the place, to innocent festivity, the streets of this city were disgraced by a series of riots, outrages, and robberies, hitherto, we may truly say, without any example. —During almost the whole of the night, after eleven o'clock, a gang of ferocious banditti, armed with bludgeons and other weapons, infested some of the leading streets in this metropolis, and knocked down and robbed, and otherwise most wantonly abused, almost every person who had the misfortune to fall in their way. After they had fairly succeeded in knocking down those of whom they were in pursuit, they proceeded immediately to rifle them of their money and watches; and the least symptom, on their part, of anxiety to save their property, was a provocation to new outrages, which were persevered in until their lives were endangered. One person we have heard of, who, after

being knocked down, made several attempts to preserve his watch, when he was so abused and kicked on the head, and in the breast and stomach, that he was glad to escape with his life. Another gentleman, in the same unhappy predicament, succeeded in preserving his watch, though it was pulled so violently that the chain was broke, which, together with the seals he lost.

These outrages were chiefly committed by a band of idle apprentice boys, regularly organized for the purpose, and lurking in stairs and closes, from whence they issued, on a signal given, in large bands, and surrounded and overwhelmed those who were passing by. By the vigilance of the magistrates, who were in the streets, or otherwise actively engaged in the duties of their office, until about five o'clock on Wednesday morning, several of these rioters were apprehended on the spot, some of them with the stolen articles in their possession, and the most vigilant enquiries are going on, with a view to root out this nefarious combination against the peace of society. A reward of 100

guineas is offered for the discovery of the offenders.

Dugald Campbell, a police officer, who was wounded, and carried to the Royal Infirmary, is since dead, and another lies dangerously ill.

In addition to the above account, we have now to state, that on the morning of the 1st current, Mr James Campbell, clerk to Messrs John Aitken and Company, merchants in Leith, was attacked on the South Bridge, near to the Tron Church, betwixt one and two o'clock, and so severely struck on the head and other parts of the body, that he died on Tuesday of the wounds he received. It having turned out in the course of investigation that several other persons were severely wounded, the Right Hon. the Lord Provost and Magistrates, in order the more effectually to lead to the detection of the person or persons guilty of the above offences, offered a reward of one hundred guineas, to those who shall give such information as shall lead to the detection of the persons guilty.

The following proclamations were also circulated, and advertised in all the newspapers :

Reward of One Hundred Guineas.

Whereas outrages of a most violent nature, and hitherto unexampled in Edinburgh, have been committed last night upon several gentlemen and police-officers, when passing along the streets, by knocking them down, maltreating, and robbing them ;

The Lord Provost and Magistrates, in order to lead to a discovery of the persons concerned in those proceedings, hereby offer a reward of

One Hundred Guineas,
to be paid to informers, upon conviction of the offender or offenders.

Several persons were seized in the course of the night, and brought before the Magistrates and Judge of Police, who were in attendance, and some articles were found in their possession which it is supposed belong to persons who had been robbed. It is requested that such will call at the Council-chamber, to give the requisite information, and to identify their property.

From the whole circumstances that came out, upon investigation last night, there appears to have been a regular plan of robbery previously concerted by the perpetrators, who were almost all boys or young lads, armed with bludgeons for the purpose.

As this is a thing so new in the metropolis, as well as so flagrant in itself, the Lord Provost and Magistrates are determined to follow up the enquiry in the most rigorous manner ; and they earnestly call upon all ranks of citizens, especially those who have the charge of apprentices and youth, to give every aid in their power, so as this most atrocious combination may be effectually detected, and a severe public example made of all those concerned in it.

WM. CREECH, Provost,
JOHN WALKER, B.
ARCH. MACKINLAY, B.
JOHN WAUGH, B.
ROB. SMITH B.

Council-chamber, Edinburgh,
January 1, 1812.

Murder !

Whereas in the course of the late riots on the streets of this city, on the night of the 31st December last, or morning of the 1st January current, Dugald Campbell, one of the police-officers, while in the discharge of his

duty, was severely struck and wounded by a number of persons presently unknown, and yesterday died of his wounds;

The Right Hon. the Lord Provost and Magistrates, in order more effectually to lead to the detection of the person or persons guilty of the offence, hereby offer a reward of 100 guineas to those who shall give such information as shall lead to the detection of the persons guilty; to be paid upon conviction.

Note.—The reward now offered is separate and distinct from that advertised for the discovery of those who were generally engaged in the riots.

Council-chamber, Edinburgh,
January 4, 1812.

Notice to the Public.

The Right Hon the Lord Provost and Magistrates request that such persons as may have lost watches, in the riot of the 31st ultimo, will transmit, to this office, notes of the makers' names, and numbers, so that they may be immediately advertised. Meantime, watch-makers and others are requested to be careful in purchasing watches from persons unknown to them, and to secure all suspicious persons offering watches for sale. Sufferers will also please transmit a particular note and description of any other article of property they may have lost

It is entreated that those who have sent anonymous information to the Magistrates respecting the late riots, will call in person at this office.

Council-chamber, Edinburgh,
January 4, 1812.

Sixty-eight persons were arrested in consequence of these proceedings. The following are the names of those

most actively engaged:—John Skelton, sentenced to be hanged, but reprieved, and ordered to be transported for life. Hugh M'Intosh, Niel Sutherland, and Hugh Macdonald, executed: Robert Gunn, and Alexander Macdonald *alias* White, transported for life. George Napier and John Grotto, transported for 14 years. Several banished themselves from the city, some enlisted, and others were sent on board the navy.

2d.—The Lord Provost and Magistrates of Edinburgh met the committees of the different public bodies, on the subject of the late riotous proceedings in that city, and to consider of the measures to be pursued for establishing a more efficient police. The Lord Prouost having addressed the meeting at some length, the following resolutions were unanimously agreed to:

1mo. That the present meeting, consisting of committees appointed by every public body of the community of Edinburgh, almost without exception, think it a duty incumbent upon them solemnly to declare, that, in their opinion, the present system of police is totally inadequate to the beneficial purposes for which it was intended.

2do. That the late police act ought, therefore, to be repealed, and a new bill brought into parliament, with every possible dispatch, containing a powerful system of police, with such subordinate regulations as may appear necessary to remedy the evils at present so universally and justly complained of.

A sub-committee was then appointed, consisting of the Lord Provost and Magistrates, the Lord President, the Lord Chief Baron, Baron Clerk, the Lord Advocate, the Solicitor-General, Mr Sheriff Rae, the City Assessors, the Dean of Faculty, the Deputy-Keeper of the Signet,

William Inglis, Esq. John Tait, Esq. Captain Lowes, &c. &c.

LONDON.—On Friday a Court of Directors was held at the East-India house, when the under-mentioned commanders took leave, viz. Captain Gribble, of the Royal George; Captain Moffat, of the Winchelsea; Captain Lock, of the David Scott; and Captain Welbank, of the Cuffnells, for Madras and China; Captain Robertson, of the Surat Castle, for the Prince of Wales Island and China. Captain M. Craig was sworn into the command of the ship Elphinstone, destined to China direct.

Captain Stopford, who brought the official details of the taking of Batavia, is promoted to the rank of post captain, and will also be rewarded with the sum of 500*l.* as is customary on similar occasions.

There has been an unfortunate difference between the Board of Council and House of Assembly in St Kitts. We are not informed precisely of the origin of the schism; but it has occasioned a reproachful controversy, which ended in the House of Assembly refusing to take notice of any communications from the government. The statements of the parties implicated have been sent to England.

On Thursday, a boy, about ten years of age, son of Mr Niven, manager of the Gilmerton coal-works, was amusing himself on the ice with some of his school-fellows, on a pond near that place, when the ice unfortunately gave way, and he sunk under it. It was about two hours before the body was recovered, and the exertions used to restore animation were, of course, unsuccessful.

During the course of the last week, while a young man, named Stevens, about the age of twelve or thirteen,

was skating on the river Esk, near Lasswade, the ice gave way with him, and he was unfortunately drowned. Every effort to restore him to animation was ineffectual.

MURDERS OF THE MARRS AND WILLIAMSONS.—It will be satisfactory to our readers to be made acquainted with the following circumstances, tending to confirm the conviction of the guilt of Williams, as concerned in the late murders:—The privy belonging to the Pear-Tree public-house, where he lodged, has been searched and examined, and in it has been found buried a pair of blue striped trowsers, much stained with blood from top to bottom; they are spoken to very confidently by Williams's fellow-lodgers at the Pear-Tree, as having been seen frequently lying about the house. A pocket-book has also been found in the same place, containing several instruments and a pair of scissars, which, no doubt, will be proved to have belonged either to Mrs Williamson or Mrs Marr. The trowsers and the pocket-book were discovered thrust down near four feet under the surface of the soil, by a birch-broom, which was also found in a perpendicular position upon the trowsers, but completely covered by the soil. The contents of the pocket-book are quite fresh, and do not appear to have been disturbed.

INTERMENT OF JOHN WILLIAMS THE MURDERER.—About ten o'clock on Monday night, Mr Robinson, the high constable of the parish of St George, accompanied by Mr Machin, one of the constables, Mr Harrison, the collector, and Mr Robinson's deputy, went to the prison at Coldbath-Fields, where the body of Williams being delivered to them, was put into a hackney-coach, in

which the deputy-constable proceeded to the watch-house of St George, known by the name of the Round-About, at the bottom of Ship-alley. The other three gentlemen followed in another coach, and about twelve o'clock the body was deposited in the black-hole, where it remained all night.

Yesterday morning, about nine o'clock, the high constable, with his attendants, arrived at the watch-house with a cart, that had been fitted up for the purpose of giving the greatest possible degree of exposure to the face and body of Williams. A stage, or platform, was formed upon the cart by boards, which extended from one side to the other. They were fastened to the top, and lapping over each other from the hinder part to the front of the cart, in regular gradation, they formed an inclined plane, on which the body rested, with the head towards the horse, and so much elevated, as to be completely exposed to public view. The body was retained in an extended position by a cord, which, passing beneath the arms, was fastened underneath the boards. On the body was a pair of blue cloth pantaloons, and a white shirt, with the sleeves tucked up to the elbows, but neither coat or waistcoat. About the neck was the white handkerchief with which Williams put an end to his existence. There were stockings but no shoes upon his feet. The countenance was fresh, and perfectly free from discolouration of livid spots. The hair was rather of a sandy cast, and the whiskers appeared to have been remarkably close shaven. On both the hands were some livid spots. On the right-hand side of the head was fixed, perpendicularly, the maul, with which the murder of the Marrs was com-

mitted. On the left also, in a perpendicular position, was fixed the ripping chissel. Above his head was laid, in a transverse direction upon the boards, the iron crow; and parallel with it, the stake destined to be driven through the body. About half past ten, the procession moved from the watch-house, in the following order :

Mr Machin, constable of Shadwell.
Mr Harrison, collector of King's taxes.
Mr Lloyd, baker.

Mr Strickland, coal merchant.
Mr Burford, stationer;

And

Mr Gale, superintendant of lascars in the East India Company's service—all mounted on grey horses.

The Constables, Headboroughs, and Patrols of the parish, with cutlasses.

The Beadle of St George's in his official dress.

Mr Robinson, the high constable of St George's.

The Cart with the Body.

A large body of Constables.

An immense cavalcade of the inhabitants of the two parishes closed the procession.

On arriving opposite to the house of Mr Marr, the procession halted for about ten minutes, and then proceeded down Old Gravel Lane, New Market Street, Wapping High Street, and up New Gravel Lane, when the procession again stopped, opposite to the King's Arms, the house of the late Mr Williamson. From hence it proceeded along Ratcliffe Highway, and up Cannon Street, to the Turnpike Gate, at which the four roads meet, viz.—the New Road into Whitechapel; that into Sun Tavern Fields; the back lane to Wellclose Square; and Ratcliffe Highway. The hole, about four feet deep, three feet long, and two feet wide, was dug precisely at the crossing of the roads, four or five feet from the turnpike

house. About half past twelve o'clock, the body was pushed out of the cart, and crammed, neck and heels, into the hole, which, as it will have been seen from the dimensions, was purposely so formed, as not to admit of being laid at full length. The stake was immediately driven through the body, amidst the shouts and vociferous execrations of the multitude, and the hole filled up, and well rammed down. The parties forming the procession then dispersed.

The concourse of spectators, on this awful occasion, was immense. Every window of the streets through which the procession passed was crowded beyond example, but there was not the slightest interruption or tendency to disorder. For the most part a general silence prevailed as the procession moved, being only interrupted by occasional ejaculatory curses. When the cart stopped at Mr Marr's, at Mr Williamson's, and at the hole, there were universal shouts and expressions of execration. A hackney-coachman, who had drawn up near the top of Old Gravel Lane, bestowed two or three cuts on the body as it passed, accompanied with an ejaculation which it is unnecessary to repeat.

From the appearance of the body, Williams is conjectured to have been about 30 years of age. He was near six feet in height, with a strong fierce countenance. When the procession began to move, there were two men in the cart, to prevent the body rolling off; but their assistance appearing to be superfluous, they descended, and the body was then left perfectly exposed to the view of every spectator.

During the last half hour the crowd had increased immensely; they pour-

ed in from all parts, but their demeanour was perfectly quiet. All the shops in the neighbourhood were shut, and the windows and tops of the houses were crowded with spectators. On every side, mingled with execrations of the murderer, were heard fervent prayers for the speedy detection of his accomplices.

3d.—Our readers will recollect the melancholy consequence of the overturn of one of the Glasgow coaches, on the road between West Craigs and Airdrie, in the month of October last year, when Mr Brown, formerly hair-dresser in Edinburgh, unfortunately lost his life, and his wife was so much bruised as to place her life in imminent danger for a considerable length of time.—In consequence of this calamity, an action of damages was brought against the proprietors of the coach, and the proprietor of the post-chaise, with which the coach was racing at the time the accident happened, which appeared to be occasioned by that most unwarrantable offence. After perusal of proofs, and a full hearing of counsel, Lord Meadowbank, ordinary, found the defendants in the following sums, with full expence of process:—

To Mrs Brown, in compensation of damages suffered in her person,	L. 300
To her, for the loss of her husband,	200
And to each of the children, eight in number, 150 each,	1540
	1540

4th.—RIOTS AT NOTTINGHAM.—On Friday night last two frames were broken in Pheasant Row, Nottingham. One more has since been broken in Milk Street, and three others in other parts of the town.

In many villages in the county,

and on the borders of Derbyshire, the terror and alarm of the inhabitants is such, occasioned by the late nocturnal attacks on the property of peaceable individuals, that they are afraid to go to bed at nights; and it has been deemed necessary to keep watch alternately, for the protection of their property.

STATE OF THE KING'S HEALTH.—The following bulletin was exhibited on Saturday:—

Windsor Castle, January 4.

The king continues nearly in the same state.

(Signed.) H. HALFORD.
M. BAILLIE.
W. HEBERDEN.
J. WILLIS.
R. WILLIS.

5th.—FINANCES.—We are happy to lay before our readers the following comparative statement of the following heads of revenue in the two quarters ending 5th January, 1811, and 5th January, 1812. The excess in favour of the latter quarter is above 345,000L.—

	1811.	1812.
Consol. Customs,	L.912,433.	L.1,306,298
Consol Excise,	3,964,910.	3,948,439
Consol Stamps,	1,273,473.	1,241,660

Accounts are received of the loss of his Majesty's ship *Hero*, of 74 guns, Captain Newnham, on her return to England from the Baltic. She sailed from Gottenburgh on the 18th ult. in company with the *Egeria* sloop, Captain Lewis Hole, and 150 sail of vessels for England; on the 20th, the *Hero* and 50 sail only were in company; and on the 23d, the *Egeria* (arrived at Leith) lost sight of them in thick blowing weather. The *Hero* was lost on Christmas day, off the Texel, on the Haak Sands, and, we lament to state, with all the crew except eight. The *Grasshopper* sloop,

which was in company (drawing less water) beat over the Sands, and, from the damage she received, was afterwards obliged to run into the Texel, where the officers and crew were made prisoners.—Intelligence of this afflicting event has been transmitted to the admiralty by Admiral Foley, who says, that such was the violence of the gale, that the *Grasshopper*, in going ashore, beat clean over the wreck of the *Hero*. These afflicting events are confirmed by the French papers. The *Desiree* frigate has sailed with a flag of truce to the Texel, to obtain correct particulars of the fate of the crew.

The officers of the *Hero*, who perished in her, were Capt. James N. Newnham; Lieutenants James Wilcox, John Allen Meadway, John Mitchell, John Norton, Charles B. Hitchens; Mr John M. Leake, purser; John Meritt, gunner; William B. Watson, boatswain; Mr Thomas Murray, carpenter.

7th.—PRINCESS CHARLOTTE OF WALES' BIRTH-DAY.—The observance of the Princess Charlotte of Wales' birth-day was noticed this day in a more particular manner by the royal family and others than it has hitherto been done. Her royal highness completed her sixteenth year, upon which occasion her royal father, the prince regent, gave a grand dinner at Carlton House, to the queen, &c. who came from Windsor for that purpose. Her majesty arrived at the queen's palace in her travelling carriage, escorted by a party of light horse, at 12 o'clock, accompanied by Princesses Augusta and Mary, attended by Lady Aylesbury. Soon after, her majesty and the princesses were visited by the Duke of Cambridge. About half past one o'clock the prince regent's

carriage, with the coachman and three footmen in their state liveries, arrived at the queen's palace, and took the queen and princesses to Carlton House, where the Dukes of Kent and Cumberland were in attendance to receive them, who conducted them to the prince regent, who received his royal mother with the most filial affection and attention, and introduced his beloved daughter, the Princess Charlotte, who they congratulated on the return of the day. Her royal highness appeared extremely well. The prince conducted the queen and princesses to view his elegant house, and the repairs lately done to it, till near four o'clock, when the royal party sat down to a sumptuous dinner in the crimson velvet room. The queen was attended by Lady Aylesbury. The prince by Generals Turner and Kappel, and Colonel Congreve. The Princess Charlotte by Lady de Clifford. At a quarter past six the queen and princesses left Carlton House by torch-light for Windsor. The queen was conducted to her carriage by the prince, as were his sisters. The day was observed as a day of rejoicing generally at Carlton House.

12th.—Sunday night, between the hours of nine and ten, the house of Mr Pryor, boot and shoemaker, 72, St Margaret's-hill, Borough, was entered by two men, who picked the lock. The servant-maid was in the cellar, and on coming into the shop saw a man, with a crape on his face, taking down the boots. The girl took him for her master, and asked him if he was going out? The man directly said, if you speak or move I'll cut your throat. The girl called murder, and flew to the door, and shoved one man out, and shut it. The man then seized the girl and cut her throat about an inch, gave a cut on her arm,

and then knocked her down, after which he made his escape. Mr Pryor came down, but being in the dark, was alarmed, and went back for a light, and when he returned found a great many boots packed up to take away.

Sarah Wilkins (the servant-maid above-mentioned) is declared out of danger.

13th.—George Hatton and Moses Clark were, on Friday, apprehended by Collingbourn and Glennen, on suspicion of being concerned in the outrage at Mr Pryor's, on Sunday evening last. They underwent a long private examination before Mr Evance and Mr Hicks, at Union Hall, but, Sarah Wilkins still continuing in too weak a state to be confronted with them, they were committed for re-examination. The parish of St Saviour has offered 50*l.* reward for the apprehension of any of the persons concerned in this atrocious outrage.

DEATH OF THE DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH.—His Grace the Duke of Buccleuch died at Dalkeith House on Saturday after a short illness.—His Grace was Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry, Marquis of Dumfries-shire, Earl of Dalkeith, Sanguhar, and Drumlanrig, Viscount Nith, Torthowald, and Ross, Lord Scot of Eskdale, Douglass of Kinmount, Middlebie, and Dornock :—Also Earl of Doncaster and Lord Tynedale in England, Knight of the Garter, Lord Lieutenant of the counties of Edinburgh and Roxburgh-shire, Governor of the Royal Bank of Scotland, &c. His grace was born in 1746, and succeeded his grandfather in 1752. He was the only son of Francis, Earl of Dalkeith, by Lady Caroline Campbell, eldest daughter of John, the Great Duke of Argyle. In 1767, his grace married Elizabeth

Montagu, only daughter of the last Duke of Montagu, by whom he has issue, Charles William, now Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry, and Henry James; Lord Montagu, and four daughters, viz. the Countess of Courtown, Countess of Home, Marchioness of Queensberry, and Countess of Ancram; all of whom have families. His grace is succeeded in his titles and estates by his eldest son, Charles William, Earl of Dalkeith, who married Harriet, daughter of the late Viscount Sydney, and has several children. His grace succeeded at an early age to a princely fortune, which gave him the means of indulging his natural disposition to public spirit and private liberality; to which purposes, accordingly, a considerable part of his immense funds were known to be applied. He was exceedingly affable in his manners; and, what deserves to be recorded of a person so greatly exalted both in rank and fortune, was a real friend to the poor. As a landlord, his liberality was well known; he was easy of access, and always ready to take an active part in any scheme of benevolence and humanity.

LIEUTENANT HAMILTON CROFTON.—At the Portsmouth Sessions, which commenced on Wednesday last, a true bill was found against Mr Hamilton Crofton, for purloining sundry articles of value from Mr Bradbury, and some gentlemen, at the inns in Portsmouth. Mr C. was accordingly put upon his trial; but, on the prosecutor being called, nobody appeared in support of the indictment, and he was consequently *acquitted*.

14.—EDINBURGH.—HIGH COURT OF JUSTICIARY.—Yesterday came on the trial of Alexander Cain, *alias* O' Kane, accused of having, on the even-

ing of the 11th of October (the day on which Anderson and Menzies, two thieves, were executed at Stirling, by sentence of the Circuit Court of Justiciary), with one or more persons, attacked, in the town of Stirling, Archibald Stewart, cattle-dealer in Dalspidle, who had just arrived from Falkirk Tryst, where he had received a sum of money, and of having struck and wounded him severely on the head, and other parts of the body, to the effusion of his blood, and loss of his senses for the time, and of robbing him of one thousand and ten pounds sterling, chiefly in notes of the Falkirk Bank Company.

After the jury were sworn in, the counsel for the prisoner stated an objection, that the notes of the Falkirk Banking Company, charged in the indictment as taken from the prisoner, were not lodged in due time in the hands of the clerk of Justiciary, to be shewn to the prisoner's counsel. The court repelled the objection.—The witnesses were then examined for the crown.

Sir Thomas Kirkpatrick, Bart. Sheriff-depute of the shire of Dumfries, swore, that the notes of the Falkirk Banking Company exhibited, were taken from the person of the prisoner, in a small public-house in the town of Dumfries; some of them were concealed near the waistband of his breeches; and also two twenty-pound notes, which he endeavoured to conceal in his hand, while they were searching him, and several others were found concealed in the chimney of the room where he was.—Sir Thomas, and William Rae, Esq. Sheriff-depute of the shire of Edinburgh, identified the declarations emitted by the prisoner, some of which he refused to sign unless they were written over again and altered.

Archibald Stewart, cattle-dealer, swore, that being upon the streets of Stirling, upon the evening of the 11th of October, he saw three or four men coming up, one of whom was a big man; that he was immediately knocked down and robbed of the money libelled upon, and that he was much cut and bruised by a blow on the head, which bled very much, and rendered him senseless; when the money was taken from him, he heard them say, "lay to him."

He acknowledged that he had been drinking drams on his way to Stirling, and after he arrived there, but was not intoxicated, and knew very well what he was about. This witness not understanding the English language well, was examined in Gaelic by a gentleman who was sworn to interpret faithfully the answers he made.

Some witnesses proved Stewart's getting the Falkirk notes libelled, at the Falkirk market, on the 11th.

Other witnesses swore, that the prisoner was at Falkirk Tryst on the 9th and 10th of October, when he was considered as a very suspicious character, and that he was at Stirling on the 11th, when the robbery was committed, and was seen passing the house, near to which Stewart was knocked down and robbed, about the time of the robbery. He was traced to Edinburgh, and from thence to Dumfries, and he had changed 20l. notes of the Falkirk Bank, at several public-houses on the road. He was apprehended at Dumfries, and the Falkirk notes found in his possession, as above-mentioned, by Sir T. Kirkpatrick.

The several declarations of the prisoner were then read, which were very contradictory.

The Lord Advocate addressed the

jury for the crown, at considerable length, in a very able speech, as did J. H. M'Kenzie, Esq. for the prisoner.

The Lord Justice Clerk summed up the evidence with his usual candour and ability, and the jury were ordered to return their verdict the next day at one o'clock. The court accordingly met this day, when the jury returned their verdict, all in one voice finding the pannel *guilty*; and, after a suitable address from the Lord Justice Clerk, he was sentenced to be executed at Stirling, on Friday, the 21st of February next.

17th.—NOTTINGHAM.—On Saturday last a number of men, supposed not less than forty, disguised in various ways, and armed with pistols, &c. proceeded to the house of Mr Benson; and, after sentinels had been placed at all the neighbours' doors, and the avenues leading to it, about eight entered; and some of them drove the family into the pantry, with threats of immediate death, if they created the least alarm, with the exception of one woman, who was expected every hour to fall in travail, and she was permitted to remain in the parlour; the rest proceeded into the work-shop, and demolished the eight frames in about as many minutes. They escaped without detection. On Monday evening, about six o'clock, eight men entered the house of Mr Noble, at New Radford, in various disguises, and armed with different instruments; while one remained below to take care of Mrs Noble, the others proceeded up stairs to demolish four warp lace frames, because they were making what is called *two course hole*. In vain Mr Noble informed them that he was receiving eightpence a yard more than the standing price. "It

was not the price," they said, "but the sort of net that they objected to;" and he was forced out of his frame with the blow of a sword, which narrowly missed his head, and which cut asunder nearly the whole of the threads across his frames. The screams of his wife, (which a severe blow on the head with the butt-end of a pistol could not still) brought him down to her assistance, where he found a neighbour, who had come in at the back door to their aid; and who, in conjunction with Mr Noble, seized one of the men in the house, and attempted to disarm him; but he finding himself in danger, called out *Ned Ludd*, when his companions rushed down stairs, before they had demolished the fourth frame, to his rescue; and in the scuffle, one of them snapped a pistol, which happily missed fire. When their companion was liberated, they found the door fast; but they cut it in pieces in a few seconds, and forced their way through a collected crowd, threatening destruction to any one who should attempt to oppose them.—The house of Mr Slater, of New Radford, was also entered late on Tuesday night; the first man presenting a drawn sword to his breast when he opened the door, suspecting it had been his own apprentice who wanted to come in; but the depredators contented themselves with cutting the warp asunder on the beam of the frame, and with taking away the wheels which are necessary to the formation of the two-course hole mesh. The same night two plain cotton frames were broken at Sneinton; their holders being charged with working at an abated price. On Saturday evening a hay-stack was burnt at Bolwell; and we have just learnt that two frames, belonging to a hosier in

this town, were last night broken in the parish of Westhallam, in Derbyshire. A picquet of an hundred men now parades the streets of Nottingham, in separate parties, headed by the civil authorities, every night.

The spirit of riot that has so long afflicted the town and neighbourhood of Nottingham, is said to have extended to Leeds. On Wednesday night last, at nine o'clock, the magistrates were suddenly convened, and were informed that within about two hours an attack was to be made by a number of persons on some premises at Shipscar, where the dressing machinery, introduced about twelve months since, had been established. After a few minutes consultation, the troops of horse quartered in the town were ordered out, and proper means were employed to assemble the civil power. It was stated, that the men to be concerned in the outrage were to have their faces blackened, and to be armed with short hammers. At the time appointed, a number of persons were seen passing and repassing the spot; but they seemed to have taken the alarm, and not to be disposed to collect for the accomplishment of their design. In this situation, the purpose being apparently abandoned for the night, one of them was seized at the bridge; when a hammer and a large piece of burnt cork were found upon him.—He was conducted to York Castle.

The following is a summary of the comparative statement of the population of Great Britain in the years 1801 and 1811, ordered by the House of Commons to be printed, January 17th, 1812:—

POPULATION, 1801.			
	Males.	Females.	Total.
England,	3 087,985	4,343,499	8,931,484
Wales,	257,178	284,309	541,546

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Scotland,	734,581	864,487	1,599,068
Army, navy, &c. }	470,598	—	470,598

Total,	5,450,292	5,492,354	10,942,646
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POPULATION, 1811.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
England,	4,555,257	4,944,143	9,499,400
Wales,	289,414	317,966	607,380
Scotland,	825,377	979,487	1,804,864
Army, navy, &c. }	640,500	—	640,500

Total,	6,310,548	6,241,596	12,552,144
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INCREASE.

England,	-	-	1,167,966
Wales,	-	-	65,834
Scotland,	-	-	208,180
Army, navy, &c.	-	-	169,902

Total, 1,614,882

Windsor Castle, January 18.

His majesty has had a considerable increase of his disorder within the last week. (Signed) H. HALFORD.

M. BAILLIE.

W. HEBERDEN.

J. WILLIS.

R. WILLIS.

20th.—OLD BAILEY.—On Saturday the court was greatly crowded in order to witness the trial of Mr Benjamin Walsh, charged with having stolen from Sir Thomas Plomer a sum of money to a considerable amount. The prisoner, on his entrance into the court, was much affected, and it was some time before the trial, owing to his extreme agitation, commenced. The circumstances attending this affair having been already fully detailed, we deem it unnecessary to enter into the mass of evidence adduced on the occasion, and which was precisely similar. Mr Walsh was allowed the indulgence of a chair, which he gladly accepted. During the whole of the trial Mr Walsh scarcely held up his head, but kept

his hands before his face, as if torn with the greatest anguish of mind.

The prosecution was conducted by Mr Garrow, and the prisoner's defence by Mr Scarlet.

The Chief Baron then addressed the jury. It appeared, he said, that the prisoner had, a long time previous to his receiving the check from Sir Thomas Plomer, bespoke the purchase of some American stock. It also appeared that the prisoner had purchased several articles of dress, stockings, &c. alleging his intention of going out of town; and it also appeared, that as soon as the check was received and the purchase of the stock completed, he left London with the hope of quitting the country and of settling in America. Should these circumstances be sufficient to show that the prisoner had anticipated the scheme of defrauding Sir Thomas Plomer, and arranged his plans accordingly, the jury would say he was guilty. On the other hand, should they consider the evidence not conclusive, they would instantly acquit him.

The jury consulted for about five minutes, and returned a verdict of Guilty, leaving a point of law for the judges to decide whether guilty of felony or a misdemeanour.

LOSS OF THE ST GEORGE AND DEFENCE.—Two mails from Anholt have arrived, which, we lament to state, bring certain intelligence of the loss of his Majesty's ships St George and Defence. By accounts from Copenhagen, of the 31st ultimo, it appears that they were stranded on the morning of the 24th of December, on the west coast of Jutland, in the district of Ringkooeping. In half an hour after she struck, the Defence went in pieces, and only five seamen

and one marine were saved. The destruction of the *St George* was less speedy than that of her ill-fated consort, as in the afternoon of the following day, a number of people were observed from the shore, standing on her cabin and stern-frame. A part of the crew got on a piece of the mast which was cut away, but owing to the violence of the wind, waves, and current, it was supposed that very few could have escaped. Some attempted to save themselves on a raft, but they are reported to have perished. According to the accounts which had reached Copenhagen, of 1400 men, of whom the crews consisted, only eighteen were saved! The admiral, and the captain of the *St George*, and Captain Atkins, of the *Defence*, with all the officers of the two ships, perished. These fatal shipwrecks are stated to have taken place 600 yards from the shore, and the seamen saved from the *Defence*, attributed their catastrophe to the misfortune which befel the *St George*, in the loss of her masts, during a previous gale, as is already known to our readers. In her helpless state, the *Defence* and *Cressy* were appointed to protect her. It was fatal to the former; the *Cressy* is safe.

22d.—**CORN EXCHANGE.**—To-day we have considerable further arrivals of wheat, and the trade again heavy in sales at lower prices; barley likewise lower excepting fine; malt and white pease scarcely keep their price, as also beans of each description; we likewise have considerable fresh arrivals of oats, and this trade is quoted cheaper.—Flour, heavy sale at Monday's reduction of 5s. per sack, and very few sales at the late price.

Wheat.....	51s	70s	to	100s
Fine do.....	106s	to	112s	
Rye.....	50s	to	55s	

Barley.....	34s	to	48s	
Fine.....	00s	to	00s	
Malt.....	74s	to	84s	
White Pease.....	00s	to	00s	
Boilers.....	76s	to	82s	
Grey do.....	54s	to	60s	
Beans.....	48s	to	54s	
Tick do. (new).....	40s	to	47s	
Do. (fine old).....	46s	to	52s	
Oats.....	24s	28s	to	30s
Poland do.....	32s	to	35s	6d
Potatoe do.....	37s	to	38s	
Fine Flour.....	90s	to	96s	
Second.....	80s	to	90s	
Rape Seed.....	60l	to	65l.	

25th.—On Saturday the two archbishops, the Duke of Montrose, the Earl of Aylesford, and Earl Winchelsea, held a council at Windsor, and examined the king's physicians. The report was, that the agitation of his majesty's mind continued with very little abatement of violence until Wednesday week, when it subsided, and his majesty has been much more composed ever since.—The bulletin which the physicians signed is as follows:—

Windsor Castle, January 25.

His majesty is nearly in the same state in which he was previous to the late increase of his disorder.

(Signed) H. HALFORD.
M. BAILLIE.
W. HEBERDEN.
J. WILLIS.
R. WILLIS.

27th.—Lord Wellington invested Ciudad Rodrigo on the 8th. The enemy had increased the difficulty of approaching the place by a strong redoubt constructed on the Hill of St Francisco. It was necessary to attempt to take it; it was stormed on the night of the 8th by a detachment of the light division, led by Lieut.-Col. Colborn. The work was carried in the most brilliant manner, and all the garrison either killed or taken. Our loss was only six men killed;

Capt. Main and Lieut. Woodgate of the 52d, and Lieut. Hawkesley, of the 95th, with 14 men wounded. By this success Lord Wellington has been enabled to break ground within 600 yards of the place, the redoubt of St Francisco being converted into a part of the first parallel.

General Hill entered Merida on the 30th December. He had hoped to surprise General Dombrowski, but his approach was discovered by a patrol. The French general retreated from Merida, leaving magazines of bread and wheat, and several unfinished works. On the 1st, General Hill marched to attack Drouet's corps d'armee at Almandrelgo, but the enemy retreated to Zafra, abandoning 450,000 pounds of wheat, &c.

On the 3d, a detachment of our cavalry beat a body of the enemy's horse at Puenco del Maltro, taking two officers and thirty men prisoners. Gen. Drouet retreating to Llerena. Gen. Hill found it useless to pursue him, and returned on the 5th Jan. to Merida.

23th.—Capt. O'Donahue, aide-de-camp to Col. Skerret, arrived this morning, with dispatches from Major-General Cook, and Colonel Skerrett, containing the satisfactory intelligence of the complete repulse of a strong detachment of the French army under Victor, in an attempt to take Tariffa by storm, on the 31st December, and that on the morning of the 4th January the whole of the French army retreated from before that place, leaving in possession of the allied troops the whole of the artillery, ammunition, and stores.

The French force employed under Marshal Victor, in the attempt to reduce Tariffa, appears to have consisted of 10,000 men, and the allied force opposed to them not more than 1000

British, 700 or 800 Spanish troops. Colonel Skerrett speaks in the strongest terms of the admirable conduct of the troops under his command. He particularly praises Colonel Lord Proby, second in command, and Lieut.-Col. Gough, of the 2d battalion 37th regiment, and Captain Smith of the Royal Engineers.

The British loss consists of two officers, Lieut. Longly, R. E. and Lieut. Hall, 2d batt. 47th, and 7 rank and file killed:—Three officers, Lieut. Hill, 2d batt. 47th, Lieutenant Carrall and Ensign Waller, 2d batt. 87th, and 24 rank and file wounded.

The late Lord Newton, whose death was announced in our Register for 1811, was descended of the Hays of Rannes, one of the most ancient branches of the family of Hay. He was born in the year 1747, and was called to the bar in 1769. He had so thoroughly studied the principles of the profession on which he now entered, that he used often to say, "that he was as good a lawyer at that time as he ever was at any future period." His strong natural abilities, assisted with such preparation for business, could not fail to attract notice, and he became soon distinguished for his acuteness, his learning, and his profound knowledge of law. It was remarkable of him, that he always appeared as much versed in the common and daily practice of the court, and even in those minute forms that are little known, except to the inferior practitioners, as in the higher branches of legal knowledge, that are only understood by the greatest lawyers. The great simplicity of character which he carried with him through the whole of life, was no where more conspicuous than in his appearances at the bar. His pleadings exhibited a

plain and fair statement of the facts, a profound and accurate exposition of the law, and very acute and solid reasonings on both; but there was an entire absence of every thing merely ornamental, and especially of those little arts by which a speaker often tries to turn the attention of his auditors on himself. He seemed full of the cause in which he was engaged, and not a word escaped which could lead any one to imagine that the thoughts of the orator were ever turned to his own performance.

Though his reputation continued always to increase, he practised at the bar without obtaining any preferment till the beginning of the year 1806, when, on the death of the late Lord Methven, he was appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court, by the ministry of which Mr Fox was a member, and was the only judge in the Court of Session appointed while that great statesman was in power; a distinction on which he always professed to set a high value.

Lord Newton's talents never appeared to greater advantage than after he took his seat on the bench. As a lawyer, the opinions he gave were probably never surpassed for their acuteness, discrimination, and solidity; and, as a judge, he now shewed that all this was the result of such a rapid and easy application of the principles of law, as appeared more like the effect of intuition than of study and laborious exertion. The clearest and most comprehensive view of every question seemed naturally to present itself, and his opinions, at the same time that they were readily and decisively formed, were considered, by professional men, as being perhaps less liable to error than those of any other judge who has appeared in our time. He was unremitting in

his exertions, and it is certain that, for his dispatch of business, and the correctness of his judgment, Lord Newton has been rarely excelled.

In his political sentiments, Lord Newton was an ardent and steady Whig. Owing to the great openness and sincerity of his character, and the entire absence of the least approach to art or duplicity, he passed through a period remarkable for the hostility which political opinions engendered, with fewer personal enemies than any other man equally unreserved in condemning the measures which he thought wrong, and equally inflexible in supporting those which he thought right.

In private life he was extremely amiable, and his social qualities, as well as his great worth, endeared him to his friends. He possessed an extraordinary fund of good humour, a disposition extremely playful, great simplicity of character, with the entire absence of vanity and affectation. A few peculiarities or little eccentricities, which he possessed, appeared with so good a grace, and in the company of so many estimable qualities, that they only tended to render him more interesting to his friends.

Lord Newton appeared to possess two characters that are but rarely united together. Those who saw him only on the bench were naturally led to think that his whole time and thoughts had, for his whole life, been voted to the laborious study of the law. Those, on the other hand, who saw him in the circle of his friends, when form and austerity were laid aside, could not easily conceive that he had not passed his life in the intercourse of society. With great gentleness and kindness of heart, he had a manly and firm mind. He had hardly any feeling of personal danger,

and he seemed to despise pain, to which he was a good deal exposed in the last years of his life. He was a man of great bodily strength, and, till the latter years of his life, when he became very corpulent, of great activity.

He was never married, and the large fortune which he left is inherited by his only sister, Mrs Hay Mudie, for whom he always entertained the greatest esteem and affection.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT.—The dry weather through the month has proved very favourable; the young plants of wheat, in most counties, hold a good colour, and wear, in other respects, a promising appearance. A considerable extent of broad beans have already been got in by the drill and dibble in Kent, Essex, and Suffolk. The markets for bread corn have been fortunately kept down from the large importations of foreign flour, of which there is a considerable supply on hand. The potatoe crops turn out abundant, and, from the mildness of the winter, have kept better than has been known for several years past. The turnip counties continue to abound in seed. The hay markets have experienced but little variation.—Smithfield, and most of the principal cattle marts, have been well supplied through the month, but, in some, advances in price, particularly for veal, house lamb, and pig-pork, have taken place. Some droves of lean beasts have come up from the north into Leicestershire and other central counties, and, from the openness of the weather, have sold high.

FASHIONS.—*Half-Dress.*—A high Roman round robe of stone colour, or pale olive cloth, embroidered in a variegated chenille border; long sleeves finished at the wrist to corres-

pond, and lined with pink sarsnet. Pomeranian mantle of silk, the colour of the robe, and finished with deep Chinese silk fringe. Cap of black or coloured velvet, ornamented with a rich silk tassel, and curled ostrich feathers, placed towards the left side. High standing collar of muslin or net, edged with lace or needle-work, rising above the robe at the throat.—Pink embroidered ridicule. Gloves a pale lemon colour, and half-boots of pink kid, trimmed with narrow sable fur.

Carriage or Polish walking Costume.—A plain cambric morning robe, with high collar, trimmed with lace.—A polish demi-pelisse, of fine Lama or Merino cloth, richly embroidered up the front, on the bottom, collar, and cuffs. Pelerine to correspond, finished with a long silk tassel. Canonical cap of sable, openoch, or other tastefully contrasted fur, embellished and finished with gold band and tassel. Ridicule of rose-coloured velvet, with gold lion snap. Gloves of pale Limerick or York tan. Roman half-boots of buff-coloured kid.

Promenade Costume—An high dress of tartan plaid, made of sarsnet or Merino crape, trimmed round the bottom with white swansdown, and two rows of the same down the front, alternately relieved by a narrow silk cord in loops, and buttons of a bright nakara colour with a belt to correspond. A mantle of dark Clarence blue Merino cloth, made with half sleeves of sarsnet, lined with amber sarsnet, and trimmed with swansdown; Scottish cap of the same, with a trimming of swansdown next the face, and a full puffing of plaid ribband, to answer the dress above it. A plume of Clarence blue feathers tipped with amber. Gloves

of York tan, and half boots of Clarence blue kid, faced with nakara.

Evening Costume.—A white or pearl colour gossamer satin gown, with a demi-train; fancy apron of the same; the bottom of the gown and round the apron trimmed with a rich gold fringe of the Brandenburgh kind. A cap in the Persian form, of white satin, with ornaments of gold to correspond with the dress; two gold tassels depending over the left ear, on the same side the head is adorned with a plume of white ostrich feathers, and one light gold sprig. Small ear-rings of pearl, with a *solitaire* necklace of the same; the sleeves very short, fastened up in front, with gold button and loop; the belt the same colour as the gown, with a superb gold ornament in front. White and gold fan; kid gloves; and white satin Italian slippers, fringed with gold.

FEBRUARY.

1st.—EDINBURGH.—To the list of recent robberies, we have to add the following:—

On Wednesday evening, betwixt six and seven o'clock, a young gentleman, at the Mews-lane, end of Rose-street, near St Andrew's Square, was attacked by a man, who came suddenly behind him, and stabbed him with a sharp instrument in the breast, which slanted down upon the bone, and thereby providentially did not injure him greatly. The man then robbed him of his pocket-book, containing a ten pound note. His coat, vest, and shirt, were cut through on the left side, under the arm, but his person, we are glad to hear, was not injured.

On the same night, between eight

and ten o'clock, a parcel, containing about ten pounds of tobacco, was stolen from off a counter in a shop in the Grass-market, by some boys who had been lurking about the door and waiting the opportunity of the shop-keeper going backward.

A gentleman's house, in Hope Street, was attacked on Sunday night, betwixt eleven and twelve o'clock. The servant, hearing some person trying to open the back-door, went out, when he was knocked down by a man. After a severe struggle, the robber, hearing the other servants coming out to the assistance of their fellow-servant, made his escape over the wall, where another man was waiting for him.

On Tuesday last, Grace Comrie, a servant girl from Edinburgh, on her way, after the decease of her mistress, to her friends in Aberdeen, was stopped between the Crossgates and the Bridge of Earn, by a man and woman, who robbed her of her wages, amounting to £1. 15s. and also of a bundle containing some clothes. The man by his dialect appeared to be Irish, and had a horse to carry himself and his companion. The girl applied for assistance at the first house she came to, but the state of the road prevented any attempt at pursuit.

On Wednesday se'nnight, as Mr William Berry of Perth was returning from Dunning, after receiving some money, he was overtaken by two men near Pithcaveless, and having been passed by one of them, immediately received a blow on the hinder part of his head, and heard the person before him call to his associate, "Knock him down." This was instantly done, and at the same time a cut made across his breast, which laying his breast pocket open,

his pocket-book fell out, and was seized by the robbers, who afterwards took his watch, and the silver which he had in his pockets. He lost about 7l. Though stunned for a time, he soon recovered from the effects of this atrocious assault, the authors of which, we trust, will not escape the vigilance of justice.

By a vessel arrived at Liverpool from Baltimore, American papers have been received to the 1st of January. They contain an account of a most terrible fire which happened at the theatre of Richmond, (Virginia), on the 26th of December. The theatre was remarkably crowded, and the accident, was occasioned by some sparks of fire communicating to the scenery.—The catastrophe was most dreadful.—A list of more than seventy persons is given whose names are ascertained, and it is supposed that above sixty others have lost their lives who have not yet been recognized. All these unfortunate persons were burnt alive, or pressed to death in the crowd! The whole city was in the greatest alarm and consternation. Amongst the names of the sufferers are, C. W. Smith, Governor; A. B. Venable, President of the Bank; Miss Gwathmey, Miss Gatewood, Miss Clay, (daughter of Mr Clay, Member of Congress); and Mr John Welsh, nephew to Sir A. Pigott, late from England.

3d.—On Wednesday the *Thais*, of 20 guns, Captain Scorel, arrived at Portsmouth, from the coast of Africa, of which she has taken an extensive range, and where she captured several vessels trading for slaves, in violation of the Portuguese treaty:—thereby circumscribing that inhuman traffic, which, we are sorry to hear, continues to exist on a considerable scale, under the Portuguese and Spa-

nish flags. The *Thais* brings certain information respecting the fate of Mungo Parke, who, it appears, after the whole of his retinue, excepting one person, had died, was proceeding up a branch of the Niger, when, having given an unintentional offence to a native chief, he was assailed whilst in a canoe, passing a narrow arm of the river, and, leaping overboard with his European companion, to swim to shore, was drowned with him. The canoe upset, and nothing belonging to the travellers was preserved, nor did any one escape but some of the hired attendants. Colonel Maxwell, commanding at Goree, being desirous to ascertain the fate of this enterprising traveller, engaged a native, possessing more than ordinary intelligence, to trace his route; and he returned, after being a long time absent, with the lamented result, just before the *Thais* sailed. Mr Parke's object, it will be remembered, was to visit the city of Tombuctoo, in the interior of Africa, from which, when he met his death, he was within 500 miles.

The country seat of General Moreau, near Trenton, America, was burnt down on the 24th of December. All the furniture was destroyed, and the general and his family escaped the flames with some difficulty. The fire is supposed to have originated in the hot-house.

CORONER'S INQUEST.—Yesterday evening an inquest was held, at the Golden Anchor public-house, Leadenhall-street, before Thomas Shelton, Esq. Coroner, upon the body of Mrs May, the wife of an ironmonger in Oxford-street, who was run over by a waggon on Tuesday afternoon, and killed on the spot.—The circumstances of this melancholy event were briefly as follow:—Mr May had

stopped in his gig at the door of the house lately occupied by the celebrated Dirty Dick, the ironmonger, to speak about some business with the present occupant. He left Mrs May in the vehicle, holding the reins until his return. Before, however, he completed his business, a stage-coach coming quickly by, caught the off-wheel of the gig, overturned it, and threw Mrs May into the middle of the street, where a heavy waggon, which was passing at the same instant, went over her head and crushed out her brains. Her distracted husband came out of the house just time enough to be a spectator of the horrible scene. The lifeless body was immediately conveyed to the Golden Anchor public-house, for the inquest of a jury. Mr and Mrs May were a young married couple, the latter not yet 20, and in the seventh month of her pregnancy. The jury, after a patient and minute enquiry into the circumstances of the case, returned a verdict of—*Accidental Death.*

5th.—THE ST GEORGE AND THE DEFENCE.—*From a Paris Paper of the 30th ult.*—The Journals of Jutland are full of details, in part contradictory, relative to the shipwrecks of the St George and Defence. It is natural that these dreadful scenes, having only for witnesses the sailors and fishermen, inhabitants of the coasts, should be related in different ways. It is known that the St George carried 98 guns, 552 sailors, and 300 marines. The crew of the Defence was 500 men in the whole; ten men from the St George, and six from the Defence, are all that were saved; 1295 individuals perished in the waves. The Defence, which was very old, struck the ground the first; she made signals with blue lights, that she was lost without resource, and in a mo-

ment afterwards she went to pieces; what remained of her, however, continued still visible, and lying bottom upwards, had at a distance the appearance of a church. Capt. Atkins got alive to land, with six sailors, but expired a few moments after. The St George let go her anchors; but the violence of the wind drove her on the shore, and the furious waves rolled over her without being able to break her, as she was of a very strong construction. This circumstance served only to prolong the sufferings of this unhappy crew.—During the whole day of the 25th, from four to five hundred men were seen clinging to the lofty deck of the vessel. It was impossible to come to their assistance, on account of the storm and unexampled agitation of the sea. On a sudden these men disappeared, and it was thought they had been carried away by a wave; but, according to the account of one of the ten sailors, Admiral Reynolds, conceiving all succour impossible, had thrown himself in despair into the sea, and been followed by the greater part of the crew. Those who remained endeavoured to tie one another to pieces of wood, masts, and yards; at length they threw themselves into the sea, and attempted to gain the shore, distant 300 toises, but, with the exception of ten, they were all drowned, or crushed to death by the beating fragments of the wreck. The secretary of Admiral Reynolds got to land, but expired immediately from fatigue and cold. There was found on him the portrait of his wife, with her address in London, and a note, requesting those who might find his body to inform her of his unhappy fate. A child, eight years old, got on shore safe, fastened to a large piece of timber. His father and mo-

they were on board the Defence: they followed him with their eyes, and when they saw him reach the land alive, they threw themselves into the waves, and died together!—Four guns and 47 barrels of gunpowder have been got from the Defence, and it is expected that a part of the St George will be saved.

A gentleman who left Gottenburgh on Thursday last, states, that the body of Admiral Reynolds, who was lost in the St George, has been found, and that the King of Denmark had ordered it to be brought to Copenhagen, where it is to be put into a leaden coffin and conveyed to England.

EXETER.—A most extraordinary circumstance occurred in this city on Monday night last, which has excited the greatest wonder among the inhabitants. About nine o'clock, as the carriage of J. Williams, Esq. banker, of this city, was going from Colleton Crescent to the theatre, just as it passed the Friars in the middle of the public road, the off horse sunk into the earth, and in an instant disappeared; the alarm the coachman was in we cannot describe, who, trembling for what was to follow, leaped from the coach-box, called for assistance, and immediately cut the traces, when several persons assembled, and discovered that the animal had fallen into a large and tremendous old well, of about ninety feet deep, which some years since had been arched over in a most careless manner, with only a single brick, thinly covered with earth, and totally neglected, since it became a public road. The late wet weather had so penetrated the brickwork as to cause it, with the shaking of the carriage, to give way in a moment. Having obtained a light, it

was perceived the horse stuck fast about twenty feet down, and with great difficulty was drawn up alive to the mouth of the well, when unfortunately the rope broke, and the poor creature was with dreadful velocity dashed down to the bottom, to rise no more alive, as it was pulled up dead four hours after.

DUBLIN.—COURT OF KING'S BENCH.—*Catholic Delegates.*—The attorney-general announced this day, that it was not his intention to proceed to trial against any of the other catholic delegates. He moved that Mr Kirwan be brought up to-morrow, and that there shall be a *nolo prosequi* entered relative to the other persons concerned in violating the Convention Act.

6th.—KIRWAN'S SENTENCE.—This day Thomas Kirwan appeared in court to hear judgment pronounced. Shortly after the judges had taken their seats, Mr Justice Day addressed him to the following effect:—

“ Thomas Kirwan, you have been tried on an indictment founded upon a statute, the 33d of the King, commonly called the Convention Act, for having voted and acted at an election of delegates, to represent the Roman Catholic inhabitants of the parish of St Mary's, in this city, in a general committee of the catholics of Ireland. After a patient and dispassionate hearing you have been convicted upon clear, conclusive, and uncontroverted evidence. The persons entrusted with your defence had indeed themselves admitted the fact charged, for instead of contradicting or controverting it, they resorted to three different modes of avoiding a direct issue, namely, 1st, to a challenge of the array, which, after a discussion of two days, had been found

to be false and ungrounded; secondly to an unavailing and irrelevant cross-examination; and, lastly, to avoiding the merits of the case, by resting upon a certain point of variance, which, when referred to the decision of the twelve judges, had been without hesitation pronounced perfectly futile and untenable.

“The act for which you have been found guilty has been declared by the legislature a high misdemeanour; not because it is contrary to any principles of religion, morality, or justice, but for its political character and tendency. The statute has declared, that all representations by delegation are unlawful. Such is the precaution of the statute, that it proceeds to arrest them in their earliest steps towards acting in pursuance of their appointment, and the very publishing of a notice of their meeting, before any possible knowledge could be had of their transactions, is pronounced a high misdemeanour. Neither pretence nor no pretence forms an object for consideration; the construction and constitution of the meeting is what the legislature has pointed its attention to, and not the object or purpose.

“It is not, sir, the province of the bench to vindicate the acts of the legislature, but it would be easy to show that no hardship is imposed by the statute. It restrains both protestants and catholics; yet, by a superabundance of caution, it saves the sacred right of petition, as established at the glorious Revolution by the famous Bill of Rights. This all of his majesty's subjects here enjoy, whether protestants or catholics, in the same spirit and purity in which it is enjoyed by the subjects in England. I shall never, for my part, wish to move

in a larger sphere of liberty than that enlightened and brave people are satisfied with. Whether a jealous adherence to old maxims of civil freedom, or an enthusiasm in search of new additions to their rights and privileges pervaded the whole population of that great and respectable nation, in their wildest excesses, a convention such as that which had lately agitated this country, had never been known amongst them. This species of public assembly is the peculiar growth of Ireland. It is superfluous to point out how much it is in its nature calculated to produce mischief to overawe the legislature, and to controul the deliberations of parliament. Such has been the convention of 1793, such has been the volunteer association of 1782, and such has been a memorable convention of an earlier period, which was composed precisely of the same members as the convention, whose acts have lately occupied so much of the public attention, composed of peers, prelates, and commoners. An assembly of this description must by an easy and natural transition degenerate from purity of action and intention into a perfectly seditious association. I am fully aware of the high honour and public virtue of several characters who had formed members of the late committee. I am persuaded that if ever they would be betrayed into a violation of the provisions of the constitution, they would err innocently. But it is the nature of man, when he passes the boundary of the law, to forget his legitimate motives, and to launch into excesses from which his head and his heart would at first recoil. When those excesses are not countrouled, they soon acquire command and dominion; all the mischief

vous and delusive passions rise to the top like chaff, while those of intrinsic value and merit sink to the bottom and are lost. Under those impressions the government of this country stepped out to interfere with the proceedings of the catholic committee. Their energy and vigilance have not been more laudable than their moderation and conciliatory exertions have been praise-worthy. When their object had been effected, the Attorney General had seized an opportunity of indulging the mild impulse of his nature; and he entered a *nolo prosequi* in all other actions, convinced that the loyalty and obedience of the catholics of Ireland will bow with respect to the law.

“It is fair to say, that the Roman Catholics did not wilfully violate the provisions of an act upon which able and virtuous lawyers had entertained much doubt. The transactions heretofore are therefore consigned to oblivion; but henceforward things must be otherwise. No subject, protestant or catholic, can any more violate the law by inadvertence or from want of knowledge, therefore a transgression must necessarily be visited with rigour and severity.

“Give me leave, sir, to recommend to the consideration of the catholics of Ireland, the sage counsel of the Solicitor-General, one of their best friends. I am convinced with him that the catholic committee has been the most pernicious enemy that catholic emancipation ever saw. It had diverted the public mind from the great and material question, and effected no good. Emancipation cannot be legally discussed except in parliament. It is not by trampling upon the law that its objects can be effected.—It is not by intemperance that bigotry can be conciliated; it is

not by violence that the legislature can be persuaded that the claims of the catholics are just. The Solicitor-General’s fascinating display of all that was great in the mind or brilliant in fancy will not be unavailing; I do not only not despair that the catholic committee will profit by it, but I entertain the most sanguine hopes that it will be serviceable to the entire kingdom. The act shall resume its vigorous operation; it shall awake from its long slumbering, and in future remain vigilant; the catholics will bow to it—they were heretofore only ignorant of its force. Under these impressions, and imitating the mild demeanour of the Attorney-General, the court mean to punish you with only a nominal penalty.

“I cannot conclude, sir, without reprobating in strong terms, some scandalous practices which you have been guilty of upon your trial, especially the transaction of the affidavit, with which you had sought to throw an unfounded imputation on a most respectable gentleman in the jury-box. Having discharged the duty that devolved on me, I shall pronounce the sentence of the court, and that is, that you Thomas Kirwan do pay a fine of a mark, and then be discharged.”

Mr Kirwan bowed and retired.

LONDON.—At nine o’clock last night, the Park and Tower guns announced the important intelligence that Ciudad Rodrigo was taken by storm on the 19th ult. The dispatches from Lord Wellington arrived about 7 o’clock. They were brought by one of his lordship’s aide-de-camps, Major Gordon. Soon afterwards the following letter was transmitted to the Lord Mayor:—

Downing-street, Feb. 4, 1812.

“MY LORD.—The Hon. Major Gor-

don, aide-de-camp to General Lord Wellington, has this moment arrived at my office, with the satisfactory intelligence of the capture of Ciudad Rodrigo by storm, on the evening of the 19th Jan. The French Governor-General, Barnier, about 78 officers, and 1700 men, are taken prisoners, and 153 pieces of ordnance, including the heavy train belonging to the French army, and great quantities of ammunition and stores were found in the place.

"The particulars of this most important event will be immediately published in an extraordinary gazette."

"I have the honour to be, &c.

"LIVERPOOL.

"To the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor."
Windsor Castle, Feb. 1.

His majesty continues nearly in the same state in which he was last week.

(Signed.) H. HALFORD.
W. HEBERDEN.
M. BAILLIE.
J. WILLIS.
R. WILLIS.

His majesty continued through the whole of last week in a state of comparative quiet, but without any indications of mental improvement. The skill of the regular physicians has preserved his bodily health through all the violence of his malady, and even now, that all hopes of curing the disease are extinguished, there is a reasonable hope, by the continuance of the same professional attention to him, during his occasional paroxysms, that his life may be preserved for years.

7th.—WESTMINSTER.—This day the Lords being met, and the Commons having come, the royal assent was given in virtue of a commission from the prince regent, in name and on behalf of his majesty, to an act to revive and continue until the 31st day of December, 1812, so much of an

act made in the 49th year of his present majesty, to prohibit the distillation of spirits from corn or grain in the united kingdom, as relates to Great Britain; and to revive and continue another act made in the 49th year aforesaid, to suspend the importation of British or Irish made spirits into Great Britain or Ireland respectively; and for granting certain duties on worts, or wash made from sugar, during the prohibition of distillation from corn or grain in Great Britain—to an act to raise ten millions five hundred thousand pounds by Exchequer bills—to an act to raise one million five hundred thousand pounds by Exchequer bills—to an act to continue the duties on malt, sugar, tobacco, and snuff—and to an act to permit sugar, the produce of Martinique, and other conquered islands in the West Indies, to be taken out of warehouse, on payment of the like duty for waste as British plantation sugar.

At the sale of the library of Sir James Pulteney, Bart. yesterday, at Christie's, the Variorum Classics sold at sums unprecedented, and the rare volumes of the Delphini Classics sold at the following prices:—

Cicero's Opera Philosophica, editio vera, purchased by Mr Dibdin	
for Earl Spencer, - -	L59 6 0
Prudentius, - - - - -	16 5 6
Statius, - - - - -	54 12 0

NATIONAL SOCIETY.—This day was holden, at St Martin's Library, a meeting of the general committee of the national society for the education of the poor; present, the Archbishop of Canterbury in the chair.

Archbishop of York; Earls of Shaftesbury and Hardwicke; Bish-

* See the Gazette.

ops of London, Durham, St Asaph, Salisbury, Norwich, and Chester; Lords Grenville, Redesdale, and Radstock; Right Hon. the Speaker; Sir John Nicoll; Deans of Canterbury and Barking; Archdeacon Cambridge; Dr Barton; Rev. H. H. Norris; Rev. R. Lendon; F. Burton, Esq. M. P.; G. W. Marriot, Esq.; Joshua Watson, Esq.; W. Davis, Esq.; James Trimmers, Esq.

It is a most gratifying consideration, that in the furtherance of the object of this most noble and laudable institution, we find the first in rank and character of both political parties in the state cordially unite, and give their best support to a system, the adoption of which must reflect eternal honour upon its founders, whilst its effects in improving the minds of the rising generation, cannot but prove a truly inestimable and lasting blessing to the empire.

8th.—EDINBURGH.—HIGH COURT OF JUSTICIARY.—This day came on the trial of John Lindsay Crawford, some time of Dungannon in Ireland, and James Bradley, some time schoolmaster and clerk at Castle Dawson, county of Londonderry, Ireland, accused of having forged or falsified certain writings, for the purpose of supporting a claim made by the said John Lindsay Crawford, under a brief from chancery, directed to the sheriff of Edinburgh, to be served lawful and nearest heir-male of John Crawford, first Viscount Garnock. This, from the multiplicity of papers produced, and the length and intricacy of the examination, was not concluded till 7 o'clock on Teusday morning. The jury gave in their verdict on Wednesday at one o'clock, all in one voice finding “the said John Lindsay Crawford, and the said James Bradley, guilty of feloniously falsifying the se-

veral writings mentioned in the first, second, fourth, fifth, and sixth, charges, of the foresaid criminal libel; and, by a great plurality of voices, they find the said John Lindsay Crawford guilty, and the said James Bradley guilty, of feloniously falsifying the letter mentioned in the third charge of the said criminal libel. Further, they, all in one voice, find the said John Lindsay Crawford guilty, and the said James Bradley guilty, of feloniously forging the several writings mentioned in the seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth, and eleventh charges, of the said criminal libel; and they, all in one voice, find both the said pannels guilty of feloniously uttering the writings mentioned in the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth charges, of the said criminal libel, knowing the same to be feloniously falsified, and feloniously uttering the writings mentioned in the seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth, and eleventh charges of the said criminal libel, knowing the same to be feloniously forged.”

When their lordships had delivered their opinions, Lord Meadowbank (the presiding judge) after an address of great ability, pronounced the sentence of the court, ordaining the prisoners to be transported for fourteen years beyond seas.

The following is a sketch of the circumstances of the case:—

Some time after the death of the late Earl of Crawford, the prisoner, John Lindsay Crawford, supposing that a relation of the late earl had lived as steward at Castle Dawson, thought that if he could prove a propinquity to him, he might by that means obtain the earldom, and certain estates in Ayrshire; and for this purpose he repaired to Kilbirnie, in Ayrshire, and, in the hands of a de-

accident of a former factor, he found certain leaves and old letters. These were transmitted by a trusty messenger to Bradley, who, with the assistance of Fanning (Crawfurd's two associates) deleted certain passages in the letters, and substituted something relative to this James Crawfurd, and for the names of some of the witnesses, which were also deleted, that of Crawfurd was likewise substituted.

The singular ingenuity displayed in these alterations struck every one who had access to see the papers, the hand-writing and colour of the ink being not only most successfully imitated, but the fabric of the paper, though old and worn, was preserved entire and uninjured. The papers had, in fact, so much the appearance of genuine deeds, that the deception was in part completely successful. At this juncture, Fanning, to whose dexterity his associates were indebted for the success of their plans, turned king's evidence; and having made a declaration before the sheriff, intimated to Crawfurd's agent the whole of the circumstances. In consequence of Fanning's information, Bradley and Crawfurd were soon after apprehended, and the declaration emitted by Bradley opened a scene of the most deliberate fraud.

Several witnesses were called in corroboration of the declarations; and the exculpatory evidence only proved the good character of the prisoners previous to this transaction, and the bad character of Fanning the witness, on whose evidence they were convicted. The point chiefly insisted on by the prisoners' counsel was, that, as no patrimonial interest was affected, no crime was committed.

10th.—RIOTS AT NOTTINGHAM.

It is with great pleasure we state,

that the destruction of frames this week has been much less than that of the last.

On Monday evening one frame was broken at Bobber's Mill, and carried clean away; and one on Tuesday night, at the same place. On the last-mentioned evening, one frame was broken at Basford, and the same evening two were broken at Taghill, in the vicinity of Heanor, in Derbyshire, and five at Burton Joice.

On Tuesday the Royal Buckinghamshire Militia arrived here, in 88 waggons, they having left Woodbridge barracks, in Suffolk, at 7 o'clock on Friday evening last. Yesterday two field-pieces arrived, which belong to the regiment. On Wednesday two more troops of the huzzars likewise entered this town. Two London magistrates at present here have been using their utmost endeavours to learn whether politics have any connection with the present troubles in this neighbourhood; we understand they are convinced of the contrary.

Committed for trial at the assizes, William Barnes, of Basford, charged with having, in company with divers other persons at present unknown, wilfully, maliciously, feloniously broken, and destroyed, and damaged two frames.

LETTER FROM LUD.—The following is a literal copy of a letter accompanying returned articles which had been stolen at the time when frames were broken at Clifton:—

Unknown Stranger, I have entrusted thee Articles into your Care and I do insist that you will see that they are Restored to their respective owners it is with extream Regrat that I inform yow hau thay Came into my hans when I came out with my men

their weir sum joind us that I Never had ad with me before and it wear these Villinds that plundered but ass we wear goin out of Clifton one of my Men came and told me that he Believd that those Men ad got some thinnk that they had no Buisiness with I theirfore gave hordersthat they should be searchd and what we found on them we left the things at the Lown End and I hope that the oners has got agen we were gnet agoen to have hang'd one of the Villends when we weir informed that the Solders weir at hand and we thot it Right to Retreat.

N. B. The Men that had the things weir entire strangers to my horders or they Never dworst not have tuch'd one thinnk but they have been punished for their vileny for one of them have been hangd for 3 Menet and then Let down agane I ham a friend to the pore and Distrest and a enemy to the oppressers thron.

(Signed) GEN. LUD.

Letters from Portugal state, that Marmont arrived at Salamanca on the 21st ult. to assemble his troops for the relief of Ciudad Rodrigo, supposing it would make a much longer resistance. He was there joined by Dorsenne, from Leon, and could have collected his army by the 24th. On the evening of the 21st, he received accounts of the fall of the place, and immediately countermanded his orders for the marching of the troops.

In half an hour after the fortress was carried, Lord Wellington and Marshal Beresford were within the walls, forwarding the new arrangements of the place. General Hill was said to have actually crossed the Tagus, in his approach to Lord Wellington, whose intention, it was supposed, was to advance.

An officer who remained in the

fortress of Ciudad Rodrigo the whole of that night on which it was stormed, says, he had various opportunities of conversing with the French prisoners, who averred, that the intrepidity of the allies surpassed all they had ever seen in military performances.

Our army entered the place on the 19th, at nine p. m. and great was the slaughter. The garrison, with the exception of 1200 men, and the governor, were put to the sword. Gen. Craufurd fell in the assault.

Subscriptions have been entered into in various towns in England, and on board different ships of war, for the laudable purpose of assisting the widows and children of the unfortunate men who perished in his majesty's ships St George, Defence, and Hero, on their return from the Baltic.

12th.—SUICIDE.—Late on Tuesday night, or early yesterday morning, Mr Marshal, one of the king's yeomen of the guard, put a period to his existence, by hanging himself in the king's guard-chamber in St James's Palace. It was his turn to do the duty of sleeping in the guard-room on Tuesday night. He entered the guard-room at nine o'clock on that duty. He has been for several years past in a low, desponding way, bordering on insanity, and he discovered evident symptoms of insanity on Tuesday afternoon; so much so that one of his brethren did some of his duty for him.

17th.—Saturday the sum of 100,000*l.* as voted by parliament, was paid to the Prince Regent, to defray the expences of assuming the royal functions, from the Exchequer, without any deductions for property tax.

20th.—Messages were on Tuesday delivered to both houses from

the Prince Regent, announcing that he has created Lord Wellington a British earl, and recommending that an additional annuity of 2000*l.* be granted to his lordship.

21st.—A Cadiz Mail arrived on Wednesday with advices to the 4th instant. The Cortes have created Lord Wellington a Grandee of Spain of the first class, with the title of Duke of Ciudad Rodrigo. It is not a little singular, that the first act of the new Spanish regency, as well as the first act of the Prince Regent, in the exercise of his full authority, has been to confer a title of honour on the same individual.

LAW INTELLIGENCE.—COURT OF KING'S BENCH.—*Sittings at Westminster Hall.*—**FORGERY.**—*The King v. Colonel Browne.*—This was an information against the defendant, Colonel Browne, for a forgery at common law. The information charged him with having forged certain instruments purporting to be signed by George Harrison, Esq. one of the law clerks to the treasury, and by the Hon. Cecil Jenkinson, Esq. one of the under secretaries of state, with a view to defraud government, by surreptitiously obtaining a grant of 6000 acres of land in the island of St Vincents.

The Attorney-General stated the circumstances of the case as follows. In the year 1809, Colonel Browne represented to government that he had a large gang of negroes which he had nurtured with particular care, and had succeeded in reducing them to such domestic habits, that they multiplied as fast as by the course of nature they would die off; and he prayed for an allotment of crown lands in the island of St Vincents. It was thought that he had claims upon the government of this country,

having suffered as an American loyalist; and as government had at that time a part of the lands formerly allotted to the Caribbs, in consequence of a grant made to him of 6000 acres. It was discovered that a part of these lands had been granted to other occupiers, who held the will of the crown, and as they had expended their money to reduce the land to a state of cultivation, it was thought inequitable to expel them, and they therefore were allowed to purchase, which was done to the amount of 60,000*l.*—But in order to indemnify Col. Browne for this disappointment, government gave him half the money, namely 30,000*l.* which was considered a munificent recompence. It happened, however, shortly afterwards, in the year 1810, that Sir Charles Brisbane, the governor of St Vincent's, received a dispatch under the official seal of the secretary of state's office, directing him to make a grant of the same quantity of land which had been deducted from the six thousand acres of land, originally granted to Colonel Browne, which direction purported to be by order of the Lords of the Treasury, and was signed by Mr Jenkinson, the under-secretary of state. A discussion however ensuing with Col. Browne's agent, the governor thought proper to send home for instructions, when it was discovered that the whole was a forgery, no such orders having ever issued from the secretary of state's office in England. How Colonel Browne got possession of the seal of office he was unable to state, but he should be able to prove that the papers were written, all but the signatures, in the office of a Mr Stevens, a law stationer in Chancery-lane, and that Colonel Browne brought the rough draft, and took them away

when finished. And the plan which accompanied them was drawn by a clerk in the Duke of Bedford's office, who was employed by Colonel Browne, so that he traced him in giving directions for the forged instrument; and it was proved no other person had any interest in the fraud. Under these circumstances he thought no doubt could be entertained of the guilt of the defendant.

These facts were proved by Sir Charles Brisbane, Mr Harrison, Mr Jenkinson, and Mr Steele, and his clerks, who engrossed the papers by Colonel Browne's directions.

Lord Moira, Sir Alured Clarke, and several gentlemen of rank, gave a high character of Colonel Browne; but the jury, without hesitation, found him *Guilty*.

22d.—Yesterday evening Mr Benjamin Walsh was discharged from Newgate, in consequence of a pardon granted by his Royal Highness the Prince Regent.

24th.—The Acteon sloop arrived from the East Indies, last from the island of St Helena. There was a mutiny at St Helena on the 23d of December, among part of the troops. They seized the lieutenant-governor, and confined him, and were proceeding to seize the governor. He collected, however, such of the troops as remained loyal, repelled the mutineers, and put an end to the mutiny. The governor immediately summoned a court martial, and tried the mutineers. Six were instantly executed. Perfect tranquillity had been restored when the Acteon left the island.

FUNERAL OF MAJOR-GENERAL ROBERT CRAWFURD.—Lord Wellington, to testify his high sense of Major-General Crawford's great and distinguished merits and services, de-

termined that he should be interred in the breach which he had so ably and heroically assaulted, as the highest honour he could confer upon him.

The light division assembled before the St Francisco convent, where their late beloved commander lay, at twelve o'clock, on the 25th of January. The fifth division lined the road from thence to the breach. The officers of the brigade of guards, of the cavalry, and of the 3d, 4th, and 5th divisions, with Lord Wellington and the whole of the head-quarters at their head; General Castanos, and all his staff; Marshal Beresford, and all the Portuguese; moved in the mournful procession.

He was borne to his place of rest on the shoulders of the brave men whom he had led to victory. The field officers of the light division officiated as pall-bearers; Major-General Charles Stewart (Adjutant-General) was chief mourner, attended by Captain William Campbell, and Lieutenants Wood and Shawe, aides-de-camp to their late glorious commander, and by the staff of the light division.

The ceremony was as awful as affecting, as sublime as possible, and well calculated to inspire feelings of the most exalted nature; and if any other sentiment but that of the most poignant grief could have found place on this melancholy occasion, it would certainly have been envy at such an end so wept.

The breach of Ciudad Rodrigo is the monument of this admirable man, bedewed with the tears, and decked with the praises and blessings, of the whole army.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT.—The continuance of heavy rains through the month, with the unusual mildness

of the weather, has proved in some degree injurious to the young wheats, by forcing them beyond their reasonable growth.—The early beans have suffered, by rotting in the ground, and the general sowing is much retarded from the same cause. A considerable breadth of oats has been got in upon leys in the eastern counties; but the fallowed lands are found too wet to stir for barley.—Indeed, most of the preparatory operations for spring cultivation have been suspended, from the ungenial weather. The young plants of clover are generally good; and the rye and winter tare plants shew well for spring feed.—The turnips, in most counties, are running prematurely for bloom.—The hay markets are lower, from the openness of the season.—Considerable droves of beasts, principally Scots and Irish, are come to Epping Forest, and have hitherto been sold at high prices. Store sheep are somewhat cheaper. The wool trade has become a little brisker, owing to Merino fleeces selling pretty freely for 4s. 6d. and fine South-Down for 2s. per lb.

FASHIONS.—Evening Costume.—An amber crape dress over white sarsnet, trimmed with pearls or white beads, with a demi-train; a light short jacket, rather scanty, with two separate fancy folds, depending about three quarters down the front of the skirt, forming in appearance a kind of Sicilian tunic, and trimmed down each division, like the bottom of the dress, with a single row of pearls; short sleeves, not very high above the elbow, fitting close to the arm, and ornamented at the top with distinct points of satin, the same colour as the dress, relieved by pearls; two rows of the same costly material, or of beads, according as the robe is or-

namented, form a girdle. The hair dressed in the antique Roman style, with tresses brought together and confined at the back of the head, terminating either in ringlets or in two light knots; a braid of plaited hair drawn over a demi-turban formed of plain amber satin, with an elegantly embroidered stripe of white satin, separated by rows of pearls, and a superb sprig of pearls in front. Necklace of one single row of large pearls, with ear-rings of the Maltese fashion to correspond. *Ridicule* of slate colour shot with pink; the firm base secured by a covering of pink stamped velvet, with pink tassels. Italian slippers of amber fringed with silver, or ornamented round the ankle with a row of pearls on beads.—White kid gloves.

A Winter Walking Dress.—A scarlet Merino cloth pelisse, lined with straw-coloured sarsnet, trimmed with light-coloured spotted fur, and attached with loops of black silk cordon and rich frog tassels; the broad fur in front, forming a tippet, pointed at the back. A narrow fur passes from the top of the sleeve, is brought down the side seams, and relieved by fastening of black silk cordon; four loops with frogs ornament the shoulders and cuffs; plain standing-up collar tied with cordon; a fine cashmere shawl, with brown ground, and richly variegated border, is generally thrown over the dress, in which is united both comfort and elegance. A Swedish hat of the same materials as the pelisse, lined with straw colour, and fastened upon one side; the crown trimmed with two rows of narrow spotted fur, and one still narrower at the edge of the hat; a bunch of the Christmas holly in front, and two tassels falling from the summit of the crown, of black, to answer the pe-

lisse, which is worn over a white round dress, either of plain or corded cambric.

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MARCH.

2d.—Friday afternoon, Lord Castlereagh attended at the Foreign Office, for the first time, after having received the appointment to that office by the Prince Regent. His lordship deposited the seals there, and afterwards left town.

A shocking instance of barbarity took place near Dunbar last week:—A young woman, servant to Mr —, who had an illicit connection with a young man in the neighbourhood, was delivered of a child, which she kept concealed for two days in the kitchen, and afterwards, to avoid detection, threw it away, cut and mangled in the most savage manner; a boy, while herding, found one of the legs, which appeared to have been broken through a little below the knee joint, and the flesh wholly torn away from the upper part; the mother was passing from Dunbar at the time the boy found it, who shewed it to her, and she desired him to bury it. She immediately absconded, and has since been seen at Dunse, it is supposed on her way to England. The trunk of the body was found in a burn near the house where she resided, and what is remarkable, a carrion crow, which had got one of its arms torn off from the shoulder, and was in the act of flying away with it, let it fall close by the father's side, who happened at the time to be ploughing; the head has not yet been found. Mr Sawers, town clerk of Dunbar, with a praiseworthy activity, made every exertion when he heard of the circumstances. A pre-

cognition was taken, a search made, and two officers sent in search of the woman; but they were found on the road side on their return both intoxicated. Her relations, who are respectable people, and the father of the child, who had previously offered her marriage, are all in the most deplorable state of distress; the doctor who inspected the parts of the child, gave it as his opinion, that it had been full grown.

4th.—The Dublin papers contain the following intelligence:—"It is with inexpressible and unfeigned regret, that we find ourselves called upon to advert to certain outrages, which have been for some time committed in a neighbouring county, under pretence of regulating the price of land, and which, but for the prompt interference of government, might eventually have involved the vicinity of the capital itself in bloodshed and confusion. The miscreants who are the authors of these disturbances, call themselves *carders*, from the instrument of torture which they use, for the purpose of forcing the honest, the industrious, and peaceable proprietors of the soil to relinquish their property.—The time chosen for the execution of their nefarious designs, the dead of the night, perfectly suits and characterises their purpose; and, although their associations may have no immediately political object in view, yet it is not difficult to conceive, with what facility they may be converted to such an end.—This spirit has appeared, under various forms and denominations, in different parts of the country; and, thanks to a vigorous, yet mild and steady administration of justice, has every where been put down by the law. They have all one common object—the dominion of the mob over property. Sometimes the rent of the land is the

subject of their legislation ; at others, the tithes of the protestant ; at others again, the dues of the catholic clergy are regulated by their arbitrary decrees."

5th.—EDINBURGH RIOTERS.—Monday came on the trial of John Skelton, indicted and accused, at the instance of his majesty's advocate, of different acts of robbery on the streets of Edinburgh, on the night of the 31st December or morning of the 1st January.

George Edmondston, clerk in the Courant newspaper office, was on the High Street at half past eleven o'clock on the last night of the year 1811. Saw a disturbance a little above the Fleshmarket Close. On crossing from the south to the north side of the street he was followed into the Fleshmarket Close, by a number of young lads, from 12 to 20 as he supposed, who demanded money from him ; but before he had time to give them any, he was repeatedly struck with sticks, his hat taken from him, and himself knocked down. They tried to get his watch, but the swivel broke ; got his seal and ribbon. [Here the ribbon, seal, &c. were shown and identified.] He was attacked within the close ; and on recovering was lying, all wet with blood, in the first stair as you go down the Fleshmarket Close.

Walter Robertson, stoneware merchant, West Bow, was on the High Street, between twelve and one. He left his own shop about five minutes past twelve, to go to Nicholson's Street, along with a Mr Freyer, and met with no interruption until turning the corner at Mr Blackwood's shop, where a man who was knocked down came *bleaching* forward, and fell between them. He and his friend were immediately surrounded,

and after passing two or three shops, he was pinned up to the wall, and robbed of seventeen 20s. notes and fourteen guinea notes, which he had, with various papers, in his pocket-book, in his side pocket, together with the chain of a watch, seal, and key. There might be about 40 or 50 lads in the mob, from 16 to 18 or 19 years of age, headed by three rather taller than the rest, of a size with the prisoner, but he could not recognise any of them. [Witness identified his chain, &c.]

William Jolly, student of divinity, was on the street between twelve and one, on the first day of the year, about half way down the South Bridge, when he was surrounded by two or three dozen of lads, who demanded a shilling to drink. He said he had no money, and when remonstrating with them, two lads taller than the rest came and held him, and a lesser one searched his pockets. On finding nothing, some cried out, "Knock him down, knock him down !" but one of the tallest said, "He's a country chap, let him alone." He took out a green silk purse, and shook it, to show them there was no money in it, but it was immediately snatched out of his hand, by one like him who said, "Let him alone." During the time he was among them, he was twice struck. The first blow made him stagger, the next brought him to his knee ; but whether before or after being searched could not say. The mob consisted chiefly of boys, and some lads about the size of the prisoner.

Thomas M'Gibbon, painter, residing with his father in Thistle Street, was on the streets on the last night of the year about eleven o'clock, and saw a great deal of rioting, knocking down gentlemen, and robbing them.

Saw a gentleman robbed on the South Bridge, near the Tron Church—knows the prisoner—saw him that night at the corner of the North Bridge, but can't say precisely at what hour—heard him talking loud and swearing—he had a stick in his hand, and appeared concerned in the riots. Does not recollect seeing him more than once. He had his hat in his hand, and appeared to be hiding something in it. Saw a gentleman robbed at the Post-office, another at Moffat's, the jeweller, and another on the opposite side, the last after he saw Skelton—could not say how long after.

William Walker was in company with the prisoner on the last night of the year, and recollects meeting with Johnston and some others in Leith Street, but does not remember any conversation. Hogg and Simpson were with witness. Was not asked to beat the police, but ran along with the rest to help them.—Prisoner was there, and on the watchmen springing their rattles, they all ran down by Wordsworth's to Allan's, and the prisoner and others went up the trees and broke down branches. Witness and Skelton had no sticks, but the prisoner afterwards got a small one.

John Chisholm, police officer, was on duty the last night of the year; recollects the rioting; was sent by magistrates for Mr Tait (he was in Mr Tait's when one struck) with whom he returned to the police-office, where he remained till some more of the officers came in, when he went out with them. He fell in with the prisoner, between two and three o'clock, near the head of the Flesh-market Close, at the head of a parcel of fellows, who, when they observed the police, exclaimed, Here's the b—s,

knock them down; but when he and the others turned on them they ran off, and the prisoner ran up the street. He was caught about the middle of the High Street, and carried to the police-office.

Thomas M'Kay, John Duff, and Angus Cameron, all police-officers, corroborated the above statement.

Here the prisoner's declarations were read, which went to a denial of the charges exhibited against him, averring, that he had picked up the articles found on his person on the street, having seen a boy, who was pursued, throw the same away.

On the part of the prisoner the strongest possible proof of character was adduced.

The Solicitor-General then addressed the jury on the part of the crown. He stated, that although two months had elapsed since the occurrence of those disgraceful outrages, such was their magnitude and number, and such the labour and difficulty in procuring proof, that notwithstanding the magistrates had been employed with a diligence and zeal which reflected infinite credit on them, their investigations were only finished two days previous to the indictment being served. In reviewing the proof, he admitted that there was no direct evidence that the prisoner did assault or knock down any person; that it was not necessary, nor at all times possible, in transactions of this nature, to procure such proof; but that he was guilty, actor, or art and part, in the robberies and outrages of that night, was established by a train of circumstances, beyond the possibility of doubt—from his being in company with the gang—his going to Allan's, and arming himself with a stick—his attack on the police—his name being

called on the street, and the stolen goods being found in his possession, carefully concealed, without being able to account for them in a satisfactory manner.

Mr Gordon replied, in an eloquent speech, for the pannel, in the course of which he drew a clear line of distinction betwixt a person being engaged in the boisterous and riotous mirth to which the last night of the year has, by immemorial usage, been devoted, and his being concerned in, or a party to, the systematic plan which had been formed for the purpose of plunder and robbery. He concluded an impressive speech, by entreating the jury to keep in mind, that it were better ten guilty persons should escape, than that one innocent man should suffer, and he therefore hoped they would find the charges not proven against the prisoner.

The Lord Justice Clerk then summed up the evidence, and the jury were enclosed, and desired to return their verdict next day at one o'clock.

The court again met on Tuesday, when the jury returned their verdict, all in one voice finding the pannel guilty; but having taken into their consideration the strong evidence adduced in support of his former good character, unanimously and earnestly recommend him to mercy. The judges delivered their opinions at considerable length, lamenting the unfortunate situation of the pannel, and assured the jury, that their humane recommendation would be transmitted to the Prince Regent.—Sentence *death*.—He was afterwards respited and transported.

On Friday last, as Lord St Vincent was sitting by himself in his room, having occasion to reach forward, he unfortunately fell upon the grate.

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His head coming in contact with one of the spikes which were placed on the top of the grate for the security of the wood, he was with some difficulty able to force himself back from the fire before he sustained any injury by the heat, though his servants on entering found him covered with blood, from severe laceration, occasioned by the spike.—His lordship is, however, nearly recovered from the effects of this untoward accident.

6th.—Mr Benjamin Walsh, wa last night expelled the House of Commons, and a new writ immediately ordered for the borough of Wotton Bassett. A long discussion took place on the subject, in which the expulsion of Mr Walsh was opposed by Sir A. Pigot, on the ground of his having been virtually acquitted in the eye of the law. Mr Herbert Mr Abercrombie, Mr Lamb, and Mr Whitbread, spoke on the same side, while the Attorney-General the Chancellor of the Exchequer Sir Francis Burdett, and Mr Wynne argued in support of the motion, that whatever his offence might be in a legal point of view, the moral turpitude which attached to his conduct demanded his expulsion.

8th.—POISONING OF RACE HORSES.—CAMBRIDGE ASSIZES.—*Trial of Dawson*.—This trial, which has occupied so much of the attention of the sporting world, took place yesterday at the Cambridge assizes, before Mr Justice Heath. The court was so much crowded, that the business was greatly impeded. The prisoner was indicted for wilfully and maliciously poisoning a colt, by Eagle, the property of Sir F. Standish by infusing a quantity of white arsenic into a water-trough on the Newmarket course, in April, 1811.

Mr Serjeant Sellon, on the part of

the prosecution, detailed the case to the jury.

Cecil Bishop, who had been committed as an accomplice with Dawson, was admitted an approver in the case, and the substance of his evidence was as follows:—He had been acquainted with the prisoner since the year 1807, witness being at that time shopman to a chemist and druggist in Wardour-street. His acquaintance with Dawson originated in consequence of the latter having represented to him, that he had a friend whose horse had been played tricks with; and in order to retaliate, the prisoner asked witness his advice, as to what was best to give a horse so as to sicken him without killing him; or what would produce similar effects on the horse prisoner spoke of. Witness and the prisoner became very intimate; and Bishop's evidence, which was in some part corroborated, opened a scene of iniquity never excelled. They had been together at different races, and witness had procured solutions of arsenic at various times, which had been infused into a trough at Doncaster, where two brood mares were destroyed. They had also attempted to poison Lord Darlington's Rubens, which won the Pavilion stakes at Brighton, in 1809; and they succeeded in an attempt at Newmarket in the same year. In conjunction with a man, by repute named Triste, witness had been employed by the prisoner to infuse poison in the troughs at Newmarket in 1811. Pirouette, the favourite for the Craven stakes at Newmarket, was the object of the poisoning; and she was under the care of Mr R. Prince, a respectable stable-keeper at Newmarket, and also a training groom, in high esteem among the members of the Jockey Club. Mr Prince had under his care the principal horses

for the Claret stakes; amongst which were Spaniard and Pirouette, the property of Lord Foley; the Dandy, the property of Lord Kinnaird; and the Eagle colt, the subject of this indictment, all of which were poisoned, but some recovered. Bishop said, that he had infused the arsenic into the troughs, three in number, where Mr Prince's horses watered, by means of a syringe, in consequence of their being covered and locked. Dawson was the acting man in the back-ground, and Triste was the person who was to back the field against the favourites. After having watered the horses on the 1st of May, the day after the Claret stakes were run for, they were all taken ill in the stables, refused their corn, and the four which died may be estimated, considering their own value and their engagements, at 12,000*l*. Whilst Dawson was in London, Bishop was busy in keeping arsenic in the trough; and he addressed the prisoner by the appellation of *Miss Dawson*, and received in return, of Dawson, inclosures to enable him to carry on his nefarious practices.

The poisoning of the horses was completely proved by Mr Prince, who had been apprised of the plan; and, owing to his exertions, the perpetrators were brought to justice.

A young man, named Longford, proved, that the prisoner had met him at Newmarket in 1810, and consulted him with regard to lending himself as an agent on the occasion. Dawson had often called on him, but he refused to participate in his plans.

After Bishop's evidence had been gone through, the judge stopped the proceedings; and after hearing arguments on the part of Mr Serjeant Sellon, for the prosecution, and Mr King, for the prisoner, directed an acquittal, on the grounds that the

prisoner had been indicted as a principal, instead of an accessory before the fact, which in point of law could not be maintained.—The prisoner was acquitted, to the mortification of a crowded court, but was detained until next assizes, on a charge of poisoning race horses in 1809.

9th.—In the night of Tuesday evening, such was the inclemency of the weather, that, when the Bath coach arrived at Chippenham from London, two out of three outside passengers were wholly lifeless. The third shewed some signs of animation, and, after a time, took some small refreshment, but nature was so far exhausted that he died next morning.

On Sunday the 1st instant a young man of genteel appearance arrived at Harwich by the stage, and went to the Three Cups, where he remained with two travellers during the day, and about seven in the evening, as the coach was about to start, paid his bill, and left the inn, as if intending to go by the coach. Next morning, an old mariner who was walking on the beach at a short distance from the town, found the dead body of the young man extended with the face downwards, nearly covered with weeds, from the influx of the tide, and near it a pistol-bag. An inquest was held the same day before B. Chapman, gent., the coroner for that borough, when it was discovered that a bullet had passed through his head. It also came out in evidence, that the deceased was in a melancholy state the whole day, but he appeared perfectly rational. There being no doubt of his having committed the act himself, a verdict of *Felo de se* was returned. He was a stranger at Harwich, and nothing was found on him to lead to his discovery. It is hoped that these particulars may produce it.

He was about five feet seven inches high, fair complexion, nose somewhat aquiline, dark hair, long on the forehead: he wore a brown surtout, a blue coat, buff waistcoat, grey pantaloons, boots, and round hat. He came to Colchester from London by the coach on the Saturday. In his pockets were a shirt, a pair of stockings, three shillings, and a yellow button with a lion rampant on it. The body was not to be interred for a few days, to give an opportunity of seeing it.

ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND.—On Tuesday the following gentlemen were unanimously elected governor, deputy-governor, and directors, of the Royal Bank, viz.

His Grace the Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry, governor.

Gilbert Innes, Esq. of Stow, deputy-governor.

Ordinary Directors.—Alexander Duncan, Esq. James Bruce, Esq. R. S. Moncrieff, Esq. J. Campbell, Esq. W. Macdonald, Esq. W. Ramsay, Esq. James Dundas, Esq. Charles Selkrig, Esq. and Hugh Warrender, Esq.

Extraordinary Directors.—James Hopkirk, Esq. David Ramsay, Esq. Lord Advocate, James Ferrier, Esq. Robert Allan, Esq. Hon. Henry Erskine, Peter Free, Esq. Alexander Bonar, Esq. Right Honourable W. Creech, Lord Provost of Edinburgh.

11th.—EXTRAORDINARY TRIAL.—At the Isle of Ely Assizes, on Thursday last, Michael Whiting, a shop-keeper at Downham, near Ely, and a dissenting preacher, was indicted under Lord Ellenborough's act, on a charge of administering poison to George Langman and to Joseph Langman, his brothers-in-law. It appeared in evidence, that the Lang-

mans resided together at Downham, and were small farmers; and that their family consisted of themselves, a sister, named Sarah, about ten years of age, and a female domestic, of the name of Catharine Carter, who acted as their housekeeper and servant: they had another sister who was married to the prisoner. On the morning of Tuesday the 12th of March last, they sent their sister to the prisoner's house to borrow a loaf, the prisoner returned with her, and brought a loaf with him, and told the Langmans, that as he understood their housekeeper was going on a visit to her friends, for a day or two, he would bring them some flour and pork to make a pudding for their dinner. He went away, and shortly afterwards returned with a bason of flour and pork; and, addressing himself to the housekeeper, said "Catharine, be sure you make the boys a pudding before you go." He then took the young child home with him to dinner. The housekeeper made two puddings, but observed the flour would not properly adhere; she left them in a kneading trough; and the Langmans boiled one for dinner: they had hardly swallowed two or three mouthfulls before they were taken exceedingly ill, and seized with violent vomitings. Suspecting the pudding had been poisoned, one of the Langmans gave a small piece to a sow in the yard, which swallowed it, and was immediately taken sick, and after lingering a long time died. The elder brother soon recovered, but the younger one continued in a precarious state for several days. The remnants of the puddings were analysed by Mr Woolaston, professor of chemistry at the University of Cambridge, and found to contain a considerable quantity of corrosive sublimate of mercury.

The prisoner, who it appeared was

a dealer in flour, attempted to account for the pudding's being poisoned, by stating, that he had then lately laid some nux vomica to poison vermin, and that some of it must accidentally have been carried into his flour-bin. Mr Woolaston, however, positively stated, that the pudding contained no other poisonous ingredient than corrosive sublimate; and it came out in evidence, that the prisoner, who sold drugs, had purchased of the person whom he succeeded in business, a considerable quantity of that poison. It also appeared, that the flour-bins belonging to the prisoner had been searched, and that immediately upon its being discovered that the Langmans had taken poison, the prisoner emptied his bins into the privy, and washed them out. Mr Alley, from London, conducted the prisoner's defence; the trial lasted till six o'clock at night, and the jury, after deliberating about ten minutes, found the prisoner *guilty*, and the judge immediately passed sentence of death, and he is left for execution. By the deaths of the two Langmans, under age, the prisoner's wife, and the child he took home with him, would have become entitled to the father's estate, as the heiresses of their brothers.

12th.—MULLINGAR.—Tuesday night, about seven o'clock, an express arrived in town from the general of district at Tullamore, in consequence of which a strong detachment of the 2d Royal Surrey Militia, quartered here, immediately proceeded to Moyvally, and other places along the line of the royal canal, where several large breaches have been made, and in some places, where the ground was low, the canal undermined, by a lawless banditti, who have threatened the lives of the workmen or labourers who should have the temerity to repair such breaches. The objects of the military being

sent are not only to prevent farther depredations, but to protect the workmen when they are employed.

13th.—THE PRINCE REGENT'S COURT.—Yesterday his Royal Highness the Prince Regent held his first levee this season at Carlton-house, which was very numerously and splendidly attended by all ranks and parties, who were anxious to pay their personal respects to his royal highness on his assuming the government of the country. About eleven o'clock a detachment of the first regiment of foot guards, commanded by Colonel Rainsford, in white gaiters, with the band in their state uniform, marched into the court-yard of Carlton-house. A detachment of life guards marched into Pall-mall and the adjacent streets, to regulate the procession of carriages coming to the levee. At a quarter before one o'clock the company began to arrive. In addition to those who attended his royal highness's levee last year, attached to the court, were the king's serjeant porters, the gentlemen and groom porters, and under-porters. His royal highness's equerries came in the king's carriages. The band played "God save the King" from the time the royal dukes entered the yard till they entered the grand hall. All the dukes came in state, except the Duke of York; the Duke of Clarence came in the Duke of Kent's carriage; the company continued to arrive till about half past three o'clock, with very little cessation. About two o'clock the prince left his private apartments, and proceeded to the state room, attended by Colonel M'Mahon, General Turner, General Keppel, Colonels Bloomfield, Congreve, and Palmer, together with the Lord Chamberlain, the Lord Steward, the groom of the stole, gold stick

(Earl Harrington) and several other state attendants. His royal highness remained in the room attached to the levee-room, where those who had the privilege of the *entre* were assembled, such as the cabinet ministers, most of those who have been in office, the foreign ministers, &c. &c.; this privilege granted by the king is to be strictly adhered to, as it was at St James's Palace, and for this and other special purposes, the prince has been pleased to appoint his majesty's resident page to the same office under his royal highness, to the satisfaction of all the royal family and nobility. After those assembled in the privilege-room had paid their respects to his royal highness, he proceeded to the levee-room, where he received the distinguished list of personages present.

16th.—The long-talked-of matrimonial alliance, between Mr Pole (now Wellesley) and Miss Tylney Long, took place on Saturday evening. The parties met at Lord Montgomerie's house, in Hamilton-place, Piccadilly, at five o'clock; and, about six, went, in Lady Catharine Long's coach, to St James's church, in Piccadilly. The Marquis of Wellesley handed Miss Long out of the carriage, and conducted her through the rector's house (Dr Andrews) to the altar of Hymen. There were present at the ceremony (which was performed by Dr Glasse, Rector of Wanstead) Mr Secretary Pole, Lady Catharine Long, Miss Diana Long, and Miss Emma Long; the two latter were the bride's maids. The usual forms being gone through, the happy couple retired by the southern gate, which leads through the church-yard, into Jernyn-street. Here a new and magnificent equipage was in waiting to receive them; it was a singularly

elegant chariot painted a bright yellow, and highly emblazoned, drawn by four beautiful Arabian grey horses, attended by two postillions, in brown jackets, with superbly embroidered badges in gold, emblematic of the united arms of the Wellesley and Tylney families. The new-married pair drove off with great speed for Blackheath, intending to pass the night at that tasteful *chateau* belonging to the bridegroom's father, and thence proceed to Wanstead House, in Essex, on the following day, to pass the honey-moon.

The bride's dress excelled, in costliness and beauty, the celebrated one worn by Lady Morpeth, at the time of her marriage, which was exhibited for a fortnight at least, by her mother the late Duchess of Devonshire.

The dress of the present bride consisted of a robe of real Brussels point lace; the device a simple sprig; it was placed over white satin. The head was ornamented with a cottage bonnet, of the same material, viz. Brussels lace, with two ostrich feathers. She likewise wore a deep lace veil, and a white satin pelisse, trimmed with swansdown. The dress cost 700 guineas; the bonnet 150; and the veil 200*l*. Mr Pole wore a plain blue coat, with yellow buttons, a white waistcoat, and buff breeches, and white silk stockings. The lady looked very pretty and interesting.

Yesterday, the wedding favours were distributed among their numerous friends; the number exceeded eight hundred, composed wholly of silver, and unique in form; those for ladies having an acorn in the centre, and the gentlemen's a star; each cost a guinea and a half. The inferior ones, for their domestics and others, were made of white satin ribbon, with silver stars, and silver balls and fringe.

The lady's jewels consist principally of a brilliant necklace and ear-rings; the former cost twenty-five thousand guineas. Every domestic in the family of Lady Catharine Long has been liberally provided for; they all have had annuities settled upon them for life; and Mrs Tylney Long Pole Wellesley's own waiting-woman, who was nurse to her in her infancy, has been liberally considered.

17th.—DUBLIN.—On Friday last, near Rathangan, one of the canal boats, loaded with potatoes, was seized upon, by a mob who took the potatoes out, and gave them for safe-keeping to the adjacent inhabitants, to be brought the next market day forth for public sale. We understand that threatening notices have been sent to persons who have corn and potatoes in store at Monastereven, intimating the intention of taking away, by force, those articles of food. Labourers and masons are threatened with being carded, who shall presume to repair any part of the canal which had been broken down for the purpose of impeding the conveyance of provisions to the metropolis. Potatoes are increasing in price, owing to the shortness of the last crop, but the same cause for a high price in oatmeal does not exist. There is a considerable quantity of unthreshed oats yet in the farmers' barns, besides other very abundant stores.

18th.—The Earl of Uxbridge died on Friday, at Uxbridge-House, Saville-Row. His death was hastened by an event which happened a few days before. Two of his servants were helping him to walk from one room to another, and one of them quitted his lordship's arm, in order to shut the door; the other servant had not strength enough to sustain

his master singly, and they both fell; in consequence, one of the noble lord's ribs was broken, and he lingered till Friday, when he was released from all mortal sufferance.—His lordship was sixty-seven years old. Lord Paget, his eldest son, succeeds to his titles and honours.

A very sudden and fatal accident occurred on Sunday se'ennight, at the distillery of Messrs. Hewit and co. on the Water-course, Cork. The iron hoops of a large worm cooler, which contained nearly sixty thousand gallons of water, suddenly burst, and this vast body, which in a moment became unconfined, impetuously spread and overwhelmed every thing which presented any resistance to it. A wall which was immediately between this large vessel and the street, was forced from its position, and two females, who were passing, killed, and one so dreadfully bruised as to render the amputation of both legs necessary to preserve life.

ANNIVERSARY OF ST PATRICK.—Yesterday there was a very numerous meeting at dinner at the Freemasons' Tavern, in commemoration of St Patrick, the tutelary saint of Ireland. The Marquis of Lansdowne presided, supported by the Earl of Moira on his right hand, and the Marquis of Downshire on his left. Besides a number of Irish noblemen and gentlemen, the Lord Mayor and sheriffs of the city of London were present. After dinner was over,

The Marquis of Lansdowne, after expressing the satisfaction he felt at addressing so numerous and respectable a meeting of Irishmen, thought necessary, however, to state, that the exclusive object of the meeting was to support the charitable institution for the maintenance and education of the children of Irish parents

in this metropolis. He, therefore, hoped, that political feelings would, at least for this night, be suppressed; and that, excepting the hilarity which was naturally to be expected from a meeting of Irishmen, there would be no other feeling predominant upon this occasion except that of charity. He then proceeded to propose the first toast—"The King."

This toast was drank with three times three, and was received with enthusiasm. It was followed by the air of "God save the King," which was sung in a very superior style, and with full chorus.

The Marquis of Lansdowne, after a few introductory observations, gave "The Prince Regent."

This toast was warmly applauded by a part of the company, and received with murmurs by others.

The following were among the toasts given in the course of the evening:—

"The Queen and the rest of the Royal Family."—"The Army and Navy."—"Lord Wellington, the Army in Portugal, and the Cause of the Peninsula."—"The Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, and Corporation of the City of London."—"The benevolent Society of St Patrick," &c.

On the health of Mr Sheridan being proposed, he shortly observed, that the present occasion was peculiarly devoted to the purposes of social charity, and not at all proper for the introduction of politics. He could not help remarking, however, in the silent and surly manner in which the health of the prince regent had been drank by at least a part of the company. He confessed frankly, that, knowing, as he did, the unalterable and unchangeable sentiments of that illustrious personage towards Ireland, he could not conceal from

the meeting that he had felt considerably shocked at the circumstance. Mr S. said, that he knew the prince regent well; he knew his principles; and, so well satisfied was he, that they were all that Ireland could wish, that he (Mr S.) hoped, that as he had lived up to them, so he might die in the principles of the prince regent.—(*Hisses and applauses*).—He could only assure them, that the prince regent remained unchangeably true to those principles. (Here the clamour became so loud and general, that nothing more could be collected.)

In the course of the evening a collection was made amounting to upwards of 1700*l.* including donations previously sent.

There was an immense display of shamrocks yesterday. The Irish labourers, at work on Drury Lane Theatre, erected flags on two of the loftiest poles of the scaffolding in honour of the anniversary of the birth of St Patrick. Lord Castle-reagh wore a large shamrock in the House of Commons.

19th.—This day John Horne Tooke died at Wimbledon. This extraordinary man has flourished so long, and acted a part in the world so remarkable and diversified, that it is not within our limits to attempt further than an outline of his life. Neither indeed is it necessary, to those who are at all acquainted with our literature or domestic history for the last forty years to delineate a man who has been so conspicuous in both. We consider his literary character to be already immovably fixed, and that there is no man of ingenuity who does not lament to see the close of his philological labours. As a man of wit and general talents, he will be likewise allowed on all hands to stand

in the highest rank; as a companion, well bred, affable, cheerful, entertaining, instructive, and in raillery to have been, perhaps, without an equal.—Mr Tooke was in the 77th year of his age. He had been for several weeks in a declining state, and had lost the use of his lower extremities. A few days ago mortification appeared, and rapidly advanced. Dr Pearson, Mr Cline, Mr Tooke's two daughters, and Sir Francis Burdett, attended on him, and he was informed that his dissolution was approaching. He signified, with a placid look, that he was fully prepared, and had reason to be grateful for having passed so long and so happy a life, which he would willingly have had extended if it had been possible. He expressed much satisfaction that he should be surrounded in his last moments by those who were most dear to him. He professed his perfect confidence in the existence of a Supreme Being, whose final purpose was the happiness of his creatures. The eccentric facetiousness for which he was so remarkable did not forsake him till he became speechless, and even then his looks wore an aspect of cheerful resignation. A short time before his death, when he was supposed to be in a state of entire insensibility, Sir Francis Burdett mixed up a cordial for him, which his medical friends told the baronet it would be to no purpose to administer, but Sir Francis persevered in offering it, and raised Mr Tooke with that view. The latter opened his eyes, and seeing who offered the draught, took the glass and drank the contents with eagerness. He had previously observed, that he should not be like the man at Strasburgh, who, when doomed to death, requested time to pray, till the patience of the magistrates was

exhausted, and then, as a last expedient, begged to be permitted to close his life with his favourite amusement of *nine pins*, but who kept bowling on, with an evident determination never to finish the game.—He desired that no funeral ceremony should be said over his remains, and that six of the poorest men in the parish should have a guinea each for bearing him to the vault which had been prepared in his garden.

On Friday last a jury was summoned by the sheriff of the county, to assemble at Leith, for the purpose of valuing certain pieces of ground near the wet docks, which are necessary for carrying on the improvements in that quarter. After visiting the grounds in question, and hearing counsel for the city of Edinburgh and the proprietors, the jury, after an excellent charge from the sheriff, awarded to the proprietors 4l. 10s. as the value per square yard, or about 22,000l. per acre.

20th.—Antigua and St Christopher's gazettes to the end of December have arrived. The former states, that General Miranda, commander-in-chief of the forces at Caraccas, had entered into a compact with the French, by which he agrees to admit into his ports all prizes made from the British. Several captured vessels are said to have arrived there, most of which, with their cargoes, were purchased on account of Miranda. It was reported at Antigua, that, in consequence of the facilities afforded by Miranda, sixteen more French corvettes were expected in those seas.

An alteration, it appears, is about to take place in the uniforms of the officers of the navy. The admirals are to have white lappets to their coats, bound round with broad gold

lace, and the buttons to be nearly similar to those worn by field-m Marshals. The dress in which the Duke of Clarence appeared at the recent levee of the prince regent was of this description, and was decorated with a profusion of gold lace. It is supposed that the alteration will take place on the 4th of June.—The present dress was ordered seventeen years ago.

The demand for seamen is so great, that the impress officers take nearly from all protections. The indulgence which has hitherto been granted by the Admiralty of discharging men on certain conditions, is suspended, according to report, during the present exigency.

FRENCH LICENSES.—It has already been stated, that the Board of Trade had refused to comply with so much of the terms of the French licenses as specified that exportations were first to be made from France, before any importation from England should be admitted. On this subject several applications have been made to the Board of Trade by the merchants interested in the commerce with France. Tuesday the applications were renewed, when the Board of Trade agreed to an arrangement, with which the merchants appeared satisfied, of which these are the conditions:—

To admit the following articles to be imported from any port between the river Ems and Caen, provided that the vessel in which they are imported is of 100 tons burden or upwards.

Articles allowed to be imported:—Cheese, seeds, fruits, bristles, clinkers, threads and tapes, perfumery, silk, thrown and organsined, linens, lawns, cambrics, lace, quicksilver, rushes, linen-flax and yarn, jewellery, bronze, and books,

The articles, when imported, are to be warehoused under the joint lock of the crown and the merchant, until the counter-exportation shall have been made, conformably to the conditions prescribed and made known by government.

With respect to the staple commodities of France, such as wine and brandies, no alteration has taken place.

TRIAL OF THE NOTTINGHAM RIOTERS.—The grand jury were sworn in on Monday, and Mr Justice Bailey addressed them to the following effect :

“GENTLEMEN,—Nothing could give me greater satisfaction, amidst the troubled state to which this important county has been reduced by a number of misguided individuals, than to see so respectable a jury assembled, as a barrier between guilt and innocence ; and as a safeguard to property, to our liberties, and to our lives. The calendar laid before me does credit to the moral state of the county, with the exception of one crime, which swells the awful list.”

William Carnel, aged 22, and Joseph Maples, aged 16 years, were put to the bar, and pleaded not guilty. The witnesses were then called.

Elizabeth Braithwaite stated, that in January last, her husband was a stocking-maker, residing at Old Bashford, who kept seven plain cotton frames occupied by five apprentices, one journeyman of the name of Towlson, and himself. On the 3d of Jan. in the evening, a person knocked at the door, and asked for Towlson. The door was bolted, but before she could open it, it was forced, and a man entered, whom she believed to be Carnel ; that he walked into the shop with a hammer, and broke the end of a slur-bar ; eleven more followed, and the first man who entered

stood as guard to the rest. On being desired to point Carnel out, and to look at one of the sheriff's officers, who stood near to Carnel, she pointed out the man, and said, that is Carnel. She was then asked, whether she knew any other person near him, when she pointed to another in the prisoner's box, and said, that is Maples. She said, that Carnel had given her husband a *nudge* over the shoulder with a hammer, in consequence of which he had been lame ever since. Maples clapped a pistol to her breast, with this exclamation, “Hang you, I'll shoot you, if you don't hold your noise.” She seized the pistol, turned the muzzle towards his throat, and drew the trigger ; had it gone off must have shot him, but believes it was not charged. In the mean time she heard some one call out, “My lads, work on,” when the hammers went like those in a smith's shop. The mischief was all done in about 20 minutes.

The evidence on the part of the crown being closed, the prisoners were called upon for their defence, when Carnel declared, that Mrs Braithwaite had made a different statement before the magistrates when he was committed, to what she had done then, respecting his treatment of her husband, as she had then admitted, that instead of his *nudging* her husband with a hammer, he had, she believed, been the means of saving his life. On the part of Maples it was stated on oath, by Sarah Rawson, Ann Rawson, and Joseph Rawson, that he, on the evening the frames were broken, was at the house of the latter, from a quarter before seven till past twelve o'clock, and had never been away more than two or three minutes that whole time. Francis Syson made oath, that Carnel was at

his house, on business, from half past six till ten minutes before eight, on the night the frames were broken; three other witnesses spoke to the same effect.

After a trial of six hours, the jury returned a verdict of *Not Guilty*, for Maples, and *Guilty of Frame-breaking* against Carnel; when his lordship desired them to reconsider their verdict, pointing out the impropriety of disuniting the burglarious entry from the simple felony of breaking the frames; but all the alteration which the jury chose to make was, to find them both guilty of frame-breaking only, thus doing away the capital part of the charge. His lordship then addresseed the prisoners in a solemn and impressive manner, and told them, that if the burglarious part of the charge had been found against them, he should have found himself obliged, for the sake of an example, and to put an end to such disgraceful outrages, to have exerted the full authority of the law; as it was, he had only power to sentence them to transportation for fourteen years.

Robert Poley, aged 16, was charged with frame-breaking, at Sutton, in Ashfield. He pleaded guilty.—The judge sentenced him to seven years transportation.

J. Peck, aged 17, for frame-breaking at Sutton, in Ashfield, was found *Guilty*, and sentenced to transportation for fourteen years.

On Wednesday, Benjamin Hancock, aged 21, was tried for the same offence, found *Guilty*, and sentenced to fourteen years transportation; as were Marshal and Green to seven years transportation.

21st.—BURY.—Edmund, alias Edward Thrower, was indicted for the murder of Elizabeth Carter, at Crat-

field, Suffolk, on the 16th of October 1793. This prisoner was brought to justice by a chapter of accidents. He confessed the murder to one Heads soon after it was committed; but Heads, according to his statement, knew he was so much given to speaking falsehoods, that he disbelieved him. The murder is just similar to that of the Marr and Williamson families. The prisoner went alone and knocked out the brains of Elizabeth Carter, as she was fastening her window shutter, and then he went into the house and killed her father in a similar manner, whilst the old man was sitting in his arm chair. Some years after this, Heads, who had never before heard from any one but the prisoner that a murder of this sort had been committed, heard a brother felon in Norwich gaol lamenting that he had always been suspected of that murder innocently, and Heads recollected the confession the prisoner had made to him several years ago, of which he had made depositions before two magistrates, eleven years since, but Thrower, the prisoner, was never heard of, and supposed to be dead. At the time of the general alarm at the horrid murder of the Marr and Williamson families, Mr Archdeacon Oldershaw, a magistrate, was observing to a Mr Fox, in common conversation, that a murder resembling those occurred at Cratfield 19 years ago; and in mentioning his taking the deposition of Heads, he observed Thrower was suspected, but he never was found. Now Mr Fox had a legacy to pay Thrower's wife, which could not be done without her husband's signature, and through this incident the prisoner was taken into custody, as well as Heads, both of whom had been transported.

Heads, in his evidence, told the

same story he had done eleven years ago, of the prisoner's confession; and a person proved having heard a female shriek on the night of the murder, and that he saw a man run from the house. The body of the young woman was proved to have been found in the garden, which corroborated Head's story. There being other strong circumstantial evidence, the prisoner was found *Guilty*, and ordered for execution on Monday at Ipswich, and afterwards his body to be dissected.

23d.—EDINBURGH.—HIGH COURT OF JUSTICIARY.—On Friday came on the trial of Hugh M'Intosh, Niel Sutherland, and Hugh M'Donald, (who went by the nickname of *Boat-swain*) three of the persons accused of being guilty of the riots on the streets of Edinburgh, on the last night of the year 1811, and first morning of the new year.

James Johnstone, a journeyman mason, was also indicted to stand trial, but he had made his escape.

The following charges were then made against the prisoners, to which they pleaded *Not Guilty*.

Of having, between the hours of ten of the night of the 31st of December, 1811, and four of the morning of the 1st of January, 1812:—

1. On the High-street, and near the head of the Stamp-office Close, Edinburgh, wickedly and feloniously assaulting, and mortally wounding, Dugald Campbell, then one of the police watchmen of Edinburgh, by striking him on the head, and other parts of his body, with sticks and bludgeons, in consequence of which the said Dugald Campbell died a few days thereafter.

2. At the same place, assaulting and knocking down Ensign Humphry Cochrane, of the Renfrewshire

militia, and robbing him of a silver watch, watch-chain, seals, two guinea notes, some silver, and two handkerchiefs.

3. On North Bridge-street, and near to the General Post-office, assaulting and knocking down R. H. Laurie, clerk to J. Jollie, W. S. and robbing him of a gold seal and watch-chain, and five shillings in silver.

4. On North Bridge-street, and near the shop of R. Johnstone, grocer, assaulting and knocking down G. R. A. Browne, Esq. residing in Duke-street, and robbing him of 4l. in bank-notes, 10s. in silver, a pen-knife, and a man's round hat.

5. Near to the Tron Church, and either upon the High-street, Hunter's-square, the South or North Bridge, assaulting and knocking down Francis James Hughes, residing in Nicholson's-street, and robbing him of a gold repeating watch, watch-chain, four seals, &c. and a man's round hat.

6. At the same place, assaulting Nicol Allan, manager of the Hercules Assurance Company, and robbing him of a watch, watch-chain, two seals, and fourteen shillings in silver.

7. On the South Bridge, or in Adam's-square, and near to the stair which leads into Barclay's tavern, assaulting and knocking down Duncan Ferguson, clerk to W. Campbell, W. S. and robbing him of a seal, watch-key, man's round hat, and 9s. in silver.

8. Near the Tron Church, and on the South Bridge, assaulting D. S. K. M'Laurin, residing in Drummond-street, and robbing him of two watch-cases, a pocket-handkerchief, a man's round hat, and 6s. in silver.

9. Near the south end of the North Bridge, assaulting and knocking down J. B. Brodie, writer, residing in York

Place, and robbing him of a watch, with a shagreen case, watch ribbon, four seals, a gold watch-key, a blue morocco leather purse, containing a one pound bank note, a 7s. piece, 8s. in silver, and a man's round hat.

10. On the South Bridge, assaulting Duncan McLauchlan, student of medicine, residing in Richmond Place, and robbing him of a man's round hat, a pocket-handkerchief, and a pair of gloves.

11. At the same place, assaulting and knocking down Peter Bruce, residing in Richmond Place, and robbing him of a green silk purse, 5s. 6d. in silver, a gold ring, and a man's round hat.

Evidence for the Crown.

John Thomson deponed, as to Du-gald Campbell, the police man, being beat and bruised by a number of lads. His wounds were bad and bloody, and his death violent. Several witnesses corroborated this evidence.

Francis James Hughes was on the street the last night of the year, and was attacked and robbed of a gold watch, with four seals, between the North and South Bridges, when returning home about twelve o'clock. Does not think he would know any of those who attacked him. He was several times knocked down and cut, in going from the North to the South Bridge.

Nicol Allan was on the street about one o'clock, and in passing Weddell's shop was knocked down by a blow on the head from a single individual. On recovering he walked up streets, where he saw several persons join the first, and was again knocked down and robbed.

Duncan Ferguson was in Barclay's tavern on the last night of the year, and left it about twelve o'clock. Upon leaving it, he saw a number of

young lads pursuing a gentleman, who escaped into the tavern. They then turned upon the witness and two gentlemen who were with him, from whom he was separated, and he was beat, bruised, and knocked down, and his hat taken from him. Was struck with a large bludgeon of the appearance of one on the table.

John Buchan Brodie.—When at the corner of the North Bridge saw some young men come out of Milne's Square. One of them came down streets by himself, followed by the others, when witness supposing they had mistaken him and the gentleman with him for people they might have had a previous quarrel with, said, "You see we are not the persons you want." The witness then got a violent blow from the one by himself, which knocked him down, and, on getting up and attempting to run by the South Bridge, received a great many blows, and was knocked down a second time. On recovering and calling out, "Police," the person who knocked him first down came up, and said, "Oh, you b——, the police is gone long ago," and again knocked him down. On recovering this time, he was standing at Mr Patison's shop—there was a hand in each pocket, a great number round him, a person pulling his watch-chain, and a little boy taking his hat.—He took his hat from the boy, but afterwards lost it. Thinks Niel Sutherland very like the one that struck him, but cannot identify him.

James Black was on the street between eleven and twelve, and saw Campbell chased. Saw Johnston knock him down—he tripped him, and struck him with a stick as he was falling. This was a little above Milne's-square, but below the Flesh-market Close.—Campbell was sur-

rounded by a mob on being knocked down, and was struck by several. Witness knows M'Donald by the name of Boatswain; saw him give Campbell a kick when lying on the street, and heard him say, "he's well out of the way." Identified Sutherland; saw him in the mob, with a stick in his hand, but not doing any ill. Saw M'Intosh also in the mob: he struck Campbell with a stick when lying on the pavement, but does not know what kind. Witness and another person attempted to lift Campbell, who was all running with blood and insensible, but witness got a blow on the wrist, which forced him to let go his hold.

John Thomson was on the streets, and heard a cry of "There was a policeman going up." On this the crowd ran up streets also, and among the rest saw the prisoners run. Witness went with the mob, saw a policeman lying, and several striking him. They went to the other side of the street, where a lady and gentleman were passing, when the gentleman was attacked and knocked down. He did not hear Boatswain's name till about a quarter of an hour after the lady and gentleman were attacked—nor those of M'Intosh or Sutherland. Heard one ask another who it was, and was answered the *Royal Arch* (a name Campbell was known by).—Campbell was lying on the ground when witness first came up—is not sure of Sutherland, but positive of M'Intosh.

George Brown was on the street before twelve, where he saw Campbell lying. M'Donald and Johnston were beside him with sticks, but did not see them strike him—they said he had plenty. Saw M'Donald and Clark attack a gentleman on the North Bridge after Campbell—M'Donald attacked him first, and he defended

himself, but the stick flew out of his hand.

James Burges was also on the street before twelve, and saw the mob on the South Bridge knocking down gentlemen. Witness was two or three hours on the street, during which he saw M'Intosh on the South and North Bridges, knocking down gentlemen. One, in particular, near the Post-office. M'Intosh had a stick with a large head, but could not say whether the one shewn him was it. Identified M'Donald, whom he saw very active, on the North and South Bridges, employed like M'Intosh.

John Tasker, prisoner in the Cannongate jail, said, that he knew of a number of lads who used to meet at the bottom of Niddry-street, when they came from their work, about nine o'clock. Sometimes they met thrice a-week, and witness has frequented these meetings more than half a year; that he knows the prisoners, who were accustomed to come to those meetings; that the purpose of the meeting was to pick quarrels with people, and to strike them, but never saw them take any thing; has heard that things were taken, and given to one Caw; has heard that cheeses were disposed of in this way, and has got whisky as part of his share; that he has heard them called the *Keellie Gang*; that three or four weeks before the new year, he heard of a plan to give the police a *licking* (beating), and some of them said that they would have a good hat; that it was the prisoners who said so. On the evening of the 31st they had all sticks, and Sutherland said he was resolved to have a good hat; that he saw Johnston knock down a policeman, and M'Intosh also struck him with the stick he now sees in court; Johnston's gang was chasing a gentleman down the street, whom John-

ston knocked down, and he fell into a close; and both the parties came to the South Bridge, when two gentlemen were attacked, one of whom was knocked down by Johnston, and something taken from one of them, which he heard was a watch; that M^cIntosh, Gun, White, and others, were present when Johnston took a watch from a gentleman. They afterwards went to the North Bridge, and came back and chased three gentlemen along the South Bridge, one of them was knocked down by Gun, and M^cIntosh also struck him on the head. Sutherland was also there. Heard Johnston call to the gentleman to deliver up his money, and he gave them some; that he saw a gentleman attacked near Barclay's tavern, who was knocked down by M^cIntosh, and when the gentleman was lying, M^cIntosh stooped down, but does not know what he took. Witness and M^cIntosh went into a stair on the South Bridge, about half past two, when M^cIntosh shewed him some gold cases and two watches, and asked if they were worth any thing; witness said they were. Being shewn Mr Allan's watch, thinks it is like one of them M^cIntosh shewed him.

John Kidd, prisoner in the tolbooth of Edinburgh, said, that he knew of a meeting of lads in Niddry-street, and has seen the prisoners there; they went about the houses in the stairs, picking quarrels, and obliging the people to give them whisky; knew there were similar meetings in the Canongate and Grassmarket; about a week before the New Year, some of the party had a conversation respecting taking hats, and any thing else they could get; M^cIntosh desired Sutherland to tell the Canongate lads to come up on the last night of the year; the reason for attacking

the police was to clear them off the street, to get the easier at the gentlemen; on the evening of the 31st of December, it was proposed that M^cIntosh should get all the booty, which was to be afterwards divided among the party; the prisoners were the chief of the Niddry-street gang; the whole party met at the Tron Church about eleven o'clock, and were joined by Johnston and the Canongate party; there were about a dozen in each party; M^cIntosh was in the party when Campbell was attacked, and he struck him with a stick on the head after he was lying on the ground; in the course of the night he saw a number of gentlemen attacked, knocked down, and robbed; but no tradesman was attacked; M^cIntosh was very active in those attacks, he saw Sutherland attack several gentlemen.

Several of these particulars were also proved by other witnesses.

William Swan, prisoner in Edinburgh jail, said, that M^cIntosh and Sutherland came to his lodging with two trunks and a watch. There were clothes in one of the trunks, and they were packed up and carried to the Glasgow carrier's, whither M^cIntosh and Sutherland said they were going.

Archibald M^cKechnie, hatter, Glasgow, said, that on the 3d of January, two young men came to lodge in his house, and staid till Monday after; on that day they sent a girl (Ann Gemmell), for the largest trunk, as they were going to Greenock and would return again soon. The girl accordingly got the trunk.

Charles Brown, lately prisoner in Glasgow, said, that he had been a prisoner in Glasgow jail, and recollects M^cIntosh being brought into the same cell with him. One Dunkison was there also. Remembers M^cIntosh writing a line, which he

gave to Dunkison, which line was afterwards given by Dunkison to Ann Gemmell; that some time after the girl returned, and gave Dunkison a pocket-book, which contained three notes, a breast-pin, and some silver; Dunkison gave the girl a note to change, and bring in some potatoes, desiring her to bring in the watches under the potatoes, which was accordingly done. By this time M'Intosh was gone to Edinburgh in custody. That Dugald Thomson got two watches, and afterwards another silver one, to raise some money; one White got another watch to keep for Dunkison, which watch, he thinks, is the one now shewn him (Mr Allan's); that Dunkison gave the witness a silver watch, which he gave to his mother.

[John Dunkison, or Dunkinson, or Lyall, was cited as a witness, and was brought from Glasgow jail, where he was a prisoner, but he was not examined.—When Archibald Campbell was sent to Glasgow to apprehend M'Intosh and Sutherland, he identified Dunkison, then in Glasgow jail, to be John Lyall, the brother of Adam Lyall, who was executed here in the course of last year, for robbing Mr Boyd on the Sheriffmuir. He was indicted along with his brother; but he was not tried, as it was certified that he was insane. He has now, however, recovered his senses, and at present stands charged with committing another highway robbery.]

Several witnesses from Glasgow identified several of the watches and other articles specified in the indictments, that had been carried to Glasgow by M'Intosh and Sutherland.

Some exculpatory witnesses were called for the prisoners, who bore testimony, in general terms, to the former good character of the prisoners.

The judicial declarations of the prisoners were then read to the jury. They all denied their accession to the crimes libelled. M'Donald accounted for his absconding, by the circumstance of his having been formerly a seaman, and his fear of being pressed. Sutherland said he had gone to Glasgow in search of work. M'Intosh had written a letter to the magistrates, offering to disclose the whole circumstances, but endeavoured to account for his possession of the watches, by alleging he got them from other boys, &c.—This closed the case for the crown.

The jury returned their verdict, all in one voice, finding the pannel, Hugh M'Intosh, *guilty* of the murder of Dugald Campbell, Hugh M'Donald, Hugh M'Intosh, and Niel Sutherland, *guilty* of robbing Ensign Humphry Cochrane of his silver watch; and, further, finding the said pannels, Hugh M'Donald, Hugh M'Intosh, and Niel Sutherland, *guilty* of robbing Nicol Allan of his yellow metal hunting watch, as libelled.

Their lordships, in delivering their opinions, expressed in strong terms the horror they felt at the extent of the guilt and depravity which the evidence on this trial unfolded.

Sentence was then pronounced upon the prisoners, which ordained them to be taken back to the tolbooth of Edinburgh, where they were to be kept till Wednesday the 22d day of April, when the said Hugh M'Donald, Hugh M'Intosh, and Niel Sutherland, were to be taken forth of the said tolbooth, to some place of the High-street of the city of Edinburgh, opposite to the Stamp-office Close, or nearly so, and then and there, betwixt the hours of two and four o'clock afternoon, to be hanged by their necks, by the hands of the

common executioner, upon a gibbet, to be erected there for that purpose, until they be dead; and the body of the said Hugh M'Intosh to be publicly dissected and anatomised.

The pannels, who are young lads of from sixteen to nineteen years of age, seemed but little affected. The court, and all the avenues to it, were greatly crowded at a very early hour, and a picket of 100 men of the 1st regiment of Royal Edinburgh volunteers attended, during the whole time, to preserve order.

24th.—**WHITEMALL.**—His Royal Highness the Prince Regent has been pleased in the name, and on the behalf of his majesty, to constitute and appoint the Right Hon. Robert Viscount Melville, William Domett, Esq. Vice-Admiral of the White Squadron of his Majesty's Fleet; Sir Joseph Sydney Yorke, Knt. Rear-Admiral of the Blue Squadron of his Majesty's Fleet; the Hon. Frederick John Robinson, Horatio Walpole, Esq. (commonly called Lord Walpole,) the Right Hon. William Dundas, and George Johnstone Hope, Esq. Rear-Admiral of the Blue Squadron of his Majesty's Fleet, to be his majesty's commissioners for executing the office of High Admiral of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and the dominions, islands, and territories thereunto belonging.

25th.—A general quarterly court (made special) of the Court of Directors was held on Wednesday, at the India-house, for the purpose of laying before the proprietors the communications which have taken place between his majesty's ministers and the Court of Directors, respecting the renewal of the company's charter.

The court proceeded to read the correspondence, from which it appears

that there is no difference of opinion between the government and the directors as to the expediency of renewing the charter, subject to such modifications as time and circumstance rendered imperiously necessary. The principal changes will be in the shipping department, and in commercial regulations at home and abroad.

28th.—An unfortunate accident took place at Sheerness on Thursday afternoon. About half past four, as the launch belonging to his majesty's ship *Raisonable* was proceeding from that vessel, with a draft of men, to the *Namur* (flag ship) at the Great Nore, she ran foul of the *Martial* gun-brig, and almost immediately sunk. It is supposed that there were near eighty persons in the launch, of whom it is reported only thirty-five were saved. The confusion that ensued on the vessels coming in contact, is represented as having been principally the cause of many lives being lost.—One of the shipwrights' boats belonging to the Dock-yard rendered all possible assistance, and exertion was also afforded by the boats of the different ships.—Two women were in the launch, and were both saved.

30th.—**LAUNCESTON ASSIZES.**—John Wyatt, of Fowey, was tried for the murder and robbery of Isaiah Faik Valentine. The prisoner kept a public house in Dock, called the *Jolly Bacchus*, from whence he removed in November last, to the *Rose and Crown*, at Fowey. The deceased, a person of the Jewish persuasion, was in habits of intimacy with the prisoner. About the 16th of November, two letters were addressed to Valentine (then in Dock) by the prisoner, desiring him to come down to Fowey, where he (the prisoner) had some buttons, or guineas, to dispose of. Relying on the statement,

Valentine accordingly went down on the 19th of the same month; but on his arrival, instead of introducing Valentine, as he had proposed, to the persons whom he had stated as dealing in coin, the prisoner contrived to amuse and deceive him, in various ways, until Monday evening, the 25th of November, when, under pretence of taking him (Valentine) to Captain Best, he led him to a place or quay called the Broad Slip, in Fowey, and pushed him into the water, where he first suffocated, and then robbed him of 260*l.* which he afterwards deposited in a heap of dung on his own premises. No doubt whatever could be entertained of the prisoner's guilt, from a long but strong train of circumstantial evidence; and after a trial of eleven hours' continuance, on Thursday last, he was found guilty of felony and murder, and sentenced to be hung at Launceston.

The intended breakwater in Plymouth Sound, which is to render that anchorage safe from the dangerous swell which now rolls in from the Atlantic, it is estimated, will cost one million three hundred thousand pounds, and will employ 1600 men nearly seven years in completing. It will be formed of 850 fathoms of sunken masses of marble rock (only 180 feet short of a mile), at a distance of about half a mile from the shore, a proper height above the water, and on which are to be a pier and a light-house.

At Stafford assizes, Benjamin Maycock was found guilty of having shot his brother, a farmer at Ham, with whom the prisoner had lived as a servant, but had left him in consequence of a disagreement. On the night of the murder, the deceased was sitting with his family, his wife at her spinning-wheel, when a gun was fired

through the window, which killed the husband. The murderer was not seen; but in some sand a foot-mark was discovered, five or six yards from the window which was shot through.—Next day, the prisoner was sent for to fetch a brother of Mrs Maycock's, and while he was up stairs he left his shoes in the kitchen. During his absence, the widow of the deceased went with her daughter-in-law, and compared one of the shoes with the mark of the footstep, and they exactly corresponded; the shoe-heel exactly fitted the impression of two large nails in the fore part of the heel, with a small nail between them. The judge (Marshall) in addressing the prisoner, said, he had not only shed the blood of a fellow-creature, but even that of his own brother, probably led thereto by sordid and avaricious motives; clothed in darkness, and in the privacy of night, he saw him in the bosom of his family in quiet and repose, and had left him a lifeless corpse. The circumstances which led to his detection seemed to have been guided by Providence—the print of the heel of the shoe; and Providence seemed to have directed that he should leave his shoe at the very house where he had committed the crime, that it might be compared with that print before it was effaced. He then pronounced the sentence of *Death*.

FASHIONS.—Pelisses, though they ever will serve for the promenade, are now, from the mildness of the weather, in which spring evinces its approach, generally thrown away; and a new article, the short Indian coat, seems to be very prevalent among our elegantes; it is generally of a fawn colour, and made of fine Merino cloth, richly embroidered with silk of the same colour, down

the front and seams, and the bosom ornamented a-la-militaire. Some of these coats are made in the form of the Sicilian tunic, open before, and are worn with a large Chinese hat, of pale brown beaver, entirely plain. The peasant's mantle of fine cloth of a drab colour, with the slope of the neck formed only of a few plaits, fastened down with a cordon and button, and the corners of the mantle simply rounded, are much worn by those ladies who affect a simplicity in their morning attire; we have also observed a few spensers; and over these is thrown an elegant drapery, a long India shawl of the scarf kind, the colour of the palest Ceylon ruby, the ends enriched by a variegated border; this is a beautiful article for a demi-saison costume, and is suited to every age.

The Ciudad Rodrigo cap of crimson velvet trimmed with gold lace, and pelisse or spenser of the same, have appeared on a few ladies who are seldom seen in the streets of the metropolis without a carriage.

The gowns are made in the same style as last month, only that high dresses seem more than ever discarded; even for domestic parties, or home attire, many ladies have entirely thrown them aside.—Embroidery on all gowns seems very prevalent.

Coloured crapes over white satin are much worn on an evening. Merino crape and plain sarsnet yet hold their pre-eminence at the dinner party, trimmed with lace, beads, or ribbon, according to the taste and fancy of the wearer; but the trimming most in requisition is a kind of chain gimp composed of dark chemise, intermixed with small white beads.

Bandeaux, either of jewels, bugles, or polished steel, are worn extremely

low on the forehead, almost a-la-Bel-lisaire: the ladies wish to remind us that "The god of love a bandeau wears."

Pearls and amethysts intermingled with topazes of the deepest Brazilian dye, and elegantly wrought necklaces of the purest sterling gold, seem the most favourite ornaments in the jewellery line at present.—The hair is dressed in the same style as last month.

APRIL.

2d.—BANK OF SCOTLAND.—On Tuesday, the following noblemen and gentlemen were unanimously chosen Governor, Deputy-Governor, and Directors of the Bank of Scotland:

GOVERNOR.—The right honourable Lord Viscount Melville.

DEPUTY-GOVERNOR.—Patrick Miller, Esq. of Dalswinton.

ORDINARY DIRECTORS.—James Walker, Esq. one of the principal clerks of session—John Marjoribanks, Esq. banker—David Reid, Esq. one of the commissioners for fisheries, manufactures, &c. in Scotland—Adam Rolland, Esq. advocate—George Kinnear, Esq. banker—Robert Wilson, Esq. accountant—Donald Smith, Esq. banker—Robert Dundas, Esq. writer to the signet—John Irving, Esq. writer to the signet—Andrew Bonar, Esq. banker—John Dundas, Esq. writer to the signet—Henry Davidson, Esq. writer to the signet.

EXTRAORDINARY DIRECTORS.—His Grace the Duke of Montrose—The most noble the Marquis of Douglas—The right honourable the Earl of Kellie—The right honour-

able the Earl of Glasgow—Robert Clerk, Esq. of Mavisbank—Archibald Douglas, Esq. of Adderston—Sir Patrick Inglis of Cramond, Bart.—General Sir David Dundas, K. B.—Alexander Keith of Ravelston, Esq.—Right honourable Sir John Sinclair of Ulbster, Bart.—Alexander C. Maitland Gibson of Cliftonhall, Esq.—Honourable David Williamson, Lord Balgray.

3d.—HIGH COURT OF JUSTICIARY.

—Tuesday came on the trial of Robert Gunn and Alexander Macdonald *alias* White. To the relevancy of the indictment, which charged them with six different acts of robbery, committed on the streets of this city on the night of the 31st December, or morning of the 1st January, no objections were made, and the prisoners having pleaded guilty, and subscribed a judicial declaration of their guilt, in presence of the court and jury, the Solicitor-General, in a short address, in which he stated, that it appearing the prisoners were not the leaders, but the led, in the late disgraceful outrages, and as he trusted enough had been done in the way of example, restricted the libel to an arbitrary punishment.

The Lord Justice Clerk addressed the prisoners at considerable length on the enormity of those crimes which had brought them to the unhappy situation in which they then stood, and sentenced them to be transported beyond seas for life, under the usual certification.

George Napier and John Grotto, whose trial on a former occasion was adjourned, were then put to the bar, and on being asked what they had to say to the indictment, to which at that time they pleaded not guilty?

Napier pleaded not guilty of the murder, but guilty of the tenth

charge of robbery, viz. that of robbing Peter Bruce, student of medicine, on the South Bridge, of a green silk purse, 5s. 6d. in silver, a gold ring, having a glass in it, and a man's round hat.

Grotto likewise pleaded not guilty of the murder, but guilty of the eighth charge of robbery, viz. that of robbing John Buchan Brodie, writer, residing in York Place, of a watch, with a shagreen case, a watch-ribbon, four seals, set in gold, a gold watch key, a blue Morocco leather purse, containing a one-pound note, a seven-shillings piece, 8s. in silver, and a man's round hat.

The Solicitor-General in this case also restricted the libel to an arbitrary punishment, and the jury returned a verdict of *Guilty*.

4th.—Such intense frost in this country, and in this season of the year, is not in the recollection of the oldest inhabitant, nor has there in all probability been its equal during the last century. On the 25th ult. a grand curling match was decided, on a beautiful sheet of ice, in the parish of Kelten, stewarty of Kirkcudbright.

At Carnyhill, in the neighbourhood of Dunfermline, a fine young child was lately attacked by a furious game cock, who brought him to the ground, leaped on him, and picked out one of his eyes. The child was speedily rescued, but lingered a few days in great agony, and then died.

We are very much concerned to state, that the last accounts received from the Mediterranean mention, that Lord Henry Lenox, third son of the Duke of Richmond, had fallen from the top-mast of the *Blake* (of which ship he was lieutenant) into the sea. Lord Henry being ex-

ceedingly beloved, one of his shipmates immediately leaped overboard after him, and brought up the body, but it was lifeless. Lord Henry was in the 15th year of his age, and promised to be an ornament to his profession.

The following is an account of the total value of the forged notes presented at the bank of England for payment, and refused, from being forged, for the eleven years, from 1st January, 1801, to 31st December, 1811 :—

The nominal value of the forged notes, presented for payment, and refused, within the above-mentioned period, is 101,661l.

H. HASE, Chief Cashier.

Bank of England, 26th March, 1812.

N. B. The above return includes all forged notes, supposed to have been fabricated on the continent, and presented within the aforesaid period.

6th.—EDINBURGH NEW POLICE BILL.—The report of the committee appointed to concert measures for obtaining a more efficient system of police, has been published.

The defects of the present system are considered by the committee to have originated in there being too many unconnected police establishments, all of them having a distinct set of officers and acting independently of one another; but, in order to remedy these, it is proposed that the sheriff should be placed as much as possible at the head of the police establishment, and all offences committed beyond the boundaries of the city to be taken cognizance of by him alone, while the magistrates are to judge of such as occur within their own jurisdiction. All cases, however, where, from the nature of the offence, it may be necessary to take a precognition with a view to future

trial, are to be left to the sheriff, and for this purpose the present magistrates have passed an act of council, waving their right to take such recognitions during the subsistence of the proposed act, and have recommended to their successors to do the same.

The sheriff is to have under him a superintendant of police, to be chosen by a commission, consisting of the lord president of the court of session, the lord justice clerk, the lord chief baron, the sheriff of the county, and the lord provost of Edinburgh, who is to hold his office during their pleasure only.

The villages of the Water of Leith, Restalrig, Jock's Lodge, and Portobello, are to be omitted in the new act, and in place of the six wards into which the city is at present divided, with sixty-eight commissioners of police, there are to be twenty-four wards, with three commissioners for each ward, but only one of these is to attend the general meeting. Their powers are to be confined to the subject of assessment and money payments, and to the making of general regulations as to the mode of watching, lighting, and cleansing the metropolis, while the power of naming watchmen is to rest solely with the superintendant of police. Instead of the present mode of giving the watchmen one half of the fines imposed on delinquents, a fund of 500l. is to be set apart to be applied by the sheriff towards rewarding those who shall distinguish themselves by diligence and extraordinary exertion. The city guard is to be retained.

The present judge of police is to retire, and receive a pension of 300l. during the continuance of the new act, and the expences of this esta-

ishment are to be defrayed by a duty of one shilling and five-pence in the pound on the yearly rent of all shops and houses, not under five pounds per annum. This to be regarded as the ultimatum beyond which the assessment is in no event to be carried. All fines are to be applied towards the maintenance of prisoners in Bridewell, and the rates presently exigible for that purpose are to be suspended.

9th.—A separation, by mutual consent, is, we understand, about to take place between the Crown Prince of Sweden and his consort, who, it is said, has an irreconcilable dislike to the climate and the society of Stockholm.

A forgery on the bank of England, to a large amount, was discovered this morning. This was obtained by forging the power of an attorney of a Mr B. who had 40,000*l.* in the three per cents. and the circumstance was not discovered until Mr B. came to town, and applied at the bank to sell out. No trace of the party who effected this robbery has yet been made, nor is the name of the stockholder suffered as yet to transpire.

BARON GERAMB.—The King George packet, Captain King, sailed yesterday from Harwich, with a mail for Anholt, and the Lady Frances packet; Captain Rutter, with a mail for Heligoland. On board the former embarked the celebrated Baron Geramb, lately arrested under a warrant from the secretary of state, and sent out of the kingdom under the alien act.

This much-talked of person, who has for a year or two past made so conspicuous a figure in London has thus been hurried out of the country. He must now try his luck in some other quarter, where, very like-

ly, in spite of his gold-laced boots and enormous sable moustaches, he may experience similar treatment. This singular person ushered himself into public notice in London, by publishing a most inflated and ridiculous letter, which he dedicated to the Earl of Moira, in which he described himself as an Hungarian baron, who had headed a corps of volunteers in the cause of Austria, against Buonaparte, and stated, that after the peace he went to Spain, to give the benefit of his courage and profound military experience to the oppressed patriots of the peninsula. It is said that he alleges he had proposed to engage 24,000 Croat troops in the service of England, a proposal which he pretends to have considered as favourably received by our ministers abroad, because they (Mr Bathurst, General Oakes, and Mr H. Wellesley, to whom he appeals), did not hesitate granting him passports, to enable him to come to England, to submit his plan; and for this service his charges were—journey from Cadiz to London 250*l.*; establishment in London, twenty-two months, at 200*l.* per month, 4400*l.*; return to Hungary, 700*l.*—Total, 5350*l.* The Baron, it seems, while the officers were besieging his castle, told them he had 200*lbs* of gunpowder in his house, and, if they persevered, he would blow up himself and that together; but finding them not intimidated, he surrendered. The baron, it is reported, has had uncommon success in the gaming-houses. He is said to be a German Jew, who, having married the widow of an Hungarian baron, assumed the title by which he has passed.

10th.—Wednesday a ballot was taken at the East India-house, for the election of six directors, for four

years, in the room of Charles Mills, Abraham Robarts, Richard C. Plowden, John Huddleston, G. A. Robinson, and J. A. Bannerman, Esqrs. who go out by rotation. At six o'clock the glasses were closed and delivered over to the scrutineers, who reported that the election had fallen on William Astell, Charles Grant, John Jackson, Campbell Marjoribanks, George Smith, and Sweny Toone, Esqrs.

On Tuesday morning, Mr Agar, the celebrated pedestrian, undertook to go, by a circuitous route, from his residence at Kensington to Blackwater, in Hampshire, and return, being altogether a distance of 59 miles, in the space of eight hours and a half, for a stake of 200 guineas. The pedestrian started at day-light, dressed closely in flannel, with light, but thick shoes, and with his legs bare. He arrived at Ashford Common (17 miles) in two hours and ten minutes, and refreshed at Englefield Green (21 miles) in five minutes less than three hours from starting. The pedestrian continued steadily at work, until he did the half of his journey, in four hours and four minutes. After being well rubbed, Mr Agar pursued his Herculean undertaking, and did his seven miles an hour tolerably true, although he was much distressed in the last two hours, but he won the match in three minutes within time. This is the greatest performance of modern days.

11th.—**MANCHESTER.**—This town has been thrown into great confusion during the whole of this day. About a fortnight since a requisition, most respectably signed by 154 of the principal inhabitants, was addressed to the Boroughreeve and constables, “to convene a public meeting of the inhabitants of the towns of Manches-

ter, Salford, and the neighbourhood, to prepare a dutiful and loyal address to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, expressive of the strongest assurances of our attachment to his royal person, and of our ardent zeal for the support of his government.”

A meeting was, in consequence, appointed to be held in the dining-room, at the Exchange Buildings, this day at eleven o'clock. In the mean time several most inflammatory hand-bills were posted up in the town and neighbourhood. One contained a copy of the address of the livery of London, and another, which was circulated with the greatest industry for many miles round, was of the following tenor:—

“Now or never!—Those inhabitants who do not wish for an increase of taxes and poor-rates—an advance in the price of provisions—a scarcity of work—and a reduction of wages, will not fail to go to the meeting on Wednesday morning next, at the Exchange, and oppose the 154 persons who have called you together; and you will then do right to express your detestation of the conduct of those men who have brought this country to its present distressed state, and are entailing misery on thousands of our industrious mechanics. Speak your minds now, before it is too late; let not the prince and the people be deceived as to your real sentiments. Speak and act boldly and firmly, but above all, be peaceable.”

The merchants, fearing that the meeting would be attended with disagreeable events, announced that it was put off to another day, upon which the populace, being disappointed, immediately became disorderly, and turned the merchants out of the Exchange, throwing the tables and chairs out of the windows; and

in a few hours this fine building was demolished.

At length some troops arrived, and the riot act was read; but the magistrates could not act until an hour afterwards, in which time all the mischief was accomplished.

Died on the 11th of April, at the Pulteney Hotel, in Piccadilly, London, Jane Duchess of Gordon. Her grace was sister to the late Sir William Maxwell of Monreith, Bart. was born in 1746, and married to the present Duke of Gordon, October 1st, 1767, by whom she had, now living, one son, the Marquis of Huntly, and five daughters, viz. the Duchess of Richmond, Lady Magdalen Palmer, the Duchess of Manchester, the Marchioness Cornwallis, and the Duchess of Bedford. She lost a second son, Alexander, who died about two years ago. Her grace received the holy sacrament a few hours before her dissolution, of which all her noble and afflicted children were partakers.

13th.—LEEDS.—The following account is given of an affair at Mr Cartwright's mill, at Rawfolds, between Cleckheaton and Littleton:

About 20 or 30 minutes after twelve o'clock, on Saturday night, this gig-mill was attacked by the Luddites or Snappers; and the windows and door of the mill were assailed by a furious mob, who commenced their attack by the firing of arms and the beating of hammers and hatchets. The guard in the mill instantly repelled the assault by a steady, firm, and well-directed discharge of musquetry from within. A regular engagement succeeded, which continued from 15 to 20 minutes, during which time, not fewer than 140 shot were discharged from within. The assailants were foiled in their attempt

to force the windows or doors, and did no other damage than breaking the glass windows of the mill. The deluded mob did not escape unhurt. Two of the unhappy men were left wounded upon the spot, and there is great reason to believe that several more received the contents of the defenders' muskets, as traces of blood were observed. The two wounded men were put under the care of surgeons as soon as it could be done; one of them, John Booth, a tinner's apprentice, at Huddersfield, died after having his leg amputated. Samuel Hartley, a cooper of Huddersfield, who worked with one Webb, or Webster, at the same place (and formerly with Mr Cartwright, at Halifax,) was shot through the breast; he died yesterday afternoon.

From the direction of the shot, it is conjectured that he received his wound in the act of firing into the mill, or in an attitude similar to that of firing a musket. Several hammers, masks, and a pick-lock key were left upon the premises. Both the men died without making any confession of their accomplices; but several must have been so wounded as to lead to the knowledge of them.

16th.—MURDER.—On Sunday morning the village of Hankelow, near Nantwich, was alarmed by a report that George Morrey, farmer in that village, had been murdered during the preceding night, having been found with his brains dashed out, and his throat cut from ear to ear! It was supposed that the diabolical crime had been perpetrated by some ruthless villains, who had entered his house in search of plunder, and it would appear that his wife and every part of the family affected the most complete ignorance of the awful transaction. On the assembly of a con-

course of people, which so unusual a circumstance was likely to create, suspicion fell on one of the servant men, by distinct traces of blood from the bed of the deceased to his, which was in a higher part of the house. On examining him these suspicions were strengthened, by finding marks of blood upon his shirt. A peace officer was sent for, and the young man taken into custody. When the constable was taking him to a neighbouring magistrate, he said to the constable, "Well, I suppose I must be hanged;" and on being pressed for a disclosure of his meaning, confessed the following particulars:—That the murder of his master was determined upon between his mistress and himself; that the time, manner, and circumstances of it were concerted by them; that in the night time they fell upon him with an axe, and beat him with it about the head, until they thought him dead, and in the course of their brutality struck out one of his eyes. They then left him, but were soon apprised, that he was yet living; they returned to their work of blood, and again retired, under the persuasion that he had breathed his last:—That they were still disappointed, and although the unnatural wife pressed the man to go and make a finish of his master, he said he could not resume the task; and he absolutely refused, until she found an expedient to remove his scruples, by furnishing him with a razor, to cut his throat! It was then the work was completed. He stated, that he had been urged to the horrid deed by his mistress, who wanted him to marry her. Immediately on this confession, the constable unlocked the handcuffs with which he had locked himself to the prisoner, fastened the latter by the same instruments to an as-

sistant he had with him, and immediately ran back to take the wife into custody. When he entered the house, he told her the confession of the servant, and bid her prepare to accompany him to the magistrate. On this she covered her face with her apron, drew a razor from her breast, and run it across her throat, making a deep incision. Mr Mellis, of Audlam, surgeon, who happened to be there, sewed up the wound, which was not dangerous. The young man is about 19 years of age, the woman 40.

20th.—COURT OF KING'S BENCH. —The Attorney-General moved for a rule to show cause why a criminal information should not be filed against the editor of the Brighton newspaper, for a gross libel on Miss Somerset, daughter of Lord George Somerset, lieutenant-general in his majesty's service, and commander of the Sussex district. The tenor of the libel was, that the editor was sorry to say, that there had been recently a *faux pas* in high life, which had caused great misery to two noble families; that the gentleman, who was an officer in an hussar regiment, was willing to heal the breach by legal ties; but that the earl his father, had declared, that if he presumed to marry the lady he would cut his son off with a shilling. The Attorney-General stated, that the earl was Lord Egremont, and his son's name Wyndham. He was aware that the court would require the affidavit of the party, denying the truth of the charge; and painful as it was to her feelings, he had an affidavit from Miss Somerset, absolutely contradicting the truth of the fact. He also knew that their lordships might expect a similar affidavit from Captain Wyndham; but he was sorry to say, that that gentleman had acted unjustifiably in taking the

law into his own hands : for on reading the paragraph, the captain immediately went to the editor of the newspaper, and inflicted summary justice upon him with a horsewhip. The court would, therefore, see that his affidavit could not be adduced ; and, however the Attorney-General might disapprove of the Captain's conduct as a lawyer, perhaps he might not as a man. The evidence that Miss Somerset was the person alluded to by the paragraph was, that the clerk of the general had called at the printer's, who asked him whether he had heard of Miss Somerset's *faux pas* ; and upon the clerk's reply in the negative, the printer repeated the substance of the paragraph with the names at full ; and grossly added, that the lady was two months gone with child.—*Rule granted.*

Court of Exchequer Chamber,
April 22.

SIR F. BURDETT V. THE SPEAKER.—Mr Clifford was this day heard in reply, on the part of the plaintiff in error, contending, on three grounds, that the warrant ought not to be supported, being grounded neither on statute, in usage, nor in necessity. A ready mode of obtaining redress lay open to the house, if they had any thing to complain of in the conduct of the plaintiff, by prosecution at the suit of the attorney-general, and in that case there would have been no necessity for breaking into the house of the plaintiff with the assistance of armed soldiers. Besides, the plaintiff could not in the nature of things have been guilty of an obstruction of the business of the House of Commons, which was the only thing they had a right to take cognizance of, while he in fact, as was here the case, was confined to his own house. The warrant, the learned

counsel also submitted, was defective, in not sufficiently expressing the offence with which the plaintiff was charged. He was charged with publishing a libel reflecting on the House of Commons. Now, out of 22 meanings given to the word "reflecting" in Johnson's Dictionary, only two of them argued any thing that could at all be construed in an offensive sense. The learned counsel also objected to execution of the warrant, by armed soldiers breaking into the house of the plaintiff.

On this point he was cut short by Sir James Mansfield, who informed him, that having already argued this part of the case, he might save himself any further observations on it, the opinion of the court being fully made up upon it.

After the judges had deliberated a short time, the doors were opened.

Sir James Mansfield then observed—"We have thought it better to give judgment immediately, than to wait to look at new cases on the subject ; and, after the difficult discussion it has undergone, perhaps there are none to produce."

The learned judge then detailed the legal proceedings in the case, which are known to the public :—"With respect to the proposition, that the House of Commons has no power to commit, it would be extraordinary, if, in the 19th century, their power were denied. It has been admitted, that this power has been exercised by the commons since the reign of Elizabeth, and a practice which has prevailed, and been sanctioned so many centuries, we must presume to have legal foundation. The points with respect to the ancient constitution of the House of Commons, of their sitting with the lords, and having no power to commit, are

involved in too much darkness to have any force. Various opinions have been given on the ancient state of parliament; and those opinions may be subjects for counsel to exercise their talents on. Their powers have been unquestionably to commit for contempt. It is impossible that power can be now brought into question. With respect to the libel not being ground for commitment for contempt, it is impossible for any one to say, that a libel on the whole House of Commons would not be contempt. As to the power of the house to commit, there could be at this day no doubt. The next thing in the terms of the warrant, because the warrant states, that Sir Francis Burdett, as the author of a libellous and scandalous paper, has been guilty of contempt of that house. Various objections have been made to these words. In the first place, it is said that the warrant does not say in proper terms, what the contempt was. It is enough to state it was a libellous paper. It was a defamatory paper, and, as to stating the contents of the libel, that could not be necessary. It has been said that the libel could not be the object of commitment, because there was no obstruction. It is a singular proposition, to say that a libel, published from day to day, defaming the House of Commons, is no obstruction to that house. How can the duty of parliament go on? How can any men take a part in public discussions, if the next day they are to be traduced and libelled. There may be men, whose nerves are so strong, that they cannot be affected by such abuse; but there are also many that would take no part in public discussion, if next day they were to be held out to the public as objects of detestation. But it is not

only obstruction, but libel. It is in this country, and every country where there is a constituted body, necessary that powers so constituted should be treated with respect, in order to enable them to discharge their duties. If they are not respected, their authority goes for nothing, and the constitution will be overturned; for, if ever the time should come when the members of parliament may be from day to day represented to the people as unequal to discharge their duty, and accused of abusing the trust put in them, what they did would be of very little advantage to the country, and it would be impossible for them to act as a support of the crown, or as the defenders of the people. It is essential that they should properly discharge their important duty, and that they should be held in great respect by those who are to be governed by them. In that view of the subject no ordinary person would doubt that it was a libel on a body of legislators, and it must be a contempt of the orders and privileges of such a legislative body. The learned judge then expressed an opinion, that the speaker had exercised the power of commitment in a constitutional manner, and that the warrant was not objectionable with respect to the word "reflect." It would be ridiculous to suppose the libel could contain any panegyric on the proceedings of the House of Commons. A great deal had been said about soldiers assisting in breaking open the window. "I cannot avoid observing," said the learned judge, "that it is a strange mistake, to suppose a soldier, because he is subject to military law, ceases to be useful in a civil capacity. There can be no doubt, that whatever others may do for the invasion of right, that an act of legal power may be done by

a soldier as well as another man. That idea was productive of great mischief in 1780. There were soldiers who might have prevented houses from being burned, but because they were soldiers, they saw felonies committed, supposing they could not interpose. It was a prodigious mistake, because sheriff's comitatus formerly consisted of soldiers. In the country there were those who held land by military tenures, and if soldiers would not pass now, military tenants would not have done then. In the year 1780, the mistake prevailed most; but since then it seems strange that any such objection should be made. The magistrate is backward in calling out the military force, and he never calls, but in a case of necessity, to prevent mischief. It is not only the right of soldiers, but their duty, to prevent crimes from being committed. I say this to prevent any impression from going abroad, that soldiers have not civil rights as well as other men. We are of opinion that this plea is an answer to the plaintiff, that the judgment in the King's Bench is right, and must be affirmed."

The same judgment applies, by consent, to the action against the late serjeant at arms.

EDINBURGH.—Yesterday M'Intosh, Sutherland, and M'Donald, convicted, on the 20th ultimo, of the murder of Dugald Campbell, the police-officer, and of the robbery of Ensign Humphry Cochrane and Mr Nicol Allan, on the morning of the 1st January last, were executed, pursuant to their sentence, on a gibbet, erected opposite the head of the Stamp-Office Close, where the murder of Campbell was perpetrated.

Four hundred of the Perth and Renfrewshire militia, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Oliphant, of

the former regiment, formed a line from the tolbooth to the place of execution.

The procession, with the prisoners, left the jail about twenty minutes before three o'clock. It was headed by a party of the high constables of the city, then followed the magistrates, in their robes, with their rods of office, and preceded by the city officers. The prisoners came next—Sutherland, accompanied by the Rev. Dr Fleming; M'Intosh, by the Rev. Dr Campbell; and M'Donald, who had an open bible in his hand, by the Rev. Mr Andrew Thomson—another body of constables closed the whole. They ascended the scaffold with great firmness, where they continued upwards of three quarters of an hour engaged in devotion, and, about half past three, having mounted the fatal drop, on the signal being given by Sutherland, they were launched into eternity.

Their bodies, after hanging the usual time, were cut down and put into coffins on the scaffold, and conveyed on men's shoulders to the jail. They were good-looking young lads, the eldest not much above 19 years of age, and their fate seemed to excite general sympathy.

While under sentence of death they were attended by the Rev. Dr Thomson, Mr Dickson, sen. Dr Campbell, Dr Fleming, Mr Brunton, Dr Buchanan, Canongate, and Mr Porteous, chaplain of the tolbooth, and they all expressed the deepest sorrow for their crimes, and their hopes of forgiveness with God through the merits of Jesus Christ.

They acknowledged the justice of their sentence, and their participation in many of the robberies and outrages of the morning of the 1st of January; but M'Intosh to the last de-

nied having any hand in the murder of Campbell.

23d.—**KING'S HEALTH.**—Information from Windsor Castle states, that his majesty gains bodily strength every day—he takes his meals regularly, assists in dressing himself, and takes exercise in his rooms whenever he is disposed to walk; the range is extensive, and the rooms extremely well aired. His majesty is materially recovered in his erect posture, and with his increase in size, appears nearly as well as he did two years since.

26th.—**MEDICAL BULLETIN.**—His Majesty continues nearly in the same state as at the last monthly report.

(Signed by his five physicians.)

27th.—**STORMING OF BADAJOS.**—Early on Thursday morning, a bulletin from Plymouth having announced the capture of Badajos by storm on the 6th, the utmost impatience was manifested throughout the whole day for the arrival of the dispatches, which did not reach the Secretary of State's office till between nine and ten o'clock at night. They were brought by Captain Canning of the Guards, one of Lord Wellington's aides-de-camp, who had a stand of the colours taken at Badajos over the roof of the carriage which conveyed him to London. At ten the following letter, announcing this important event, was sent to the Lord Mayor:—

Downing-street, April 23, 1812.—P.M.

"MY LORD,—I have the satisfaction of informing you, that Captain Canning, Aide-de-Camp to Lord Wellington, is just arrived, with the intelligence of the capture of Badajos by storm, in the night of the 6th inst. after a most severe contest, in which the troops of his majesty, and those of his ally, particularly distinguished themselves.

"I regret to be under the necessity of adding, that this most important fortress has not been obtained without a very heavy loss.

"The loss in this storm consists of 51 officers, 4 serjeants, and 580 rank and file, British, killed; 213 officers, 153 serjeants, 1983 rank and file, wounded.

"The Portuguese loss consists of about 170 killed, and more than 500 wounded.

"The Earl of Wellington speaks in the highest terms of the gallantry and good conduct of every part of the army in this important operation.

"No general officer was killed; but Major-Generals Colville, Walker, and Cowes, were severely wounded; Lieutenant-General Picton and Major-General Kempt, slightly wounded.—I have the honour to be, my lord, your lordship's most obedient humble servant,

"LIVERPOOL.

"To the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor."

A bulletin was also issued from the War Department, the Park and Tower guns were fired at eleven o'clock, the bells were rung, and the particulars were published in a gazette extraordinary.*

A remarkable feat of horsemanship, and providential escape, occurred at Doncaster last week. A servant of Mr Williamson, of York; horse-dealer, trying a horse on the road towards the High-street, between the Rein Deer and Ram inns, was unable to hold it, and the animal running furiously across the street, sprang through the shop window of Mr Whalley, shoemaker. The rider seeing his danger, crouched down his head, or he must have been killed on the spot, as the height from the ground to the under part of the beam was only seven feet and a half. A counter being near the window the man was thrown upon it, and the horse prevented getting wholly into

* See the Gazette.

the shop. The window was shivered to atoms, but neither the horse nor rider much injured.

30th.—Bow-STREET.—Wednes- day se'ennight one of the most extraordinary investigations took place before Mr Nares, the sitting magistrate, that ever disgraced a civilized country, respecting two beings in the shape of men, whose conduct proved that they could not possess intellects superior to beasts. It appeared, that on the same evening as Croker, belonging to the office, was passing along the Hampstead road, he observed at a short distance before him two men on a wall, and directly after, he observed the tallest of them, a stout man, about six feet high, hanging by his neck from a lamp-post attached to the wall, being that instant tied up, and turned off deliberately by the short man; this very unexpected and extraordinary sight astonished and alarmed the officer; he made up to the spot with all possible speed, and just after he arrived there, the tall man fell to the ground. Croker produced his staff, said he was an officer, and demanded to know of the other man the cause of such extraordinary conduct; in the meantime the man who had been hanged recovered from the effects of his suspension, got up, and on finding Croker interfering, gave him a violent blow on the nose, which nearly knocked him backwards. The short man was then endeavouring to make off; however, the officer procured assistance, and both the men were secured and brought to the above office, when the account the fellows gave of themselves was, that they worked together on canals. They had been in company together on Wednesday afternoon, and tossed up with halfpence for money, and afterwards for their clothes; the tall man,

who was hanged, won the other's jacket, trowsers, and shoes. They then, in the most wanton manner, and worse than brutes, tossed up who should hang each other. The short one won that toss, and they got upon the wall, the one to submit and the other to carry their savage bet into execution on the lamp-iron. They both agreed in this statement. The tall one, who had been hanged, said, if he had won the toss, he would have hanged the other. He said he then felt the effects on his neck of the time he was hanging, and his eyes were so much swelled that he saw double. Mr Nares and Mr Birnie, the magistrates, both expressed their horror and disgust at such conduct and language, and ordered the man who had been hanged to find bail for the violent and unjustifiable assault on the officer, and the short one for hanging the other. Neither of them being provided with bail, they were committed to Bridewell for trial.

The Luddites at Nottingham seem to have relinquished their system of frame-breaking only to commit acts of much greater atrocity. Letters from thence mention the following outrage: On Monday night last about 11 o'clock, Mr Trentham, of the house of Trentham Tierney, and Morton, in the weaving trade, was way-laid on his return home by two ruffians. Just as he was about to step up to his door, one of them placed himself before him, and presenting a pistol, shot him through the left breast: The assassins then made their escape. The report of fire arms having brought the neighbours to the spot, surgical assistance was immediately procured, and the ball was extracted from the back, a little below the left shoulder. Mr Trentham being 63 years of age, little hope is en-

ertained of his recovery. The corporation of Nottingham have offered a reward of 500l. for the discovery of the villains; and it is expected that government, before whom the transaction has been laid, will make a similar offer.

Government sent off yesterday reinforcements to Nottingham, consisting of two rifle companies of the North York.

The person known by the name of Ludd is taken and committed to Chester gaol. His name is Walker; he was a collier, marched before the deluded mob in a large cocked hat, and was distinguished by the appellation of General Ludd. That poverty or want did not impel him to the depredations with which he is charged, is evident from this circumstance, that six guineas were found upon his person, when he was received at Chester Castle on Sunday last.

On Tuesday night, between the hours of ten and eleven o'clock, the noble mansion of Lord Montague, in Ditton Park, near Windsor, was discovered to be on fire. The family had just retired to bed, and, before they could well extricate themselves, the whole of the house was in flames, and in less than an hour was entirely burnt to the ground. Fortunately no lives were lost, but the whole of the family plate and jewels, together with the valuable furniture and paintings, were entirely consumed. The fire was occasioned by the bursting of a flue which projected from a patent stove. The flue burst in the room adjoining that in which Lord and Lady Montague slept, the furniture of which was nearly consumed before they discovered the danger they were in. His lordship immediately gave the alarm, and on the door being

opened the flames burst forth with such violence, that it was with the utmost difficulty the family escaped. His lordship and family retired to an adjoining farm-house until they obtained carriages to convey them to Windsor.

FASHIONS.—Morning or Domestic Costume.—A superfine Scotch or French cambric, over a cambric slip, with full long sleeves, and ruff *a la* Mary Queen of Scots. A Flora cap, composed of white satin and lace. A capuchin or French cloak of blossom satin or Pomona green, trimmed with thread lace.

Ball Dress.—A round Circassian robe of pink crape, or gossamer net, over a white satin slip, fringed full at the feet. A peasant's boddice, of pink satin or velvet, laced in front with silver, and decorated with the same ornament. Spanish slash sleeve, embellished with white crape foldings, and furnished at its terminations with bands of silver. A Spartan or Calypso helmet cap, of pink frosted crape, with silver bandeaus, and embellished with tassels, and rosets to correspond.

General Observations.—The three-quarter pelisse and the yeoman's hat is the most favourite dress for walking. A large coat of Merino cloth, of the wrapping kind, is also much worn, and on a few mild days, we have remarked some light pelisses, made of washing silks, of a shawl pattern.

The *Henri quatre* hat, the Carnarvon hat of velvet, and cottage bonnets of quilted satin or variegated straw, ornamented with willow green ribbons, are much worn, and the regency hat seems to continue a favourite. It is, however, now formed of lighter materials than those worn the two preceding months.

The morning dresses, which are the only dresses now worn high, are laced up the front, with a stomacher, over which the lacing, made of cordon, by which the colour of the gown is diversified, is fancifully laced. Evening dresses are made rather shorter in the waist than formerly, but still very plain.

MAY.

2d.—GOTTENBURGH.—The French armies are in motion, but the latest accounts from St Petersburg say, it is generally supposed they will not venture to attack the Russians, who are represented as 400,000 strong, and in the most perfect state of discipline, all possible pains having been taken to render them so ever since the treaty of Tilsit. The emperor in person commands the army, and has pledged himself to the senate, to have no interview with Buonaparte, but in the field at the head of his troops.

4th.—By a mail which arrived on Friday from Anholt, the address of his Swedish majesty to the states of the kingdom, on the opening of the diet at Orebro, on the 20th of April, has been received. It is expressed in very guarded and ambiguous language; for, although it speaks of his majesty's fixed determination of going hand in hand with his son, "in defiance of hostile threats from without, and possibly, of opinions at home," to retain the liberty and independence of Sweden, it contains not the most distant hint from which the future line of policy to be pursued by that power can be inferred.

Orders have been issued to equip

the whole Swedish fleet without delay.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—Among the instances too often occurring of the incautious use of fire-arms, we have to record a melancholy catastrophe, which deprived of life Simon Macdonald, Esq. of Morar. This gentleman, visiting a neighbouring family, laid down his loaded gun behind the sofa, and after taking leave, with his hat in one hand, he took hold of the barrel, near the muzzle, with the other. The doghead coming in contact with the sofa, caught hold; the gun instantly went off, discharged the shot into Mr Macdonald's left cheek, and, shocking to relate, killed him on the spot. Thus prematurely died a young man, whose gentleness of manner and amiableness of disposition, endeared him to his friends and acquaintances.

6th.—Friday, a very important case came to be heard before the justices of peace of Glasgow. It related to the competency of the justices to fix a rate of wages betwixt the manufacturers and weavers, and to compel the former to pay that rate. Francis Jeffrey, Esq. advocate, appeared as counsel for the operatives, who were the complainers, and, in a speech of nearly two hours duration, pleaded the cause of his clients in a train of the greatest eloquence.—John Jardine, Esq. advocate, answered Mr Jeffrey in a very able and argumentative speech. After which, the court, consisting of a most respectable bench of justices, adjourned till Wednesday the 12th instant, being the stated meeting of the quarter sessions, when they are to give judgment in this very interesting and important question.

8th.—By the mail from Anholt, the following important state paper was received:—

"By the grace of God, we, Alexander I. Emperor and Autocrat of all the Russias, &c. &c.

"The present situation of Europe requires the adoption of firm and strong measures, as well as indefatigable vigilance and energetic exertions, so as to fortify our extensive empire, in the most formidable way possible, against all hostile enterprises. Our brave courageous Russian nation has been accustomed to live in peace and harmony with all the surrounding nations, and when storms have threatened our empire, patriots of all ranks and stations were ready to draw the sword for its religion and laws.— Now there appears to be the most urgent necessity to increase the number of our troops by a new levy. Our strong forces are already at their post for the defence of the empire; their bravery and courage is known to all the world. The confidence of their emperor and government is with them. Their faith and love to their country will make them irresistible to oppose far superior forces.

"And though it is combined with patriotic regard, and further national burdens, with the same parental care have we adopted all preventive measures to secure the safety and welfare of all and every one, and therefore order,

"That there be raised in the whole empire, from each 500 men, two recruits.

"To commence in all governments two weeks after the receipt of the ukase, and to be finished in the course of a month.

"To conform to the regulations laid down, respecting the levy of recruits, by an ukase presented to the senate, and dated September 16, 1811.

"The recruits to be kept in the government towns with the prison and interior battalions, on the same footing as the recruits for the provisionary depot.

"The immediate fulfilment of this order, for raising recruits during the period fixed, is entrusted to the senate."

St Petersburg, March 23, 1812.

"The original is signed by his imperial majesty's own hand."

ALEXANDER.

Printed at Petersburg, at the
Senate, March 24, 1812.

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The Russian government has issued an order, directed to the governors and superintendants at all the various ports of the kingdom, forbidding the exportation of grain under any pretext whatever.

9th.—OUTRAGE.—Last night the family of Colonel Campbell, the commanding officer of the Leeds district, was thrown into very serious alarm: between 10 and eleven o'clock, two men, whose voices were distinctly heard, placed themselves in a plantation in the rear of the Colonel's house, at Woodhouse, about a mile from Leeds, and discharged two musketa in the direction of the guard-room, just at the moment when two Hussars were entering the court, but the trees intercepting the shots, neither of them took effect. The sentinels immediately went in pursuit of the offenders, but they escaped under the cover of night. In the absence of the guard, and just at the moment when the colonel's son, accompanied by a soldier, was turning the south-east corner of the house, four or five men were observed to collect in front, and one of them discharged another musket, but, like the former, the shot passed without doing any mischief.— Soon after the firing, the colonel, who had been from home on his military duties, drove into the court, and having taken the necessary precaution to strengthen the guard, the night passed without further molestation.

Dispatches from Messina of date March 4. Announce that his excellency the commander in chief of the British forces, has concluded a convention with the French government for the exchange of prisoners in the kingdom of Naples, of which the following is a copy:

"Convention for the Exchange of Prisoners.—Lieut. Col. Coffin, char-

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ged by his excellency Lord William Bentinck with the exchange of the prisoners of war in the service of Great Britain and in that of Sicily, and Adjutant-General Galdemar charged in like manner by his Excellency Lieut.-Gen. Manhes, to negotiate the exchange of the prisoners of war in the service of the kingdom of Naples, have agreed to the following articles of exchange, subject to the ratification of their respective generals.

“ Art. I. There shall be a general exchange of prisoners of war in the service of Great Britain, and of the Sicilian on the one side, and of those in the service of the kingdom of Naples on the other.

“ Art. II. The cartel of exchange shall be made, rank for rank, or by equivalent according to the tariff adopted by both governments.

“ Art. III. To effect this exchange as soon as possible, there shall be given to the English a list of the British and Sicilians who are prisoners in the kingdom of Naples; and in like manner there shall be delivered to the Neapolitans a list of the prisoners of war appertaining to their service, and who are actually in the power of the English.

“ Art. IV. The port of Reggio shall be the point of debarkation of the Neapolitan prisoners who shall be exchanged. The English and Sicilian prisoners shall in like manner be embarked at Reggio, and disembarked at the isthmus of Messina.

“ Art. V. This exchange shall take place immediately, as soon as the prisoners shall arrive at Messina and Reggio. Catania, Feb. 10, 1812.

(Signed)

“ JOHN PINE COFFIN, Lieut.-Col. Deputy Quarter-Master-General.

“ J. L. GALDEMAR.
Ratified

“ WILLIAM CAVENDISH BENTINCK.
“ MANHES.”

Gazetta Britannica, March 4.

11th.—By the arrival of the Lady Arabella packet from Lisbon, dis-

patches from Lord Wellington, dated Niza, the 16th ult., and papers and letters to the 21st, were received on Friday. The substance of his lordship's dispatches was communicated to the public in the following bulletin :—

“ War Department, May 1.

“ Dispatches have been received from the Earl of Wellington, dated Niza, 16th April. General Soult had collected his army at Villa Franca on the 8th April, but hearing there of the fall of Badajos, he retreated in the night towards Andalusia. His rear was closely followed by the British cavalry under Sir S. Cotton, who came up with two thousand five hundred of the enemy's horse early on the evening of the 11th, near Villa Garcia. Sir S. Cotton fell upon them with two brigades, commanded by Major General Le Marchant and Colonel Ponsonby.

“ The French were overthrown, and driven in great confusion to Llerena. They sustained a very considerable loss in killed and wounded, and we made about 150 prisoners. On the part of the British, 50 were killed or wounded. Amongst the latter is Major Prescott, of the 5th dragoon guards, slightly, and Lieutenant Walker, of the same regiment, severely.

“ Great praise is bestowed upon Sir S. Cotton, Major-General Le Marchant, Colonels Ponsonby and Hervey, Major Prescott, and other officers.

“ The enemy's force retreated on the 11th from Llerena, and have entirely evacuated Estremadura.

“ Lord Wellington had not heard from General Ballasteros. The Count de Penne Villamur, had approached Seville by the right of the Guadal-

quivir, and had skirmished with the garrison upon the 5th, and obliged them to retire within their works.

“ Lord Wellington had accounts from Ciudad Rodrigo up to the 9th, when the enemy still kept the place blockaded, but had made no attack. They had not repeated their visit to Almeida, where they suffered some loss in a reconnoissance upon the 3d of April.

“ On the 7th, most of Marmont’s troops moved from near Ciudad Rodrigo towards Sabugal, their advanced guard entered Castel Branco on the 12th, but evacuated it before day-light on the 14th, when General Alten’s hussars, and Colonel Lecor’s brigade of militia, entered the town.

“ Lord Wellington is moving towards Castile, and his advanced guard has reached Castel Branco.”

11th.—ASSASSINATION OF THE PRIME MINISTER.—This dreadful event took place in the lobby of the House of Commons this evening. The horror and confusion consequent may be imagined.

The doors were instantly secured, and no person suffered to leave the house.

The assassin was taken with the pistol in his hand. He confessed the deed. His name, he said, was John James Bellingham.

Mr Perceval was shot through the heart, and expired immediately. The assassin said his case was well known; it was a denial of justice. He did not attempt to escape.

Bellingham is said to have been formerly deranged, and had recently presented some memorials to Mr Perceval respecting claims he had for services in Russia, and in which he thought himself neglected.

Of the statesman, thus untimely cut off, it would be difficult to point out a man whose loss will be more

deeply felt by the country. At a period when measures of the first importance were in agitation, when every thing seemed to rest on his decision, the difficulty of finding a successor may be well conceived.

His political opponents, in their severest comments on his measures, ever admitted his first-rate talents, his indefatigable exertions in business, and his unspotted integrity.

PARTICULARS.—It was within a few minutes of five o’clock, as Mr Perceval was entering alone the lobby leading to the House of Commons, that the catastrophe which terminated his existence took place. The house had just resolved into a committee on the orders in council, and a witness was at the bar, under examination. The lobby was unusually thin, there not being more than 18 or 20 strangers present; in the body of the house, also, there were not more than 60 members. The perpetrator of this horrid deed was formerly a merchant, resident at Liverpool, and has since become a bankrupt:—He is of tall stature, thin in person, his face oval, his nose aquiline and prominent, his eyes convex, and a dark blue colour, and his age apparently about forty. He was dressed like a decent mechanic, and had nothing in his appearance that would have induced one to suspect he would have been guilty of an act of such foul atrocity. He had been observed to be lounging about the lobby for some time previous to the entrance of Mr Perceval, and watching every person who entered the door. Lord F. Osborne and Mr Colbourne had left the house, and were proceeding outwards, through the lobby, when their steps were arrested by a gentleman, with whom they stopped to converse, when they heard the discharge of a pistol, and on turning round, they

observed Mr Perceval stagger and fall in the centre of the lobby, exclaiming as he fell, "I'm murdered! I'm murdered!"—They instantly ran to support him, and with the assistance of other persons, carried him into the secretary's room, adjoining the lobby. He never uttered another syllable, and died in the arms of Mr F. Phillips. He groaned twice after he had been lifted from the ground. While this scene was taking place in one part of the lobby, the assassin had retreated to a bench affixed to the wall near the fire-place, where he was instantly seized by a Mr Jerdan, who had immediately followed Mr Perceval into the lobby, and who, observing the general attention to be directed to the unfortunate victim, secured the murderer—who, however, evinced no disposition or endeavour to escape.

The alarm now became general. Members rushed from the house, strangers from the gallery and adjacent parts, and peers from the lords, who all came to the spot, filled with the utmost horror and dismay at an event so truly horrible. After the person of the prisoner had been searched, he was taken to the bar of the House of Commons. The speaker having, in the interim, taken the chair, was unable, for some minutes, to controul the general disorder and agitation that prevailed. A number of peers were also in the house, among them Lords Liverpool, Spencer, Radnor, &c. Some degree of calm having been at length obtained, the speaker suggested to the house the propriety of having the prisoner immediately taken from the bar to the prison-room, and, to prevent the confusion which might be apprehended if he were taken through the ordinary passage, that he might be conducted through the private passages

and side stairs.—All the doors leading to Westminster-hall and elsewhere were ordered to be locked, and the egress and ingress of all persons prevented. Immediately after the prisoner was removed, the house adjourned.

The prisoner having been conducted up stairs, to the prison-room, was stripped of his coat, waistcoat, and neckcloth, for the purpose of ascertaining whether any offensive weapon was concealed about his person; nothing of the kind, however, was found. By direction of the members he was then pinioned by a messenger, belonging to the house, on each side, in which position he was held during the whole course of the examination.

Mr Alderman Combe, as a magistrate, was called to the chair, to take the depositions of the various witnesses in attendance, a duty in which he was shortly after aided by Mr M. A. Taylor, who is also a magistrate.

EXAMINATION OF WITNESSES.—The first witness examined was Mr Burges, of Curzon-street, Mayfair, the tenor of whose deposition was as follows:—He was in the lobby of the House of Commons a few minutes after five o'clock, waiting to have an interview with one of the members. He heard the report of a pistol, saw Mr Perceval walk forward towards the house door, and, about the centre of the lobby, stagger and fall. He observed the prisoner, at the same moment, with a pistol in his hand, move towards the bench near the fire, whither he followed him and took the pistol from his hand, or from under his hand, on the bench. The barrel was warm as if just discharged. He asked the prisoner what could have induced him to commit so vile an act? and he said he was an unfortunate man, and had sought redress from government

of his grievances in vain, or words to that effect. He confessed that he was the man guilty of the deed. Witness then put his hand into the waistcoat pocket of the prisoner, from which he took a guinea in gold, a pound note, a bank token of 5s. 6d. two of 1s. 6d. a small pen-knife, and a bunch of keys. He also observed another person take from the person of the prisoner a pistol similar to that which he had himself taken from his hand, together with some papers, which were taken from him by General Gascoyne.

The depositions having been read to the prisoner, he was cautioned by Mr Taylor not to say any thing to criminate himself, and asked if he had any questions to put to the witnesses. He said, "perhaps Mr Burgess was less agitated than I was, but I think he took the pistol from my hand, and not from the bench under me."

General Gascoyne was the next witness examined. He deposed, that, shortly after five o'clock, as he was writing in the smoking-room, he heard the report of fire arms—he started up, and, said, "that is a pistol; what can it mean?" He then rushed down stairs to the lobby, and was told by the way that Mr Perceval was shot. On entering the lobby, he found the prisoner on the bench secured, as described. He also assisted in securing him, and searching his person—from which he took a bundle of papers tied with red tape, which the prisoner seemed unwilling to part with, and which he held above his head, to prevent him from recovering. The pressure was extreme at this time; and apprehending from an apparent struggle which was made, that a rescue was attempted, or might be attempted, he delivered up the papers

to Mr Hume, and held the prisoner with additional force, and never lost sight of him till that moment he was now under examination. He thought it necessary also to observe, that he recognized the person of the prisoner the moment he saw him, but did not at first recollect his name, which he now knew to be Bellingham; he was also aware that he was formerly a merchant at Liverpool.

Mr Hume, member for the county of Wicklow, the gentleman alluded to by General Gascoyne, deposed, that he rushed from the house to the lobby, on the alarm being given; he saw a crowd collected about the prisoner, and saw General Gascoyne take the papers, which he then produced, from his person. He also saw another person draw a pistol from the prisoner's breeches pocket. These papers Mr Hume then marked separately with his initials, and having enclosed them in a sheet of paper, which he sealed with his own seal, he delivered it over to Lord Castle-reagh.

A messenger was now dispatched to the lodgings of the prisoner, No. 9, New Milman-Street, Bedford-row, to secure whatever papers or property might there be found. A messenger was likewise dispatched to procure a pair of hand-cuffs, and the attendance of police-officers.

The prisoner, on being asked whether he had any thing to say upon the last depositions, stated, that when General Gascoyne seized him, he held him with so much violence, that he was apprehensive his arm would be broken, and that he then said, "You need not press me, I submit myself to justice."

F. Philips, of Longsighthall, near Manchester, deposed, that he was standing near the fire-place in the

lobby, when he heard the pistol. He saw Mr Perceval walk forward, stagger, and fall on his knees, and heard him exclaim, "I am murdered!" twice—he rushed forward, caught him in his arms, supported his head upon his shoulder, and assisted in carrying him into the secretary's room, where he soon after died in his arms—it might be ten, five, or fifteen minutes, he was so extremely agitated that he could not state the precise time. He did not hear him utter a word from the time of his first exclamation until his death.

Mr Jerdan, Old Brompton, stated that a few minutes after five o'clock he was proceeding up the stone steps, from the place where the members leave their great coats, to the door of the lobby; Mr Perceval was immediately before him—he saw him push open the lobby door and enter, almost instantaneously he heard the report of a pistol within the lobby, and rushed forward to the spot. He saw Mr Perceval walk slowly to the centre of the lobby, suddenly stagger, and sink down. Seeing several persons run to raise and support him, he directed his attention to the prisoner, who was pointed out by some person, who exclaimed, "that is the man!" Mr Perceval cried, "I am murdered!" and uttered two groans, he also clapped his hand to his breast, and was subsequently borne to the secretary's room. In the meantime, witness seeing the prisoner wholly unsecured, and retreating towards the bench, seized him by the collar, and never quitted his hold till he was conveyed into the House of Commons. The witness did not believe that any person quitted the lobby by the stone steps consequent upon the firing of the pistol, and if any person did leave it, he conceived it must have been by the side door, which communicates

with the House of Lords, at which there was considerable confusion and bustle. He saw Mr Burges take the pistol which had been discharged from the hand of the prisoner, as well as the other things from his waistcoat pocket. Upon many members running from the house, and calling out—"who did it? who did it?" the prisoner replied, "I am the unfortunate man, I wish I were in Mr Perceval's place." He repeated more than once, "I am the unfortunate man." Upon the great pressure round him, he said, "I submit myself to the laws, or I submit to justice." Witness also saw Mr Dowling, whom he knows, search the pockets of the prisoner, and take from one an opera-glass, which he handed to witness; and afterwards a small pistol, corresponding in size with that which had been taken by Mr Burgess; this he understood to be loaded.

Mr Dowling was then called; he produced the loaded pistol which he had taken from the small-clothes pocket of the prisoner, and which he had kept in his possession, and had never lost sight of, though he had put it into the hands of a member at the bar of the house.

[From the lateness of the hour (the examinations having now lasted until past eight o'clock), it was not deemed essential to pursue the investigation any farther, and particularly as the facts disclosed seemed to make out the case completely.]

The witnesses were then bound over to give their evidence before the grand jury and thereafter at the Old Bailey, in the event of a true bill being found against the prisoner "For the wilful murder of the right honourable Spencer Perceval," the members of parliament in the sum of 200*l.* recognisance; Mr Burges also

in 200l. Mr Jerdan in 400l. and the other persons in 50l. each.

The examinations having been brought to a conclusion, the prisoner was asked what he had to say against the fact with which he was charged, and again cautioned by Sir J. C. Hippisley, not to say any thing that would be injurious to himself.

The prisoner spoke to the following effect :—" I have admitted the fact —I admit the fact, but wish, with permission, to state something in my justification. I have been denied the redress of my grievances by government ; I have been ill-treated. They all know who I am, and what I am, through the Secretary of State and Mr Becket, with whom I have had frequent communications. They knew of this fact six weeks ago, through the magistrates of Bow-street. I was accused most wrongfully by a governor general in Russia, in a letter from Archangel to Riga, and have sought redress in vain. I am a most unfortunate man, and feel here (placing his hand in his breast) sufficient justification for what I have done."

Here Lord Castlereagh interfered, and informed the prisoner that he was not called on for his defence, but merely to say what he had to urge in contradiction to the fact with which he was charged. Any thing he might feel desirous of stating in extenuation of his crime, he had better reserve for his trial.

The prisoner said, " Since it seems best to you that I should not now explain the causes of my conduct, I will leave it until the day of my trial, when my country will have an opportunity of judging whether I am right or wrong."

At a quarter before eight o'clock a carriage was sent for, by the order of the magistrates. The coach was

brought to the iron gates in Lower Palace Yard, but the crowd, which was at first composed of decent people, had been gradually swelled by a concourse of pick-pockets and the lower orders, who mounted the coach, and were so exceedingly troublesome, and even dangerous, that it was not deemed advisable to send the prisoner to Newgate in the manner intended. The officers returned to the prison room, and informed the chairman, that they did not think it secure to proceed with the prisoner, without the aid of a military force. A troop of the horse-guards were sent for, and arrived at nine o'clock. The horse-guards changed their position to Palace Yard, opposite the avenue leading to the Speaker's house, through which the prisoner was led, and put into a carriage, attended by the military, followed by the crowd. The remains of the Chancellor of the Exchequer were at first lodged in the speaker's secretary's room, and after an hour removed to the speaker's drawing-room. Mr Surgeon Lynn was called in immediately after the fatal wound, but life was extinct. He found that the ball, which was of an unusually large size, had penetrated the heart near its centre, and passed completely through it. It is almost impossible to describe the melancholy scene.

During the whole period after the commission of this murder, the prisoner (Bellingham) appeared much more calm and collected than could well be imagined of a person in his situation. There were no signs of insanity, or want of apprehension of every thing that had been done, and was doing about him. In no part of the proceeding did he betray extreme agitation, but at the moment that the witness Philips, said, " I supported

Mr Perceval into the secretary's room, and in a few minutes he died in my arms." Upon this the prisoner shed tears, and seemed much affected.

When Bellingham arrived at Newgate, about one o'clock on Tuesday morning, after being allowed some refreshment by Mr Newman, he was taken into one of the strong rooms with a stone flooring, in which a barrack-bed was made for him. Three keepers, one the principal turnkey, were stationed therein, to watch him with the utmost vigilance. He went to bed almost immediately, and soon fell soundly asleep, and continued so till near seven o'clock on Tuesday morning, when he awoke, and before eight he sent to Mr Newman to inform him, that he was ready for his breakfast. A large basin of tea, made and sweetened by Mr Newman himself (for fear of the administration of poison) was conveyed to him, and two buttered rolls, the whole of which he ate. When he entered the prison, he appeared in good spirits, and so continued through the whole of Tuesday, conversing cheerfully with the keepers, to whom he said, on going to bed, "They can do me no harm, but government have cause for fear." He told them he was born at St Neott's in Huntingdonshire, and that he has a wife and three children at Liverpool; he said he had no idea of his trial being brought on at the present Old Bailey sessions.

Bellingham's time on Tuesday morning was employed in writing a letter to a friend at Liverpool, which consisted of three sides of a quarto sheet of paper, written with apparent correctness; a space purposely being left for the wafer, so that the letter might be opened without the writing being defaced. This has been sent to Mr Ryder's office. He states

that he drew the pistol from his right-hand breeches pocket. He has made particular enquiry of the keeper as to what direction the ball took. Being asked if there was any other person close to him when he fired, or between him and Mr Perceval, he replied, there was none, or he should have been fearful of firing.

On a question being put to Bellingham, on Monday night, in the lobby, by Sir William Curtis, relative to Mr Perceval's assassination, he coolly answered, "I have been 14 days in making my mind up to the deed, but never could accomplish it until this moment." He has transacted business with his solicitor and many others, within a week past, and nothing appeared in his conduct to induce a suspicion of his labouring under insanity.

The following letter was on Tuesday morning sent by Bellingham, from his cell in Newgate, to Mrs Roberts, No. 9, New Milman-street, the woman at whose house he lodged. It will serve to shew the state of mind in the miserable situation to which he has reduced himself;—

Tuesday morning, Old Bailey.

DEAR MADAM,

Yesterday midnight I was escorted to this neighbourhood by a noble troop of light horse, and delivered into the care of Mr Newman (by Mr Taylor the magistrate and M. P.) as a state prisoner of the first class. For eight years I have never found my mind so tranquil as since this melancholy but necessary catastrophe; as the merits or demerits of my peculiar case must be regularly unfolded in a criminal court of justice, to ascertain the guilty party by a jury of my country, I have to request the favour of you to send me three or four shirts, some cravats, handker-

chiefs, night-caps, stockings, &c. out of my drawers, together with comb, soap, tooth-brush, with any other trifle that presents itself, which you think I may have occasion for, and enclose them in my leather trunk, and the key please to send, sealed, per bearer; also my great coat, flannel gown, and black waistcoat, which will much oblige,

Dear madam,

Your very obedient servant,

JOHN BELLINGHAM.

To the above please to add the Prayer-book.

To Mrs Roberts.

Old Bailey, Friday, May 15.

TRIAL.—At 10 o'clock, the Duke of Clarence and the Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, accompanied by the other judges, viz. Mr Justice Grose, Baron Graham, and the Recorder, appeared, and took their seats on each side of the Lord Mayor, and immediately the prisoner was produced and placed at the bar. At this moment a deep horror was visibly depicted on every countenance. Even Bellingham himself was dismayed. But in a few seconds he assumed the same species of deportment which he all along displayed.

The plea of insanity having been urged by the prisoner's counsel, was over-ruled by the court.

The indictment was then read by Mr Skelton, clerk of arraigns, and Mr Abbott opened the pleadings, stating that John Bellingham had committed the crime of murdering the right honourable Spencer Perceval.

The Attorney-General then addressed the jury. He adverted to the prisoner's proceedings in Russia, and to his conduct since his return. On his demands upon government being resisted as unjust by Mr Per-

ceval, he informed himself of the time when Mr Perceval was in the habit of going to the House of Commons; he provided himself with pistols, balls, and ammunition, and even had an alteration made in his dress by the addition of a pocket extraordinary to contain one of the pistols so provided. He placed himself in such a situation as was best calculated not only to commit the crime that he had in view, but also to elude the possibility of prevention; for he took his station immediately within the outer door of the lobby of the House of Commons, a spot precisely suited to meet every member as he came in, and perpetrate the deed without interruption.—You will hear from the witnesses the account of this tragical event. They will detail the particulars of this murder. Is he, or is he not, guilty of the horrid assassination, is the simple question for the jury, and on that you will decide. In adverting here to the bloody deed, the Attorney-General noticed the manner in which the prisoner always conducted himself, to shew that he was always *compos mentis*, and completely so at the time that he committed the foul murder. From these topics the learned gentleman adverted to the wicked machinations in contriving and planning the crime. He then appealed to the good sense of the jury to say whether, because the whole course of a man's life was perfectly rational, that it could only be irrational when the atrociousness of the act was such as to induce men to think that nothing but a madman would or could commit it. This should not be concluded. Because he had done this one which was an act of madness, was it to be inferred that he was deranged merely because he had committed so atrocious a deed that no one else

would have committed it? If so, then the consequence would be, that the magnitude of crime would be an apology for it. The law writers on criminal law had laid it down, that a man, though incapable of conducting his civil affairs, is criminally responsible if he has a mind capable of distinguishing between right and wrong. After citing two cases at considerable length, he concluded by expressing his satisfaction that this was an act not connected with any other person, but confined solely to the prisoner at the bar.

Several witnesses were examined, whose testimony was similar to the evidence given in the House of Commons, and before the coroner's inquest.

It is the opinion of Mr Lynn the surgeon, that Mr Perceval did not live five-seconds after he received the fatal shot.

DEFENCE.—The papers were then delivered to the prisoner, who addressed the court and jury, in justification of what he had committed; he entered into a statement of his case, which alone had urged him to the act, which he regretted as much as even the family of Mr Perceval. He was unexpectedly called upon for his defence, without the papers and witnesses, which he deemed necessary to justify him. He then adverted to a petition to the Prince Regent, but was unable to obtain any attention from government, unhappily, as well for him as for Mr Perceval.

The prisoner then read from among the papers that had been taken from him, a petition or memorial regarding a vessel that was wrecked in the White Sea, respecting which and his own subsequent hardships, he entered into a minute detail. On these circumstances the prisoner spoke near

twenty minutes, with much energy and animation. Under such circumstances, said the prisoner, what would you, gentlemen, have done? Would you not have immediately applied to the ministers of that government by whom you had been so injured? He did apply to the ministers of Russia. The prisoner then entered into a detail of his proceedings in the senate of Petersburg. All these transactions could not have happened without the connivance of Lord Gower, and his majesty's ministers, who would not interfere. (Here the prisoner made an appeal to the feelings of the jury as men and as Christians.) He next adverted to documents which had been put into the hands of Marquis Wellesley. He then read a letter from the Marquis of Wellesley's secretary, returning his papers, and stating that government could not interfere. A letter was next read from the lords of council to the same effect. In consequence of which he applied to some members of parliament, who said that the Chancellor of the Exchequer was the only person who could do it. He applied to Mr Perceval, and received a letter from Mr Brooksbank, intimating, that the case was not such as warranted his interference, and that the period for presenting petitions for private bills was past. The prisoner then censured the refusal.

The prisoner continued—A man thus involved with a wife and family, and refused redress, what would be the alternative? Ministers had shifted him from one to another, and it was impossible, that a petition to the House of Commons could succeed without the sanction of one of his majesty's ministers, and such was the recommendation of General Gascoyne. He was then brought to the

alternative of giving notice at the public office, Bow-street, of his majesty's ministers not having done their duty. [Here he read a letter to the magistrates of Bow-street. The letter concluded by stating, that if he is "denied justice, he shall be reduced to the necessity of executing justice himself."] In answer, he received a note, saying "that they could not interfere."

After this, he again visited Mr Ryder, who referred him to the treasury, who gave him for a final answer, that he might take such measures as he should think proper. Mr Ryder referred him to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and he refused him.

The prisoner then addressed the jury in a solemn peroration, adjuring them to consider, as between God and themselves, on whom must lay the guilt!

Ann Billinge examined.—Is recently come to town, has known Bellingham from a child; he left Liverpool at Christmas to come to London; his wife and children reside there; knew his father, he died insane; for the last three or four years, in her opinion, he has been in a state of derangement; has not seen him in London lately; he always appeared deranged when he spoke of this business. About a year and a half ago he was much deranged.

Mary Clark lives in Northampton-street; thought him deranged from her observations at different times.

Mrs Roberts was called, but did not appear; but a person who called herself her servant, was sworn.

Catharine Fidgin.—The prisoner lodged in her mistress's house; recollects the day he was taken into custody. On the day before, she observed him in a very confused state,

and had made that observation before. On the Monday before he went out, he was confused.

Lord Chief Justice Mansfield then recapitulated the evidence on the part of the crown, and explained to the jury the manner in which it bore upon the prisoner, respecting whose commission of the act no rational doubt could be suggested. The fact, however, remained for their consideration. Sorry indeed he was to say, that as far as he could collect from the prisoner's defence, so far from denying the fact, he even justified it, on the ground of supposititious ill treatment by his majesty's government, which he seemed to have imbibed a wrong idea was bound, if not to remedy the wrong he had sustained, at least to remunerate him for his losses. The falsity of this reasoning the learned judge illustrated by several apposite cases.

In defence of the prisoner, several witnesses had been produced to shew that the prisoner was insane, but in order to make out such defence, it was necessary to have also shewn that he was not capable of the right exercise of his understanding, or of discriminating right from wrong. But of such a state no sufficient testimony had been adduced. The learned judge then laid down, with much perspicuity, the different degrees of madness which came within the contemplation of the law. It was particularly observable, that notwithstanding the witnesses declare a perfect belief of his derangement, in no instance has he been subject to an hour's restraint—he was permitted to go where he pleased to transact his own affairs, and does not appear in the common affairs of life to have in any manner misconducted himself. In fact, nothing had been adduced to warrant

the opinion, that he was not capable of knowing that murder was a crime against the laws of God and society. General Gascoyne, one of the witnesses for the crown, states, that he conversed with the prisoner at no very distant period, and he at that time betrayed no symptom of derangement, nothing by which he could draw such a conclusion, or form even a suspicion of such being the fact. The evidence of the servant at the house where he lodged went to no length in supporting the defence set up. She says he appeared confused, but of any thing like derangement, there was not one word. He went to the Foundling chapel both morning and afternoon on Sunday, with Mrs Roberts and her daughter, and on the forenoon of the day on which the murder was committed, he took the same person and her son to see the European Museum. He had now told them the view of the case, and his opinion of the evidence. If the jury believed that he fired the pistol, and that at that time he was of sufficient understanding to know what he was about to commit, he thought they would be enabled, without much difficulty, to come to a conclusion, whether the prisoner was, or was not, guilty of the crime of murder.

The jury, after consulting together a few minutes, retired out of court at 50 minutes past 5 o'clock, and returned in a quarter of an hour, when the foreman delivered a verdict of—*Guilty—Death!*

SENTENCE.—The Recorder then passed sentence of death on the prisoner, that he should be taken to the place from whence he came, and, on Monday next, be conveyed to a place of execution, and there hanged by the neck till he is dead.

18th.—EXECUTION.—The morning was hazy, thick and wet, heavy showers occasionally falling. The guards were all in motion at five, and many bodies of military were assembled by six, taking their stations in convenient places least likely to excite public attention.

At seven, about twenty gentlemen, chiefly men of rank, assembled in the Lord Mayor's parlour at the sessions house. About half-past seven, Mr Sheriff Birch, and Mr Sheriff Heygate, with Mr Poynder, their deputy, arrived in the same room. The Lord Mayor soon after followed. The sheriffs and his lordship were in full dress suits of black. Headed by these officers the company proceeded through the sessions house by subterraneous passages into Newgate, and through various yards till they came into the yard of the condemned capital convicts. Here was set out a small anvil on which to strike off Bellingham's fetters. In a few minutes Bellingham appeared, attended by the Rev. Mr Ford, the ordinary of Newgate.—Bellingham looked a little about him with a quick and sharp manner, and observed, "it is a very wet morning." He seemed as calm, collected, and firm as any of the spectators, quite attentive to what was going forward without the least confusion. He was dressed in a brown great-coat, buttoned half way up; a blue and buff striped waistcoat, clay-coloured pantaloons, white stockings, and shoes. He kept on his round hat, and looked a little flushed in the face. He was desired to place his left leg on the anvil, which he did, but seemed a little afraid they would hurt him; he begged they would take care not to hurt him.

When his irons were taken off, he quickly retired into a room, attended

by Dr Ford, the sheriffs, the Lord Mayor, the executioner, some officers, and two or three gentlemen, to have his arms tied back with ropes, &c. Here he put on Hessian boots, and waited till the proper time of proceeding to the place of execution. During the time that he remained there, he talked to the sheriffs with great ease and composure, he repeated shortly what he had said at the trial, respecting the wrongs which he conceived himself to have suffered; and added, that if he could have presented his petition to the House of Commons, the event for which he was then about to die would not have happened; expressing at the same time a hope that some regulation would be made upon the subject of petitions in future, to prevent similar consequences. Mr Sheriff Heygate then addressed him, and said he hoped that at this awful moment he felt due and deep contrition for the dreadful act which had perpetrated. He replied, "I hope I feel all that a man ought to feel." The sheriff then said, as he was about to appear in the presence of God, he trusted that all feelings of resentment or revenge were eradicated from his mind; he said, Yes; that no man could feel more sincerely for the situation of Mrs Percival and her family than he did—that he was aware he was about to appear in the presence of God—that it was vain for any human being to hope to appear in that presence free from guilt—that man was but corruption. Mr Sheriff Birch said, You hope for mercy from your repentance through the merits and intercession of your Redeemer? He said, Yes, he was conscious of the nature of the act he had committed, and added, You know it is forbidden in scripture. Mr Sheriff Heygate said

he was glad to find he was in that temper of mind, and asked if he wished to have his sentiments made known. Bellingham answered, "Yes, certainly, I wish most certainly to have them made known." Mr Sheriff Heygate then addressed him, and asked him if he still adhered to his former declaration that he had not perpetrated this act from any concert or communication with any other person, and that he was prompted to commit it merely from a mistaken sense of the wrongs which he conceived himself individually to have suffered. He immediately answered with peculiar earnestness that he had not acted in concert or in communication with any human being, and he wished that his last words upon this subject should be made known. He then turned round to a table on which the ropes for binding his hands and arms, and the one with which he was to be executed, were lying, and said, "Gentlemen, I am quite ready." The hour being nearly arrived at which he was to suffer, one of the attendants proceeded to fasten his wrists together; he turned up the sleeves of his coat, and clasping his hands together, presented them to the man who held the cord, and said, "So?" When they were fastened, he desired his attendant to pull down his sleeves so as to cover the cord. The officer then proceeded to secure his arms by a rope behind him; when the man had finished, he moved his hands upwards, as if to ascertain whether he could reach his neck, and asked whether they thought his arms were sufficiently fastened, saying he might possibly struggle, and that he wished to be so secured as to prevent any inconvenience arising from it, and requested that the rope might be tightened a little, which was accordingly done.

He was then conducted by the Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, Under Sheriffs, and Officers (Dr Ford walking with him), from the room in which he had remained from the time his irons were taken off, through the Press-yard and the prison to the fatal spot. He walked very firmly, and appeared even more composed than many of the persons who were present at this awful scene.

The procession, which moved quickly along, was followed by about two dozen gentlemen, chiefly men of rank, among whom were the Lords Sefton and Deerhurst, the Hon. Mr Lygon, Mr Berkley Craven, &c.

The sheriffs and some of the officers first went out of the debtors' door upon a part of the scaffold, a little lower in situation, covered over from the rain, and situated between that door and the scaffold of execution. Here they stood with only their own officers, the Lord Mayor, and about six gentlemen, the others being excluded, and left inside the door in the prison. Bellingham ascended the scaffold accompanied by Mr Ford the ordinary, the clergyman, the executioner, and one or two officers who kept rather back, the ordinary and executioner alone going forward with him.

He ascended the scaffold with rather a light step, a cheerful countenance, and a confident, a calm, but not an exulting air; he looked about him a little lightly and rapidly, which seems to have been his usual manner and gesture; but he had no air of triumph, nor disposition to pay attention to the mob, nor did he attempt to address the populace. On his appearance a confused noise arose among the mob, from the desire and attempts of some to huzza him, counteracted by a far greater number who called "Silence!" He took no no-

tice of this, but submitted quietly, and with a disposition to accommodate, in having the rope fastened round his neck, nor did he seem to notice any thing whatever that passed in the mob, nor to be gratified by the friendly disposition which some manifested towards him.

Before the cap was put over his face, Mr Ford, the clergyman, asked if he had any last communication to make, or any thing in particular to say. He was again proceeding about Russia and his family, when Mr Ford stopped him, calling his attention to the eternity into which he was entering, and praying, Bellingham praying fervently also.

The last thing the clergyman said to him, was asking him how he felt; to which he answered calmly and collectedly, saying, "he thanked God for having enabled him to meet his fate with so much fortitude and resignation."

When the executioner proceeded to put the cap over his face, Bellingham objected to it, and expressed a strong wish the business could be done without it; but Mr Ford said it was impossible. While the cap was putting on and fastening on, it being tied round the lower part of the face by the prisoner's neck-handkerchief, and just when he was tied up, about a score of persons in the mob set up a loud and reiterated cry of "God bless you! God save you!" This cry lasted while the cap was fastening on, and though those who set it up were loud and daring, it was joined in by but a very few. The ordinary asked Bellingham if he heard what the mob were saying? He said he heard them crying out something, but he did not understand what it was, and enquired what?—The cry having by this time ceased,

the clergyman did not inform him. The fastening on of the cap being accomplished, the executioner retired. A perfect silence here ensued. Mr Ford continued praying with him for about a minute while the executioner went below the scaffold, and preparations were made to strike away its supporters. The clock struck eight, and while it was striking the seventh time, the clergyman and Bellingham both fervently praying, the supporters of the internal square of the scaffold were struck away, and Bellingham dropped out of sight down as far as his knees, the body being in full view, the clergyman being left standing on the outer frame of the scaffold. When Bellingham sunk, the most perfect and awful silence prevailed, not even the slightest attempt at noise of any kind was made. He did not struggle at first, and but little afterwards, the executioner below pulling his heels that he might die quickly. As Bellingham dropped, the clergyman retired from the scaffold, and in ten minutes afterwards the mob began to retire.

The body hung till nine o'clock, and as soon as it was cut down, was placed in a cart, and covered with a sack.

REMARKABLE COINCIDENCE.—The Earl of Chatham died in the House of Lords, on the 11th of May, 1778; Mr Perceval, Chancellor of the Exchequer, was shot in the lobby of the House of Commons, on the 11th of May, 1812.

Mrs Perceval's situation for many hours after she received the news of Mr Perceval's death, was such as to excite the most serious alarm in the minds of her family. Lord Redesdale, who is married to Mr Perceval's sister, was considered as the most proper person to communicate the fatal

intelligence to her. His lordship performed the task with every possible delicacy and precaution. When she was apprised of the dreadful event, she neither wept nor spoke, nor appeared to be sensible of any thing that was afterwards said to her; she remained in that state from six o'clock on Monday evening till 11 o'clock on Tuesday morning; during which interval her friends endeavoured to rouse her, and, if possible, to excite her to tears, by mentioning the circumstances of Mr Perceval's death to her, but in vain. At length her situation excited such serious apprehension that it was determined, as the only remaining expedient, to take her to the room where Mr Perceval lay, in hopes that the sight would produce the desired effect. The experiment succeeded—the moment she saw the body she burst into tears.

Badenoch, May 19, 1812.

On Monday the 11th instant, the remains of her Grace the Duchess of Gordon were interred at Kinrara, in compliance with her own desire, expressed at different times during life, and more earnestly on her death-bed. Twenty-three days were occupied in the journey from London to Pitmain; where the procession arrived on Saturday the 9th; and during all that time, we learn, every thing was not only conducted with the order and decency suitable to such solemnities, but the most gratifying marks of civility were shewn to the attendants in all the places through which they passed, from respect to the memory of the deceased.

The Marquis of Huntly, who had never left her during her last illness, and who had done all that was possible for duty and affection to do, to soothe and support nature in its most trying moment, left London with the

procession, and came down by a different route to Scotland, to meet and join it on the borders of his father's property, near Dalnacardoch, in Perthshire.

At an early hour on Monday, the body was moved from Pitmain, and about two o'clock was consigned to the grave. The scene exhibited at this point of time imagination may conceive, but no language can distinctly express. The "funeral pomp," which in this retirement had never been seen before; the sequestered spot, embosomed amid the surrounding hills; a numerous train of gentlemen, whom her fascinating manners had formerly delighted, dissolved in tears; a son, the repressed anguish of whose feelings only marked in stronger colours the deep affliction that preyed in his bosom; and a great concourse of fine Highlanders, who had accompanied the bier for the last ten miles, encircling the ground in silence, gave a picture of sorrow that the heart could feel, but the pen is unable to describe.

19th.—Yesterday the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, the Aldermen, and Officers of the Corporation of London, waited upon his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, at Carlton-house, with an address and condolence, which was read by J. Sylvester, Esq, the Recorder, as follows:

To his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Regent of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. The humble and dutiful Address and Condolence of the Court of Lord Mayor and Aldermen of the City of London.

May it please your Royal Highness, We, the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of the city of London, humbly beg leave to approach your Royal Highness, to offer our condolence, and to express our horror and detestation at the unexampled

and atrocious act of assassination on the person of the right honourable Spencer Perceval, first commissioner of his majesty's treasury, and Chancellor of the Exchequer, within the walls of the honourable House of Commons, on his way to the discharge of his important public duties.

And we trust, that though the painful sensation will long be felt which has been excited by the event, yet that the national alarm may be speedily allayed by the discovery that this horrible deed is unconnected with any system of a sanguinary nature, instances of which have unfortunately occurred in other parts of this kingdom, but which bear a stamp unknown before, to the manly and generous character of the English people.

We fervently hope and believe, that the unextinguishable loyalty of the subjects of the United Empire will be exerted to prevent a repetition of so foul an atrocity.

We beg permission to assure your Royal Highness on an event so melancholy, and so much to be deplored; more particularly on account of the many public and private virtues of so distinguished a character, of our steady loyalty, and unfeigned attachment to your royal house and person, and our resolution to support the crown and dignity of the realm.

Signed by order of Court,
HENRY WOODTHORPE.

To which address his Royal Highness was pleased to return the following most gracious answer:—

I thank you for this dutiful address.

I deeply deplore the melancholy event which has deprived the country of a person most eminently distinguished for his public and private virtues.

I trust that the alarm which that event cannot but have excited, may be allayed by the belief that it is unconnected with any system of a sanguinary nature,—a system hitherto certainly unknown to the manly and generous character of the English people.

Whilst I thank you for the warm assurances of your loyalty and attachment, I rely upon your resolution to support the

and dignity of these realms; and although I cannot but deeply regret the disturbances which have taken place in some parts of the kingdom, I most confidently trust, that the loyal and zealous endeavours of the great body of his majesty's people, co-operating with the exertion of those powers which are vested in me for their protection, will enable me effectually to secure their peace and happiness.

They were all very graciously received, and had the honour of kissing his Royal Highness's hand.

Addresses of a similar description were transmitted to his Royal Highness from all parts of the country, the feeling on the subject of this most melancholy event being single and universal.

19th.—LOSS OF THE IRLAM, CAPTAIN KEYZAR.—The ship Irlam, Captain Keyzar, was wrecked on the Tuscar rock, in the Irish channel, on the morning of Sunday se'nnight, the 10th instant, at four o'clock. She had on board a large detachment of the 16th, or Bedfordshire regiment of foot, returning from the West Indies. The distressing situation of these unfortunate people, after the ship struck, it is scarcely possible to describe; a tremendous sea, which drove her bottom incessantly against the rocks, placed them in a momentary expectation of eternity, as at this period of the tide it was utterly impossible, from the surf, for the boats to approach the Tuscar rock. The water poured in so rapidly below, that some were unhappily drowned before they could reach the deck; and others, in their attempts to extricate themselves, were bruised in a most shocking manner, by the heavy baggage and timbers, which the sea was forcing in all directions.—When the tide retired, men, women, and children were necessitated to cling to the rigging

and ship's side, as she lay on her beam-ends. After remaining benumbed with wet and cold in this wretched state for several hours, every hope of deliverance being almost relinquished, they were, by the great and praiseworthy exertions of Captain Keyzar, and Mr Bradshaw, the chief mate, slung by ropes, and lowered into the boats, and dragged in the same way by men (who fortunately happened to be on the Tuscar for the purpose of building a light-house) up the rock. The infants of the officers and soldiers, many only a few months old, and one born on board the ship, were drawn up in potatoe bags. From this desolate condition, which was nearly as bad as the wreck, being destitute of every article of provisions and cloathing, most of these miserable sufferers were rescued by the humanity of Captain Matthewson, in the brig Sarah, of Workington; whose kindness in bearing down under every risk to relieve them, and sharing with them his small stock of provisions on board, will ever redound to his honour, as a Christian, and a man of feeling. Captain Matthewson, after endeavouring to land the detachment in Dublin, was obliged, by adverse winds, to steer for Beaumaris, in the Isle of Anglesea, where they arrived on the 12th instant, some without even sufficient cloathing to protect them from the weather, this melancholy accident having deprived them of every thing but their lives. The officers of the detachment, we are happy to add, were all saved, viz. Captain Nugent, Lieutenants Timperly, Walton, Ross, O'Hara, Gregory, Ensigns Hayes, Hannagan, and Assistant-Surgeon O'Reilly.

20th.—Mr Perceval's funeral took place this morning.—At nine o'clock the procession moved from his house,

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in Downing-Street, in the following order :

Mutes and attendants on horseback,
Hearse and six with the body,
Six mourning coaches, followed by 25
carriages, the carriages of the cabinet
ministers,
Relatives of the deceased, his own car-
riage, &c.

In the first mourning-coach were Lord Arden, his brother ; Lord Redesdale and Sir Thomas Wilson, his brothers-in-law ; in the next coaches, the Earls of Liverpool, Westmoreland, Lord Castlereagh, Mr Ryder, Lord Melville, Lord Eldon, Lord Camden, Earl Bathurst, the Earl of Harrowby, Lord Sidmouth, the right honourable C. Arbuthnot, Mr Croker, Mr Wharton, &c.

The procession moved over Westminster bridge. The concourse of persons was considerable, and all seemed impressed with the solemnity of the scene.

The coffin was very superb, and had the following inscription :—
Right honourable SPENCER PERCEVAL,
Chancellor of the Exchequer, First Lord
of the Treasury, Prime Minister of
England,

Fell by the hand of an Assassin, in the
Commons House of Parliament, May
11, A. D. 1812, in the 50th
year of his age ; born No-
vember 1, A. D. 1762.

There was no ostentation or need-
less parade in this mournful proces-
sion, but all was marked by modest
simplicity, agreeably to the wishes
of his friends. The deceased gen-
tleman was held in such respect,
that many distinguished characters
of both parties had expressed a wish
to join in the melancholy ceremony,
but circular letters had been sent
to the members of both houses in
order to prevent all appearance of
ostentation on an occasion that had
excited so much grief in the whole
nation, and as it was not the wish of

his own family that any magnificence
should mark an event so afflicting. A
great concourse of people attended,
and it was some consolation to ob-
serve, that in all faces there was an
expression of sincere dejection and
sympathy. A part of the city light-
horse attended at Newington Butts,
and accompanied the procession to
the church, in order to testify their
respect for Mr Perceval, who was a
member of, and treasurer to that va-
luable addition to our volunteer de-
fence.

The right honourable Spencer Per-
ceval was son of the late, and half
brother of the present Earl of Eg-
mont, by Catherine, third daughter
of the honourable Charles Compton.
He was born on the 1st of Novem-
ber, 1762, and was therefore in the
50th year of his age. He was mar-
ried in August, 1790, to Jane, se-
cond daughter of Sir Thomas Wil-
son, Bart., by whom he had 12
children. The Irish title of Lord
Arden descended upon Mr Perceval's
full brother, in right of their mother.

A most lamentable accident hap-
pened last week in a coal-mine at Or-
rell, near Upholland, in the neigh-
bourhood of Liverpool. Notice had
been given to the workmen belonging
to the pit, that a certain particular
level was supposed to be filled with
inflammable gas, and they were of
course directed not to approach the
place with a light or any other sub-
stance capable of communicating fire.
Notwithstanding this warning, one
of the men, who had left his tools in
the forbidden place, had the rashness
to attempt to recover them, and ac-
tually entered it with a candle. A
tremendous explosion instantly took
place, in consequence of which every
person in that part of the mine was
immediately suffocated. We are con-

cerned to say, that nine men and one woman fell a sacrifice to this thoughtless temerity, who were all taken out dead, after the proper precautions had been used. The males all belonged to the Leyland and Ormskirk local militia, and were most of them very stout and able young men. The explosion was so violent, that it shook the windows of the houses of one of the neighbouring villages.

23d.—On Friday last was committed to Bodmin gaol, William Bowden, labourer, for the wilful murder of his wife, by stabbing her in several places. The inhuman wretch was in the act of burning the body with turf, when a neighbour calling at the door, and seeing him much agitated and confused, insisted on going in, by which means this horrid murder was discovered, and the perpetrator was apprehended. They resided at a small house near Redruth.

The following account of a shocking murder is taken from a French paper, under the date of Brussels, May 10th, 1812:—"Yesterday at the assize court of this department, J. M. de Walshe, aged fourteen, apprentice to a goldsmith, born and residing at Brussels, was tried for having assassinated a young girl of the same age. It appeared, that a long time previous he had entertained a strong attachment for a young lady who went to school with him. She did not make any return to his affection, and he conceived an implacable hatred against her. He did not conceal his dislike, but often threatened to kill her, and on several occasions endeavoured to do her an injury, by throwing stones. On the 13th of January last, she was invited to a ball, given by a teacher to her pupils. He went in a state of intoxication, and insulted several persons, who turned

him out of the room. He then returned to a *cabaret* (ale-house), drank again to excess, armed himself with a knife, and returned to the ball. He there made a stab at a man who held the *ridicule* of the young lady who had been the object of his regard.—Fortunately the blow fell on the man's hat. The company endeavoured to deprive him of the fatal instrument, but having struck one of the proprietors of the house in the eye, he made his escape. Some time after he entered the ball-room a third time, more furious than ever. He held the knife open, but clasped in his hand, in a manner that none could perceive it. He ran to the extremity of the room, and there directed his eyes in search of the victim he wished to immolate.—He imagined he saw her.—He looked at her, and by one of those mistakes, which a paroxysm of rage and madness often produces, he stabbed another young lady, resembling in height, age, and dress, the object of his fury.—He pierced her to the heart, and saw her expire a few moments after, only with regret for having been deceived in the choice of his victim. The jury having declared, that the accused had acted with discernment in a premeditated design of committing murder, he was condemned to suffer twenty years imprisonment, and to be put, after the expiration of that punishment, during six years, under the inspection of the high police of the state, unless good security be given for his future conduct. To the above a fine of 10,000 francs has been added; also the expence of the process. The punishment could not be more severe; but it is much too lenient for a monster of this description.

Paris papers to the 24th inst. were received on Thursday. They contain the intelligence of Buonaparte's

and his empress's journey to Dresden, and a confirmation of the Emperor Alexander's departure from Petersburg and arrival at Wilna. The fourth division of the French army under Junot have received orders to advance with all possible speed.

We are sorry to state the death of Captain the Honourable John Gore, commanding the Scorpion sloop, on the coast of Africa; a seaman having by accident fallen overboard, he leaped after him with the intent to save the man's life, in which attempt he was drowned; the sloop's boats were lowered for him; the first swamped, the second he seized by the gunwale, and in his exertions to get in, capsized it with the hands in her, and sunk not to rise again; the hands were picked up with great exertions by lowering the cutter. Captain Gore had twice before saved men from drowning by his expert swimming.

27th.—PLYMOUTH.—Arrived the Northumberland man of war, Captain Hotham, from off L'Orient. On Friday last he completely destroyed, near that port, a French squadron, consisting of the Adriane, of 44 guns, Andromache, 44 guns, and the Mameluke of 16 guns.—This is the West India squadron that sailed from Nantz 9th January last. The Northumberland fell in with them close to L'Orient, in the passage between the Isle de Groa and the main, and completely destroyed them, notwithstanding a heavy fire from the batteries. The Northumberland had five men killed and 20 wounded.

28.—MR PITT'S BIRTH-DAY.—The anniversary of this event was celebrated this day at Edinburgh.

A most numerous and respectable meeting of gentlemen of the first rank and respectability met in the Assembly Rooms, to shew their veneration

for and their determination to maintain the political principles of this great statesman, to whose firmness and wisdom, in times the most perilous, the country owes its preservation, its liberties, and its laws.

The right honourable the Lord Provost was in the chair, supported by the Earl of Kellie on the right, and the Earl of Haddington on the left. Among the noblemen and gentlemen present were, the Earls of Dalhousie and Moray, and several other noblemen; the Lord President of the Court of Session, the Lord Justice Clerk, the Lord Chief Baron, several of the Judges of the Court of Session, and Barons of the Court of Exchequer, the Lord Advocate, the Dean of Faculty, the Procurator of the Church, several of the sheriffs of counties, &c. the Magistrates, the Principals, and several Professors of the Universities, and several gentlemen from Leith.

An elegant and sumptuous entertainment was provided.

30th.—On Saturday morning a general meeting of the Knights of the Bath took place in the Jerusalem Chamber; and at one o'clock, the Knights of the Order, the Knights Elect, the Proxies for the absentees, the Esquires, and the Officers of the honourable Order, proceeded in grand procession to King Henry VII.'s chapel. The Knights, the Proxies, and the Esquires, were placed in their proper places and stalls. The whole of the ceremony of bowing, &c. was gone through, under the direction of the Duke of York, as Grand Master, and Mr Townshend, Deputy Bath King of Arms.

As early as nine o'clock this morning a great number of persons began to assemble near the Abbey.—The horse guards lined Parliament Street,

and carriages, with well-dressed ladies, poured down to take the places prepared for them. The *coup-d'œil* was beautiful. About 11 o'clock the Knights, Esquires, and Proxies, moved in the order prescribed to them—the Duke of York, with a real heron plume of great value. The Princess of Wales was present. Princesses Augusta and Sophia in a box prepared for them. The Duchess of York in another box.

There was such a great demand for tickets of admission to Westminster Abbey that a number of extra seats were ordered to be erected on Saturday.

The number installed were twenty-three; the following are their names:—

Right Hon. Sir Arthur Paget—Earl Wellington—Hon. Sir Geo. Jas. Ludlow—Sir Samuel Hood, Bart.—Earl of Northesk—Sir Rich. John Strachan, Bart.—Hon. Sir A. F. Cochrane—Sir J. Stewart, Count of Maida—Sir Philip Francis—Sir G. Hilario Barlow, Bart.—Viscount Strangford—Sir Richard Goodwin Keates—Sir George Beckwith—Sir David Baird—Hon. Sir John Hope—Sir Brent Spencer—Lord Cochrane—Sir John Coape Sherbrooke—Sir Wm. Carr Beresford—Lieutenant-General Graham—Lieutenant-General Rowland Hill—Major-General Sir S. Auchmuty—Right Hon. Henry Wellesley, Ambassador in Spain.

The surplusage of the subscription-money for the erection of Mr Pitt's statue, in the Senate-house of Cambridge, is very considerable; more than 6000*l.* were raised, three of which were liberally paid to the statuary, Mr Nollekins, for his admired work; the remainder, after the discharge of a few incidental expences,

is very properly directed to be appropriated to the institution of a scholarship, to be called the *Pitt Scholarship*, and the election to which is to be open to every college in the university.

A circumstance worthy of notice in the Greenland fishery has happened this year. A whale, taken by the men of the *Aurora* of Hull, was found to have in its back a harpoon, belonging to the native fishermen of Davis's Straits. This settles a dispute among naturalists, whether the fish from the Straits emigrate to Greenland.

There is a goose now living with William M'Naughton, farmer at Locheam-side, that is upwards of 150 years old; it is a stout animal yet, and is of the male kind. It is a little like the ancient Scots, rather hostile to strangers, while it shows the utmost complaisance to those with whom it is acquainted. It has been handed down from generation to generation, on the mother's side, till the present day, and is as lively at this moment as it was 100 years ago.

AGRICULTURAL REPORTS.

ENGLAND.—Sowing is at length finished, and the seed season may be generally reckoned three weeks later than usual. All the crops upon the ground have a healthy and promising appearance, excepting perhaps the earlier sown beans, which, receiving a check at first from the drought, have not yet recovered. The wheats, a breadth extensive beyond all former example in this country, look well enough to produce a most abundant crop, under the providential dispensation of a genial blooming season and good harvest.

The immediate business in the country at present is, carrying out manure and planting potatoes, the

landlords, in most parts, on the late recommendation of the Board of Agriculture, allowing their tenants to plant potatoes as a fallow crop. The hopbine has a healthy appearance, and that culture is as forward as could be expected. The late high winds and heavy rains have not done any material damage to the fruit blossom, although vegetation has certainly been checked by the easterly winds and frosty mornings.

Grass promises to be a large crop, and as the stock of hay upon hand is considerable, that article may be expected at a reasonable price. All cattle are doing well abroad, and from the quantity of keep, store beasts and sheep have advanced to an excessive price; the same of milch cows, and horses of every description. Fat pigs in demand and dearer. From the high price of corn, the markets have been of late filled with sows and pigs, and young stores. Wool remains stationary.

With the aid of the foreign corn lately arrived, and of more in expectation, there now remains no doubt of a supply adequate to the public demand, but it is the general opinion, that, by the time the new wheats are fit for use, very little old, of British growth, will remain in the country.

SCOTLAND.—The same kind of cold and ungenial weather that prevailed throughout the last month continued during the first week of the present. Afterwards, it became more temperate, especially the last ten days, in which the vegetation has been uncommonly strong and vigorous. The spring corns have generally a promising aspect, although they were so late in being put into the ground. The frosty nights made the land harrow fine, so that the seed was easily buried under the clod, and an equal

braird is every where to be seen. The appearance of the young wheats is very flattering, as the plants are thicker, and fewer blanks observable than for some seasons past, although not so forward at this period as in ordinary years. The lateness of the grass caused a great waste of oats, potatoes, hay, and straw, and thence there has been more scarcity of fodder, for cattle of every description, than has been since the memorable 1799 and 1800.

The sudden and very high prices to which grain arrived at the end of the last has continued stationary during this month, and it is hoped, that, if this fine weather continues, with the prospect of an earlier harvest than was once expected, it will keep prices from going higher. The farmers that have been benefited by the present high prices are very few in number, as the general crop was exhausted long ago, the markets at present being almost wholly supplied from other districts.

The cattle markets continue to advance in price. Fat is scarce, and the number of good lambs very limited, the season having been so adverse to them.

From the frequent rapid changes of the temperature of the weather, the wheat, in many situations, about the beginning of last week, had assumed a yellow and very sickly colour. Fortunately, however, the mild genial weather, experienced within the last eight days, has had a wonderful effect in restoring the fields covered with that grain to a far more promising appearance, and as, with very few exceptions, they continue to be well planted, a favourable summer, it is to be hoped, will have the happy effect of producing an early and abundant harvest. The late showers have rai-

and an equal and vigorous braird of barley, which is not always obtained, especially of that sown after turnip, when the first of the summer happens to be droughty. Oats and beans have also come up well, and at present shew a healthy plant. In some instances ruta baga has been got sown, but the generality of farmers are only preparing their ground for the growth of that crop, the most of the summer fallow, at the same time, having already received the second furrow. The grasses have made great progress within these few days, but none are as yet fit for the scythe, although that has frequently been the case at this season of the year.

In the gardens the present prospect of fruit is very flattering, and, as it seldom happens that the crop suffers materially from the weather after this period, it is to be hoped, that the present promising appearances will be fortunately realized.

JUNE.

Regulation for granting Pensions to Officers of his Majesty's Land Forces losing an Eye or Limb on Service.

"If an officer shall be wounded in action, and it shall appear upon an inspection made of him by the Army Medical Board, at any period, not sooner than a year and a day after the time he was wounded, that he has in consequence of his wound lost a limb, or an eye, or has totally lost the use of a limb, or that his wound has been equally prejudicial to his habit of body with the loss of a limb, such officer shall be entitled to a pension, commencing from the expiration of a year and a day after the time when he

was wounded; and depending as to its amount upon the rank he held at that period, according to the scale annexed. This pension, being granted as a compensation for the injury sustained, is to be held together with any other pay and allowances to which such officer may be otherwise entitled, without any deduction on account thereof.

"Officers who shall have lost more than one limb or eye, shall be entitled to the pension for each eye or limb so lost.

"And as the pension is not to commence till the expiration of a year and a day from the date of the wound, it is to be independent of the allowance of a year's pay, or the expences attending the cure of wounds, granted under the existing regulations.

"All officers who may have sustained such an injury as would entitle them to this pension, by any wounds received since the commencement of hostilities in the year 1793, will, upon the production of the proper certificate from the Army Medical Board, be allowed a pension proportioned, according to the scale, to the rank they held at the time when wounded, and commencing from the 25th of December, 1811."

Scale referred to in the preceding Regulation.

Ranks.	Rates of Pensions.
Field-Marshal, General, or Lieutenant-General, commanding in Chief at the time, to be specially considered.	
Lieutenant-General	L. 400
Major-General, or Brigadier-General, commanding a Brigade	350
Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel, *Adjutant-General, *Quarter-Master-General, *Deputy Adjutant-General, if Chief of the Department, *Deputy Quarter-Master-General, if ditto, Inspector of Hospitals, each	300

Major-Commanding	250
Major, *Deputy Adjutant-General, *Deputy Quarter-Master-General, Deputy Inspector of Hospitals, each	200
Captain, *Assistant Adjutant-General, *Assistant Quarter-Master-General, *Secretary to the Commander of the Forces, Aide-de-Camp, *Major of Brigade, Surgeon Regimental Paymaster, *Judge Advocate, Physician, Staff Surgeon, Chaplain, each	100
Lieutenant, and Adjutant, each	70
Cornet, Ensign, Second Lieutenant, Regimental Quarter-Master, Assistant-Surgeon, Apothecary, Hospital-Mate, Veterinary Surgeon, Purveyor, Deputy Purveyor, each	50
The officers marked thus (*) to have the allowance according to their army rank, if they prefer it.	

JUNE 1st.—By the arrival of the Sandwich packet at Falmouth, advices have been received from New York to the 9th ultimo, and a vessel has arrived bringing further intelligence to the 14th. The accounts received by both conveyances are of a most hostile tendency.

Several bills have been brought into Congress, which, if passed, would certainly lead to a rupture. The most violent of these measures is the bill for punishing as felons, all those who impress American seamen; but it did not go the length of a 3d reading without great opposition. It was proposed for a 3d reading on the 15th June, and negatived. It was then re-committed to a committee of the whole house, and made one of the orders of the day for the 11th May.

A loan for eleven millions, voted for the war supplies, went on heavily, and the monied men were by no means disposed to subscribe to it; but a small portion had been obtained—not more than two millions.

The elections in Massachusetts, and even in New York and Virginia, are decidedly federal.

Mr MALONE.—This distinguished character terminated his mortal course, on Monday morning, a few minutes after four o'clock. Few men enjoyed health less interrupted than Mr Malone, until the vital powers suddenly lost their tone; and, from the early symptoms, his friends were not allowed to deceive themselves with any expectations of recovery. He had the consolation of his sister's affectionate assiduities in his last moments, and the anxious enquiries of a long list of illustrious friends. Mr Malone had the great happiness to live with the most distinguished characters of his time; he was united in the closest intimacy with Dr Johnson, Mr Burke, Sir Joshua Reynolds, Lord Charlemont, and the other members of a society, which for various talent and virtue can scarcely be surpassed. Mr Malone is best known to the world by the distinction upon which he most prided himself, his association with the name of Shakespeare. Like Mr Steevens, he devoted his life and his fortune to the task of making the great Bard better understood by his countrymen. As an editor, this is the peculiar fame of Edmund Malone, that he could subdue the temptations to display his own wisdom or wit, and consider only the integrity of his author's text. For many years Shakespeare's page was the sport of innovation; and men, who knew nothing of the ancient language of their country, suggested as amendments of a corrupt text, phraseology that the father of the British drama never could have written. Mr Malone, still more pertinaciously than Mr Steevens, adhered to the ancient copies.

To obtain them was the great effort of his life, and a large part of his very moderate fortune was devoted to purchases, to him of the first necessity, to many collectors, of idle curiosity. The library of Mr Malone was accessible to every scholar, and in any difficulty his sagacity and experience were received, and gratefully acknowledged by men themselves of profound erudition. The last article which he printed was a sketch of his friend Windham's character, and he distributed it privately among his acquaintance. Since the year 1790, he had been zealously continuing these labours, which in that year produced his edition of Shakespeare's Plays and Poems. Had he lived to carry a second edition through the press, for which preparation had for some time been making, and were on the very point of completion, the world would have received a large accession to its knowledge of Shakespeare. From the careful habit which he had of entering every new acquisition in its proper place, and the accurate references which he made to the source of his information, we should apprehend there will be little difficulty in the carrying this design into effect. With such a stock of materials as perhaps no other man than Mr Malone could have collected, the executor of his critical will must have a delightful task.

Mr Malone died unmarried.—He was the brother of Lord Sunderlin, and had he survived his lordship, would have succeeded to the title, the remainder being in him. Few men ever possessed greater command of temper; it characterised his virtues; they were all of the gentle, yet steady kind. His reputation as a critic will vindicate itself—as a man, he needs no vindication.

2d.—Last week, one of the most terrible accidents on record, in the history of collieries, took place at Felling, near Gateshead, Durham, in the mine belonging to Mr Brandling, the member for Newcastle, which was the admiration of the district for the excellence of its ventilation and arrangements. Nearly the whole of the workmen were below, the second set having gone down before the first came up, when a double blast of hydrogen gas took place, and set the mine on fire, forcing up such a volume of smoke as darkened the air to a considerable distance, and scattered an immense quantity of small coal from the upper shaft. In the calamity, 93 men and boys perished, the remains of 86 of whom are still in the mine, which continues unapproachable.

LONDONDERRY.—On Wednesday last, was witnessed the most extraordinary storm ever remembered. About three o'clock the sky began to lour, and the atmosphere became so dense that respiration was found difficult in the streets; several flashes of lightning were instantaneously succeeded by loud peals of thunder. In a few moments, the rain began to descend in torrents. Next day, upwards of sixty loads of mud and gravel were taken up at Ship Quay Gate, where the flood from several streets rested, and had formed a little sea. The rain continued to fall for about sixty minutes, and was occasionally intermixed with hail of an astonishing size, which broke many windows on the high grounds about the city. Fortunately the storm did not extend far into the country, nor has much injury been done, excepting to a few gardens, where the fruit-trees suffered heavily. {

4th.—**MURDER.**—On Tuesday last, the 2d current, Captain Charles Munro, late of the 42d regiment, and Robert Ferguson, ship carpenter, both residing at Inverbreaky Ferry, parish of Resolis, Scotland, having met at a neighbouring work-shop, a trifling dispute arose between them. After a little altercation, Ferguson pulled a large knife out of his pocket, and plunged it into Captain Munro's side. Dr McDonald at Cromarty, who was immediately called, dressed the wound with the greatest skill and tenderness, and afforded every possible assistance, but all to no purpose; the wound was mortal, and next evening, about 28 hours after receiving the cruel stab, the Captain died.—Upon perpetrating the atrocious deed, the base assassin attempted to elude the violated laws of his country, by absconding. In consequence, however, of the exertions of Capt. Mackenzie of Newhall, whose activity on this occasion merits the highest praise, the miscreant was taken on the same evening, and lodged early next morning in the jail of Tain. Capt. Munro has left an indigent widow and a numerous helpless family to deplore his premature and cruel death.

5th.—**ATTEMPT AT ASSASSINATION.**—Mr Burrows, a hay salesman, residing at Appleton, was suddenly attacked in his chaise, near his residence, by Thomas Bowler, a neighbouring farmer, who discharged a blunderbuss at him, and lodged the contents (slugs) in his neck and body. The following testimony of a blacksmith at Appleton gives the whole case.—The assassin, who is a man seventy years of age, called at the smith's shop, on horseback, at five o'clock on Saturday morning, accompanied by his grandson, and produced a blunderbuss, which he asked leave

to make the lock secure to go off, as he wanted to shoot a mad dog. After he had done something to the lock, he left the piece in the shop, having described it as being loaded, and walked by the side of the canal, whilst his grandson led his horse about the road. The canal path commanded a view of Burrows' residence, and after walking there nearly two hours, he returned to the smith's shop, when Burrows was approaching it, and having taken up the blunderbuss, he met him and presented it, when Burrows called out, "For God's sake don't shoot me," and inclined his head upon his legs. The assassin, however, pulled the trigger, and Burrows fell, when the former mounted his horse, and rode off. The situation of the wounded man is very precarious; four slugs have been extracted from his neck and head, but there are others in the body, one of which is supposed to have lodged near the blade-bone. There are some favourable symptoms, and some hopes are entertained that his life will be saved. Mr Wood, a coal-merchant, pursued the assassin as far as Bushy Heath, near Watford, and police-officers have scoured the country. The cause of the diabolical act is said to have arisen from some family jealousies. The parties had a litigation about a month since, when high words arose, but they had since been apparent good friends.—Bowler has since been apprehended, tried, and executed.

6th.—**GREENOCK.**—Yesterday, in pursuance of his sentence, at the last Circuit Court of Justiciary, held at Glasgow, Moses McDonald was executed here, for the robbery of the shop of Mr James Jelly, grocer, Laigh Street, in December last. At ten minutes past three o'clock, he took farewell of the magistrates and

clergy, and ascended the scaffold with a firm step, by a stage erected out from the church railing; the executioner then put the rope round his neck, drew a white cap over his face, withdrew, and, at a quarter past three, he gave the signal by dropping a handkerchief; the drop fell, when, dreadful to relate, the rope broke, and he fell to the ground; his sister, who was near, instantly assisted him in rising (his arms being tied), when he got up, and walked steadily, without the least attempt to escape, to the church door; he was then taken into the church, and became faint; the back of his head being bruised by the fall—another rope was procured, the drop was supported underneath by a plank, he again mounted the scaffold with a firm and quick pace, the executioner put the rope round his neck, tied the other end on a hook above, and drew the cap over his face. He then went below, and, on the signal being given, knocked the prop away, when the drop fell, and he was launched into eternity at twenty minutes before four o'clock. He made three or four feeble convulsive throes, and was apparently dead in three minutes. M'Donald was a stout man, about thirty-five years of age, a native of Ireland, but has resided here for a number of years; he wrought as a jobber about the quays, and furnished ships with ballast.

8th.—PLYMOUTH.—This morning at three o'clock a dreadful fire broke out at three places at once, in the Rope-house of the Royal Dock-yard at this port, which, raged with great fury for several hours, and entirely consumed some of the machiery and the roof of that noble building; but by the exertion of the different regiments in garrison, and dock-yard men, it was at length got under, with the

aid of the ponderous fire-engines of the dock-yard. As the wind blew hard at E. and the fire broke out on the weather side, in three places, and where neither fire or candle, or light of any sort, is ever used, there is no doubt of its having been perpetrated by some incendiary, or incendiaries, and had it not been discovered providentially when it was, the vital interests of this country might have been nearly destroyed, as the opposite storehouses contained 1000 barrels of tar and 1000 tons of hemp, &c. and very large piles of heavy timber. The windows of those storehouses were scorched, but by the timely and strenuous exertions of the troops and all ranks of people, the intended mischief was prevented. Various conjectures are afloat as to the cause of this conflagration, but at present all is conjecture and surmise.

POLICE.—BOW-STREET.—Yesterday, between 11 and 12 o'clock, as two females, genteelly dressed, were passing the end of the Mall, opposite the Queen's Palace, they were rudely accosted by a man, with a large open clasp-knife, in a position as if he intended to cut them down; they screamed out, ran away, and escaped from him into Pimlico. After they had escaped, he went up to a man who had the appearance of a porter, and in a more direct manner attempted to stab him, but he also avoided the attack, and escaped. A gentleman who had observed his outrageous conduct, watched him into the White Horse public-house in Pimlico, went in search of a police-officer, and found Nicholls in the Park, who went there, took him into custody, got him quietly across the Park to the office, where he underwent an examination; when it appeared that a soldier on duty at the Queen's Guard had taken the

knife from him. Neither of the females nor the man he had attacked attended; but the gentleman who had observed his conduct fully proved the above statement. He said his name was Erasmus Hooper, he had been an officer in the navy, and had been extremely ill-treated; as he should have been Post-Captain, instead of which he had been tried upon false charges by a court-martial, and had been broke. On searching him, papers were found which fully proved him to be the man he had represented himself to be. Application was made at a navy agent's in the Adelphi, whom he referred to, who acknowledged having been his agent, and said the prisoner had been there yesterday, when his conduct was such that there was no doubt he was degraded.—He was therefore ordered to be detained.

On Sunday se'nnight, a cow, belonging to Mr Cain, of Beaumont-Hall, near Redburn, in Herts, died in consequence of the impossibility of her rising from the ground, occasioned by her being so big with calf. A butcher was called in to open her; and, to the infinite astonishment of the beholders, she was found to contain five full-grown calves, which, during the course of the day, were laid upon the ground for public inspection.

BUONAPARTE OUTWITTED.—The grand church of St John, at Malta, has the railings and ballustrades before the altar of massive silver, and when Bonaparte took possession of the island, these ballustrades and railings were painted to resemble mahogany; by this device the rapacious sacrilegious was deceived, but he deprived the church of its silver lamps and other ornaments. This secret did not transpire till some few months since,

when it was made known to the present governor (General Oakes), and measures are now taking to give this superb edifice its pristine splendour.

10th.—**EAST-INDIA-HOUSE.**—Yesterday, a general court was held at the East India House on special affairs. After the usual forms,

The chairman (Sir Hugh Inglis) acquainted the court, that it had been called for the purpose of submitting to them a petition to parliament for pecuniary aid. The court would recollect that the late petition presented to the House of Commons for relief, included also an application for the renewal of the company's charter; but as the charter could not be obtained this session, it became absolutely necessary to present a petition applying solely for the pecuniary relief.

The chairman also observed, that the mode of relief would entirely depend upon the disposition of his majesty's ministers; it had been the intention of Mr Perceval, whose loss every friend to the country must deplore, to have included the sum wanted (2,500,000l.) in the approaching loan, the company paying the interest; however, thus much he could say, that it was not the intention of administration to raise the money on bonds.—The question on the petition was then put, and passed unanimously. The court then adjourned.

MANSION-HOUSE FETE.—One of the grandest entertainments ever witnessed in the city of London, except the Prince's magnificent *fête*, last year, and royal banquets, was given on Wednesday at the Mansion-house. The party invited to meet their royal highnesses the princes, consisted of all the ambassadors and foreign ministers at our court, the great officers of state, and such of the nobility and

distinguished members of all political parties as his lordship was acquainted with.

The Lady Mayoress, at night, opened the remainder of this splendid mansion with a ball and supper, at which all the gentlemen appeared in court dresses.

The Lady Mayoress wore a splendid dress of white crape richly embroidered with real silver; her head-dress consisted of diamonds and a very large plume of white ostrich feathers.—The whole was truly magnificent, as were the Lord Mayor's, being a rich embroidered coat, and full suit to correspond.

The following illustrious and distinguished persons sat down to the dinner in the Egyptian-hall, about seven o'clock:—Their Royal Highnesses the Dukes of York, Kent, Cumberland, Cambridge, and Gloucester; Monsieur de France, and the Duke de Berri; the Spanish, Portuguese, and Turkish Ambassadors; the American Minister and Count Munster; and a great number of his majesty's ministers, and ladies and gentlemen of the first distinction, amounting to upwards of one thousand.—There was a profusion of Burgundy, Champagne, and the choicest wines.

It is a singular historical fact, that an ancestor of the late Mr Spencer Perceval also fell by the hands of an assassin:—In the year 1657, Robert Perceval, second son of the Right Hon. Sir P. Perceval, Knt. dreamed, "that he saw his own spectre, bloody and ghastly, and was so shocked at the sight, that he swooned away." Soon after communicating the particulars to his uncle, Sir Robert Smithwell, he was found in the Strand murdered.

11th—PERTH.—The old parlia-

ment-house of this place, which was lately purchased by Mr Duncan, druggist, has just been taken down to make room for a new house, which the proprietor means to build upon its site. Saturday last the workmen, who were employed in digging a vault for the intended structure, discovered a large quantity of silver coins, about 18 inches below the surface of the street. These had probably been deposited in a box, but no vestiges of it, except a single hinge, could be discovered. The coins themselves were in a state of oxydation, and many of them adhering together in a lump. The whole weighed 5lbs. 14oz. They seem to be chiefly English and Scots pennies of the 13th century. Mr Duncan has been very liberal in distributing specimens of this collection among his friends, and has presented a few of the best to the Literary and Antiquarian Society. Among the latter is a coin of Johu Baliol.

12th.—COURT OF KING'S BENCH.—*Gilbert v. Sykes, Bart.*—This was an action, by which the plaintiff, who is a clergyman, sought to recover from the defendant, Sir Mark Sykes, Bart. 2600l, odds, being the balance of the sum due to him by the defendant, on a wager on the life of Buonaparte, by which, in consideration of the sum of 105l. the defendant engaged to pay to the plaintiff one guinea per day, during the life time of Napoleon Buonaparte. The wager was entered into at the table of the defendant after dinner, when the conversation turning on the uncertain tenure of Buonaparte's life, shortly after the peace of Amiens, the defendant offered to give one guinea per day, during the life of that person, to any one who would give him 100 guineas down. The plaintiff immediately call-

ed out "done;" when the defendant, by his looks, which expressed displeasure at being so suddenly caught, and the rest of the company, by their cries of "no, no, no wager," shewed their disapprobation of the conduct of the plaintiff. The plaintiff, however, on the next lawful day sent to the defendant the 106l. which he accepted, and went on for nearly three years making the weekly payments. The action was tried before Mr Baron Thompson, at the last assizes for the county of York, and the jury found for the defendant, thereby declaring the wager void.

Mr Park having obtained a rule to shew cause why a new trial should be granted,

Mr Topping, Mr Scarlett, and Mr Hurlock, argued in support of the verdict, and Mr Park, Mr Richardson, and Mr Brougham, against it.

The court this day gave their judgement; finding the wager in question to be contrary to law, contrary to morality, and contrary to Christianity, contemplating as it did, assassination. The verdict, of course, was affirmed, and the rule for a new trial was discharged.

The new Cabinet nominations are—The Earl of Liverpool, First Lord of the Treasury, Premier.—Right Hon. N. Vansittart, Chancellor of the Exchequer—Lord Chancellor, Lord Eldon—President of the Council, Earl of Harrowby—Foreign Secretary of State, Lord Castlereagh—Home ditto, Lord Sidmouth—War ditto, Earl Bathurst—Admiralty, Lord Melville—Privy Seal, Earl of Westmoreland—Board of Controul, Lord Buckinghamshire—Ordnance, Lord Mulgrave.

SALE OF THE DUKE OF ROXBURGH'S LIBRARY.—Tuesday was quite an epoch in bookselling; for

at no time, and in no country, did books bring the prices at which they were knocked down, by Mr Evans, at Roxburgh-house.—To enumerate all the rarities sold on that day would exceed the limits that we can spare for the article; but we shall extract from the catalogue the titles of a few of the lots, and add the prices at which they sold.

ROMANCES.

"No. 6292. Il Decameroni di Boccaccio, fol. M. C. Edit. Prim. Venet. Valdarfer. 1471."

Of the extreme scarcity of this celebrated edition of the Decameron, it will perhaps be sufficient to say, that no other perfect copy is yet known to exist, after all the fruitless researches of more than 300 years. It was bought by the Marquis of Blandford for 2260l.; being the largest sum ever given for a single volume.

"No. 6348. The Boke of the Fayt of Armes and of Chyvalrye, fol. blue Turkey, gilt leaves, very rare. Caxton, 1479."

Bought by Mr Nornaville for 336l.

"No. 6349. The veray trew History of the valiant Knight Jason, fol. Russia. Andewarpe, by Gerard Leea, 1492."

Of this very rare edition no other copy is known. Bought by the Duke of Devonshire for 94l. 10s.

"6350. The Recuyell of the Histories of Troye, by Raolue le Fevre, translated and printed by William Caxton, fol. B. M. Colen 1473."

This matchless copy of the first book printed in the English language, belonged to Elizabeth Gray, Queen of Edward IV. Bought by the Duke of Devonshire for 1060l. 10s.

"No. 6353. The most Pytifull History of the Noble Appolyn, King of Thyre, 4to. M. G. L. very rare. W. de Worde, 1519."

Bought by Mr Nornaville for 115l. 10s.

"No. 6360. The History of Blanchardyn and the Princes Eglantyne, fol. red mor. Caxton."

Of this book there is no other copy

known to exist. Unfortunately it is imperfect at the end. Bought by Earl Spencer for 215l. 5s.

"No. 6361. The right pleasaunt and goodlie Historie of the Four Sonnes of Aimon, fol. red mor. Caxton, 1554."

Bought by Mr Heber for 55l.

"No. 6376. The Lyfe of Vergilius, with wood cuts, rare, 4to."

Bought by the Marquis of Blandford for 54l. 12s.

"No. 6377. The Starve of Frederyke of Jennen, with wood cuts, 1518."

Bought by Mr Triphook for 65l. 2s.

"No. 6378. The Story of Mary of Nemege, with wood cuts, 1518."

Bought by Mr Triphook for 67l.

The day's sale amounted to 5035l. 7s.

Earl Spencer was the competitor with the Marquis of Blandford, the fortunate purchaser, for the Deesmeron of Boccacio. The Marquis proposed starting with five guineas, but Lord Spencer put it in at 100l. When the Marquis bid the last 10l. Lord S. said, "I bow to you." The engagement was very fierce, and at its termination there was a general huzza! Presently after, the Marquis offered his hand to Lord S., saying, "We are good friends still?" His Lordship replied, "Perfectly—indeed, I am obliged to you." "So am I to you," said the Marquis, "therefore the obligation is mutual." He declared that it was his intention to have gone as far as 5000l. Before, he was possessed of a copy of the same edition, but it wanted five leaves; "for which five leaves," as Lord S. observed, "he might be said to have given 2260l."

It is not true, as was reported, that Mr Normaville was employed to purchase books at this sale for Bonaparte.

13th.—EDINBURGH.—Borthwick Castle was, on Friday, sold by authority of the Court of Session.—This remarkable edifice was built in 1480, by the first Lord Borthwick, and is acknowledged to be the most entire and magnificent specimen in Scotland of the mansion of a feudal baron. We trust the purchaser will preserve this object of national curiosity from the decay to which, from having been

long out of the family, it has been exposed.

A singular and very beautiful phenomenon was observed here on Saturday se'ennight, at 20 minutes past eight in the evening. The air was still, and the frith of Forth as smooth as glass; scarcely any clouds were visible in the sky, except a large, dense, well-defined one, which, with the exception of a few tinges of red and yellow on its lower edges, was quite black and dismal, and obstructed the rays of the setting sun. As some gentlemen were amusing themselves, by contemplating from the ramparts of the castle the truly sublime scene with which that fortress is surrounded, a wedge-shaped mass of bright light, with its point turned towards the spectators, was observed by them to extend itself a considerable way over the frith, from the opposite shore. This mass of light soon increased in length, and at the same time became wider towards the apex, till in less than half a minute it had entirely stretched across the water, and was perfectly cylindrical, forming as complete a bridge of fire as can well be conceived. In breadth it was considerably greater than the apparent diameter of the sun usually is, when seen near the horizon in a somewhat hazy evening; but its brightness was at least equal to the splendour of the solar orb at noon-day. No beam of sunshine was visible in any other part of the landscape, and the large dense cloud which obscured the scene, and was directly beyond the luminous bridge, was as black as pitch. In this state things remained for 15 or 20 seconds, when the mass of light or fire seemed to diminish in breadth at the further end, and became shorter and shorter, till in 20 seconds more it was a luminous spot like the sun, on this side

of the frith, where it entirely vanished. At one time, a tree in the landscape was interposed betwixt the eye and the fiery bridge, and seemed beautifully projected upon it, half way across the frith.

On Saturday last, a young man belonging to a party of the artillery, at present recruiting at Kelso, went to bathe in the Tweed, near the foot of St James's Green, when, going beyond his depth, and being unable to swim, he was unfortunately drowned. His name is John Graham: A companion who was with him, and who endeavoured to save him, narrowly escaped the same fate.

In making some repairs on a house in Montrose last week, there was found in the wall, a silver coin of the Emperor Gordianus. On the face is a head of the emperor, with a radiated crown, and the legend IMP. GORDIANUS PIUS—on the reverse, a female figure and LAETITIA AUG-N.

Saturday morning, a man was discovered hanging on a tree, near to Newton church, four miles south of Edinburgh. He was quite dead, and it is supposed, had committed this rash act in a fit of insanity. He was a plaisterer by profession, and unmarried.

The following is considered a singular circumstance:—A thrush, which for four years past has built her nest in the garden of Mr Anthony Thompson, at St Bees, has this year changed her residence, but not quitted the premises. She has taken up her abode in a bottle rack, and built her nest in the cavity of a bottle bottom! This her cottage is not more than a couple of yards from a back door, through which one or other of the family are frequently passing. The thrush is at present in the quiet state of incubation, and so familiarized to

her old friends and protectors, as to suffer them to stroak her back, whilst she feeds off their hands with the greatest composure.

14th.—NIGHTLY WATCH.—A bill for the better regulation of the nightly watch in Westminster, and the vicinity of the metropolis, is now in its progress through parliament: It provides, among other things, that the number of watchmen in every parish shall be in the proportion of one to every 60 houses, and that there shall be one patrol to every twelve watchmen: the watchmen to have their regular beats, and the patrols to perambulate the parish, superintend the watchmen, inspect the ale-houses and the state of the lamps, and report upon these and all other occurrences of the night to the constables at the watch-house, where they are to be entered in a book to be kept for that purpose. Another clause provides for the division of the night into two watches, and that one half of the watchmen shall be on duty in each watch, which they are to take alternately: the hours of watching in the winter months to be not later than from eight in the evening to seven in the morning; in the spring and autumn, from nine in the evening to six in the morning; and in the summer from nine to five. A copy of the book of entries kept at the watch-house to be transmitted every morning to the police-office of the district; and abstracts of all such reports to be made out at least once a week, and transmitted to the head office in Bow-street. The bill also authorises the Secretary for the Home Department to divide the whole of the parishes to which it extends into eight districts, and to assign each of such districts to one of the police offices established by the act of the 32d of the king; which

offices shall every night send round one or more of their principal officers to superintend and report upon the conduct of the constables and watchmen. A person to be appointed at Bow-street, with a salary of 200l. a-year, for the purpose of digesting and arranging the reports and abstracts from the different parishes, and transmitting the same to the Secretary of State's office. Another clause precludes police officers from receiving any reward on conviction of offenders, by act of parliament; but to be rewarded at discretion of magistrates, for their activity and vigilance. Magistrates authorised to cause the execution of search-warrants for stolen goods, by night as well as by day. The act of the 51st of the king, for the more effectual administration of the office of justice of the peace for Middlesex and Surrey, to be extended to the city of London and its liberties. The number of every hackney-coach to be painted on the panel.

16th.—Saturday nine men were put on shore at Sandgate, out of a schooner which had picked them up at sea, they having made their escape from the prison of Verdun, which they effected by means of working through the common sewer. The original number which escaped in this way from the prison was 48, but on their arrival at the sea-shore, which they accomplished in safety, and where they had procured a boat for their purpose, they were surrounded by a guard of soldiers; in this extremity they attempted to defend themselves with some tomahawks which they had found in the boat. In the contest 12 of them were shot, 27 made prisoners, and nine made their escape, although every one of them was wounded. Those who were ta-

ken prisoners, it is feared, will suffer severely for their conduct. Some of them have been in prison since the commencement of the war, having been taken in a letter of marque called the Neptune. One of them was a part owner of this vessel, and belongs to Shields; he has received a wound in the leg.

On Wednesday se'ennight was committed, at the Town-hall, Plymouth, by the Rev. Mr Justice Williams, James Gilson, first mate of the Queen transport, for the wilful murder of Patrick Fitzgerald, a boy about fourteen years of age, during a voyage to Port Mahon, in January last. This murder seems to have been of the most unprovoked description. During their voyage, a signal was made to the transport, by the convoying ship, to carry more sail, which was answered by the former; but in lowering the pennant it became entangled in the main stays, and Fitzgerald was ordered by Gilson to proceed aloft in order to clear it. Fitzgerald, unused to the sea, did not execute the task so quickly as Gilson wished, in consequence of which he was directed to stand on the main top-gallant yard for several hours, by way of punishment. The weather at this time being peculiarly inclement, the boy, terrified by his situation, and shivering with cold, cried most bitterly, when Gilson went up himself with a rope to beat him; but the boy, in endeavouring to avoid him, lost his hold, fell into the sea, and was drowned, without any effort being permitted to be made by Gilson to save his life, either by lowering a boat, or putting the helm about. Gilson is to take his trial at the next Admiralty sessions.

MARLBOROUGH STREET.—The Right Honourable George Tierney

charged Jeffery, bookseller, on Saturday, at this office, with assaulting him on Friday, in Pall-mall. It appeared in evidence, that the prosecutor was in company with Lord Spencer, walking along Pall-mall, when Jeffery assailed him with the most affronting language, telling him he was a pretty fellow to be a privy counsellor, &c. He also upbraided the noble lord in company with Mr Tierney, for walking with him. The prosecutor, to avoid the defendant's company, attempted to enter a shop in Pall-mall; but the defendant got betwixt him and the door, and put himself in an attitude *a-la-Belcher*, and prevented it. It appeared, that Jeffery pretended the prosecutor had attempted to injure him in trade, but Mr Tierney disclaimed such attempt, and added, on the contrary, that he had even recommended him. Mr Tierney observed, he had not the slightest animosity towards the defendant, but he must insist on his finding sureties. The defendant was held in bail to keep the peace, himself in 200*l.* and two sureties in 50*l.* each.

SINGULAR PHENOMENON.—On the 1st of May, an awful and singular phenomenon presented itself, to the great alarm and consternation of the inhabitants of the island of Barbadoes, of which the following is an account.

Barbadoes, May 2.—Yesterday morning at four o'clock, the atmosphere was perfectly clear and light, but at six, thick clouds had covered the horizon, from whence issued, in torrents like rain, and particles finer than sand, volcanic matter; and at eight, it was as totally dark as we ever recollect to have seen the most stormy night. It then became necessary to procure lights, not only in the dwellings of families, but lanterns

were obliged to be used in passing from one part of the street to another. On the preceding night it however seems that many persons heard sounds like those which follow the discharging of cannon, and some go so far as to say, that they clearly observed the flashes to leeward of us, the same as if vessels were engaged at sea; therefore, as these clouds came from the northward, it is much to be dreaded that some one of the neighbouring islands has experienced the dismal effects of a volcanic eruption. This awful state of darkness continued until 20 minutes past 12 at noon, when the glimmerings of Heaven's light were gradually perceptible, and about one o'clock it was so far clear as to be compared with that of about seven in the evening. The eruptive matter, however, still continued, and, as was the case during the whole time of its descent, numerous flocks of exotic birds were heard warbling the melancholy note of croaking, as if they were messengers of past or pre-ages of future evil. We shall, in common with our fellow inhabitants, feel extremely anxious for arrivals from the neighbouring islands; should these fortunately have escaped any convulsion of the earth, this phenomenon will form a subject of much philosophical interest and learned discussion. To describe the feeling that pervaded the community, during this awful period, is impossible—it is far more easy to be conceived; many considered it as an infliction of that Almighty wrath which was denounced against the Israelites of old, as we are informed in holy writ:—“The Lord shall make the rain of the land powder and dust; from Heaven shall it come down upon thee, until thou be destroyed;” which was still further impressed by the follow-

ing passage—"And thou shalt grope at noon-day, as the blind gropeth in darkness, and thou shalt not prosper in thy ways." It was, in short, a scene that can never be obliterated from the memory, and it may at least have some good effect, that of strengthening the believer in his ideas of Omnipotence, as well as producing in the mind of the disbeliever (should there unhappily be one among us) a conviction of the error of his ways. The sandy particles appear to have fallen, in this neighbourhood, to the depth of about three quarters of an inch; but in the north part of the island they are said to be considerably deeper.

The armed ship *Emma* arrived this day at noon, informs that, when 30 miles to the eastward of Point Saline, Martinique, early yesterday morning, a dreadful explosion was heard, and the vessel was shortly afterwards completely enveloped in clouds of the same kind of matter as above stated; and this was also experienced by the schooner *Peggy*, from Dominica, which also states that total darkness prevailed from two o'clock yesterday morning until three in the afternoon. *Extract of a letter from Barbadoes, dated 5th May, 1812, to a mercantile house in Greenock.*

"We can scarcely see to write for dust, and have not time, by this opportunity, to give a full account of the most awful phenomenon that ever was witnessed here, which happened on the 1st instant. We were in utter darkness from half past six in the morning till half past 12 in the afternoon, during which time, and the remainder of the day, a great quantity of dust was showered upon us from the heavens, which has covered the island at least one inch thick. The country is melancholy, and unless we

have rain, there is no saying what will become of our live stock."

17th.—THE PITT CLUB, LONDON.—The celebration of the anniversary of this great and illustrious statesman, (postponed from the 28th ult. on account of the gloom and horror which so universally pervaded the public mind in consequence of the atrocious murder of the lamented Mr Perceval), took place yesterday at the London Tavern.—The discussion in the House of Commons upon the important question of the orders in council, necessarily prevented the attendance of many members of that house on this occasion; notwithstanding which, however, near four hundred noblemen and gentlemen of the first rank and consequence in the state were present. Mr Inglis was in the chair. The Lord Chancellor was on his right, the Earl of Liverpool on his left, the Duke of Montrose, Lords Camden, Buckinghamshire, Bathurst, Sidmouth, and many other noble peers, on both sides. An excellent military band attended, and continued to play during the evening.

After a most excellent dinner, *Non nobis Domine* was sung in the first style of excellence, by Messrs Keate, Dignum, and several other singers of high professional repute. The following toasts were then given from the chair:

"The King," with three times three—drank with universal and reiterated bursts of applause.

SONG.—"God save the King,"

TOAST.—"The Prince Regent," with three times three.—This toast was drank with enthusiastic cheers, which continued some minutes. There were nine distinct rounds of applause, which were followed by repeated huzzas and waving of handkerchiefs from every part of the company.

SONG.—“ The Prince and Old England for ever,”

TOAST.—“ The Queen and Royal Family,”

TOAST.—“ The House of Brunswick, and may they never forget the principles that seated them on the throne of these realms,” with three times three. Drank with reiterated bursts of applause.

GLEE.—“ Hail, Star of Brunswick !” finely sung.

The chairman then rose. He said he should have the honour to propose a toast which every nobleman and gentleman present would naturally anticipate. In paying the testimony of their respects to the memory of the late Right Honourable William Pitt, it would only be necessary to contemplate the humble origin and the present extent and influence of the Pitt Club, to be enabled to form a true estimate of the value of the principles and character of that great and upright man. The Pitt Club consisted, at the outset, of a small association of private gentlemen of the city of London, induced to form that association, by their attachment to the principles which had influenced the conduct of Mr Pitt, and strongly impressed with a sense of the importance of fixing, extending, and perpetuating those principles in the minds of the British people. Those principles were the maintenance of the constitutional dignity of the crown, the preservation of the constitutional independence of parliament, and the freedom of the people. The innate and obvious value of those principles, combined with the great authority of the name and character of Mr Pitt, had, in the short period of six years, which had elapsed since the first institution of this club, spread its attractions so widely, that, besides the

great and respectable number of followers and votaries attached to it in this great capital, similar associations of equal respectability were now to be found in all the principal towns of England, Scotland, and Wales. He could not give a more convincing proof than this most gratifying fact of the true value of the principles of Mr Pitt, nor of the estimation in which they were held, nor of the influence and attraction which they possessed over the minds of Britons. He concluded with giving the following

TOAST.—“ The immortal memory of the late Right Honourable William Pitt,” drank as usual in solemn reverential silence by the whole company.

SONG.—“ The Pilot that weather'd the Storm.”

TOAST.—“ May the principles of Mr Pitt always influence the councils of Great Britain,” with three times three.—Enthusiastic and long-continued bursts of applause.

GLEE.—“ When Order in this Land,”

TOAST.—“ The ministers of the Prince Regent,” with three times three, followed by cheering of some minutes duration.

The Earl of Liverpool replied in a short but animated speech. In returning thanks for the honour done to the servants of the Prince Regent, in drinking their healths, he felt himself called upon to say, on behalf of himself and his colleagues, that so distinguished a mark of the approbation of a meeting so highly respectable would, under any circumstances, have been highly gratifying; but it was rendered peculiarly so when coupled with the objects of the present meeting, and with the considerations arising from the institution of the Pitt Club, as well as from the as-

semblage which that institution, and the principles which it was intended to extend and to perpetuate, had this day brought together. He was firmly persuaded, that it was to the energy of Mr Pitt's mind, the purity of his principles, and firmness of his measures, that we were wholly indebted for the prosperity, the security, and the blessings we this day enjoyed. The present servants of the Prince Regent, all educated in the principles of Mr Pitt, and reared under his guidance and auspices, felt an unalterable devotion to those principles. In their fixed adherence to those principles they saw the best means of insuring the safety, and promoting the interests of the empire; and on this adherence they rested their claims to the confidence and support of the nation.

TOAST—"The memory of the Right Honourable Spencer Perceval;" drank in solemn and respectful silence.

The Lord Chancellor then rose.—Before he proposed the toast which he was about to give, he wished to offer a few prefatory observations. His noble colleague (the Earl of Liverpool) had previously expressed the acknowledgments of the present servants of the Prince Regent, for the honour done them in drinking their health in association with the principles of Mr Pitt; they were, indeed, most deeply and sincerely pledged and devoted to those principles; principles which had very accurately been explained by the chairman, to consist of the constitutional authority of the crown—the constitutional independence of parliament, and the constitutional freedom of the people. To those principles, in the maintenance of which Mr Pitt and Mr Spencer Perceval lived and died, the present ser-

vants of the Prince Regent were unalterably devoted, and in the influence of those principles, and the co-operation of the great and respectable body now assembled, to do honour to them and to their great champion, he contemplated the best and most lasting assurance of the safety and best interests of the empire. To those principles and to this commemoration, he was himself so strongly attached, that no engagement, no difficulty, had ever prevented him from giving his attendance at this commemoration from the first institution of the meeting; and while it pleased God to give him health and strength, he would promise a continuance of attendance equally invariable. He felt pride and confidence in being assured of the same devotion in his fellow-servants; and in seeing, in the present meeting, sufficient evidence of the extensive and manly influence of those principles of Mr Pitt, he saw the best pledge of the welfare of the country. He concluded with giving the health of the chairman, and prosperity to the Pitt Club.—(*Loud and repeated cheers.*)

The Chairman returned thanks in a short speech, expressing his own attachment, and that of the club, to the principles of Mr Pitt, and impressing the importance of those principles on the country.

A number of other patriotic toasts were drank, and the evening concluded with the greatest harmony.

THE LOAN.—Tuesday morning the parties who had prepared lists for the loan of the year waited by appointment upon the Earl of Liverpool and Mr Vansittart. The terms proposed to the contractors were to give 120 in the reduced for every 100l. sterling, and that the bidding should be in the 3 per cent. consols.

There were three lists, which, as our readers will see, by the following paper published by the contractors on their return to the city, coalesced :

LOAN of 22,500,000*l.* for the service of the year 1812.

For England *L.*15,650,000
Ireland 4,550,000
The East India Company 2,500,000

Contracted for on Tuesday, June 16, 1812, the lists having made a similar offer, by Mess. Baring, J. J. Angerstein, Battye, Dawes, and Ellis
Mess. Barnes, Steers, and Ricardo, and Mess. Robarts, Curtis, and Co.

TERMS.

*L.*120 | — | — Reduced 3 } for every 100*l.*
56 | — | — 9 per cents. } sterling sub-
 | — | — 9 per cent. } scribed.
 | — | — consols,

The dividend upon the 3 per cent. consols to commence from January, and upon the reduced 3 per cents. from April last ; and the first half-yearly payments, becoming due July 5, and October 10, to be exempted from the property duty.

Discount after the rate of 4 per cent. per annum, for payments made in full.

BIDDINGS OF THE DIFFERENT LISTS.

Mess. Baring, J. J. Angerstein, Battye, Dawes, & Ellis } 5*l.* 3 per cent. consols.
Mess. Barnes, Steers, & Ricardo }
Mess. Robarts, Curtis, & Co. }

There was very great bustle and anxiety on the Stock Exchange during the whole of the morning.—Stocks opened at 58½ and fell to 57.

The omnium opened at a premium of 3 per cent. and fell afterwards to about 1 per cent.

Admiralty-Office, June 20.

Admiral Lord Keith has transmitted to John Wilson Croker, Esq. a letter from the Hon. Captain Bouverie, of his majesty's ship Medusa, to Captain Sir George Ralph Collier, of the Surveillante, giving an account of

the destruction of the French national store-ship La Dorade, of 14 guns and 86 men, on the 5th instant, in the harbour of Arcason, by the boats of the Medusa, under the directions of Lieutenant Josiah Thompson. Notwithstanding the enemy were prepared for the attack, and the boats were hailed before they were within musket-shot, the ship was carried, after a desperate struggle, in which the whole of the crew, excepting 29 taken, were either killed or compelled to jump overboard ; the commander of the vessel (a Lieutenant de Vaisseau) was amongst the latter, severely wounded. At daylight the ship was got under weigh, but after proceeding a league down the harbour she grounded ; and the tide then running out with great violence, she was set fire to, after the wounded had been taken out, and some time after blew up. The Dorade had been watching an opportunity to escape from Arcason since the month of April, 1811. Capt. Bouverie highly commends the conduct of Lieut. Thompson and the other officers and men employed on this occasion.

Rear-Admiral Brown, commander in chief at the islands of Guernsey and Jersey, has transmitted to John Wilson Croker, Esq. a letter from Lieutenant Drake, commanding the Sandwich hired lugger, giving an account of his having, on the 15th instant, captured the Courageux French lugger privateer, of two guns and 24 men, out four days from Brehat, without making any capture.

23d.—On Tuesday afternoon, about three o'clock, a melancholy accident took place at Mr Edward Perry's iron-foundry, in the New Town, Whitehaven, by the bursting and blowing up of the steam-engine boiler, with a most tremendous noise and

shock, which shattered the engine-house to pieces, and greatly damaged the moulding-house, &c. The part of the boiler, which blew up a considerable height, weighs upwards of 80 cwt. fortunately no part of the fragments, flying about, touched the large stack of the air furnace, which enables the casting business to be continued without interruption. James Carlisle, attending the engine, and Wm. Harkness, attending the cupola, were both much scalded and bruised. The former lived only a few hours after the accident; the other is in a hopeful way of recovery.

24th.—Government is in possession of the correspondence between Buonaparte and Bernadotte.

The French ruler, as an ultimatum before he determined on prosecuting hostilities against Sweden, wrote to the Crown Prince, offering to restore Pomerania, Finland, and the estates of Bernadotte in France and Italy, on condition that the latter would co-operate with him in accomplishing his designs in the north. He, in the same communication, reminded Bernadotte of his early friendship, and of his recent obligations.

The answer was short and decided:—‘With regard to Pomerania, the chance of war may again restore it to me; with respect to Finland, it is not yours to bestow. As to the property assigned to me in France and Italy, I calculated on its surrender when I became a Swede. You advert to our early friendship. We have fought side by side; and for any talent we have shewn, or valour we have displayed, we were amply rewarded, you with the crown of France, and I with the sceptre of Sweden. On the matter of obligation, I need only reply, that the motives of gratitude are pretty equal.’

The court of St Petersburg having indicated some uncertainty as to the sincerity of Bernadotte, our government has ordered authentic copies of this correspondence to be presented to Alexander; and the delivery was to be accompanied with the enquiry, if the emperor were not then perfectly satisfied of the adherence of the Crown Prince to all the genuine interests of the northern states.

THOMAS BOWLER.—The final examination against this man for discharging the contents of a blunderbuss at Mr Burrows, took place yesterday at Marlborough-street office. He was attended by a friend, and appeared very composed. The depositions of the several witnesses (twelve in number) which had been previously taken, were read over. During this proceeding, Mr Weatherall, the counsel, came in. On his cross-examining one of the witnesses relative to the alleged insanity of the prisoner, the witness replied, he was his neighbour, he had known him six years, was seldom more than a day or two together without seeing him in his business, and he had never perceived in him any symptoms of insanity, nor had he ever heard such a report in the neighbourhood. In this assertion this witness was supported by the others.—He was fully committed for trial, and has since been convicted and executed.

Hull, June 26.—On Saturday last, between four and five in the afternoon, a heavy clap of thunder was heard at this place, preceded by a very vivid flash of lightning, which was productive of a calamitous event in this neighbourhood. As Mr Robert Witty, of this town, joiner, was returning home from Hesse, along the Humber-bank, and about three quarters of a mile from the latter place, he was struck by it

and killed upon the spot. His body was marked on the left temple, and left cheek, the pit of the stomach, the left groin, thigh, and leg, of which the stocking was turned quite brown, as was also his shirt. The latter was burned like tinder in many places.—The lining and crown of his hat were blown into fragments, and some of them carried to the distance of twenty yards. Three women who were walking towards the deceased, and about thirty yards off, saw him fall; and a man following him, at about the same distance, was also struck by the flash, and deprived of his faculties for a moment. On recovering his recollection, he found his clothes dirty, whence it is apprehended he had been thrown down by the stroke. Mr Witty was about 24 years of age, had been married 13 months, and has left a widow, who, at the time of this awful visitation, had been only eight days confined of her first child. Her distress at learning the shocking intelligence has brought her into imminent danger.

About the same time the house of Mr Emery, linen-draper, market-place, Beverley, was struck by a ball of fire, which entered at the top of a chamber window, singed the bed curtains, and ran in a zig-zag direction down the walls, which were left marked as if hot coals had been applied to them.—Happily no person was hurt.

On Tuesday, during a severe thunder-storm, as a man, his wife, and daughter, were at work in a brick-kiln, near the York road, about two miles from Boroughbridge, the girl was struck dead by the lightning; the man, from the same cause, quite lost the use of both his legs, and the woman her arms.

27th.—NOTTINGHAM.—The theatre at this place has been abruptly

closed by command of the town magistrates, in consequence of the tumultuous proceedings that have taken place on several successive evenings, occasioned by a request made to the orchestra to play the national air of "God save the King." On the tune being called for, it has generally been accompanied with a cry of "hats off," which has produced the most violent opposition on the part of those who are any thing but "loyal." Instead of complying with the request, the oppositionists answer it with a cry of "Millions be free!" and rising with their hats on, place themselves in the most menacing attitude of defiance. This act of indecency has frequently led to blows, and individuals in the boxes have been obliged to seek their personal safety by leaping into the pit, while those in the pit have placed themselves in array against the boxes, and a general contest or tumult has been the result. In several instances, tickets have been distributed, gratis, to the amount of several pounds, with a view to beat down the loyal party by main force, in consequence of which, several officers have been insulted and maltreated, particularly on Wednesday evening last, when a number of those desperadoes surrounded Brigade-Major Humphrys, on coming out of the theatre, hooted him along the streets to his quarters, and threw a bottle in his face, which cut him severely. Brigade-Major Humphrys is a most gentlemanly character, who had never taken any part whatever in the disturbances, but that he was a military officer was quite sufficient. On another occasion, a party way-laid an officer of the 2d Somerset militia who had been forward in displaying his zeal and loyalty to his king at the theatre, in the park, late in the even-

ing, and beat him in a most inhuman manner. Several have been compelled to enter into recognizances for their good behaviour, and two or three are bound over to appear at the quarter sessions, for the assault committed on the officer in the park. This evening was fixed for the benefit of Mr Robertson, one of the managers, who calculated upon a net receipt of at least 100*l.* but by the abrupt closing of the theatre, it appears he reckoned without his host.

28th.—Yesterday, about 12 o'clock, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, the Duke of Montrose, Earls of Aylesford and Winchelsea, members of the queen's council, arrived at the queen's lodge, where they were received by the six physicians, who laid the report of the state of his majesty's health before them. The members of the council after a consultation adjourned to the castle, and being introduced into the presence of the queen, proceeded to hold a council, and sat till half past 3 o'clock, when all the members, except the Earl of Winchelsea, set off on their return to London.

The following bulletin was shewn at St James's Palace.

Windsor Castle, June, 27.

"Since the last report his majesty has had an increase of his disorder, which has again subsided."

29th.—On Thursday, the races on the town moor, Newcastle, were attended by one of the most numerous concourses of spectators ever remembered. Just as the last race was finished, a temporary stand belonging to the White Hart inn, being loaded with about 200 persons, gave way in the middle, and involved nearly 100 in the crash. About 40 persons were seriously hurt, and ten or twelve dangerously, several of them

having limbs broken. The medical gentlemen who were on the ground, gave their ready assistance, and many of the sufferers were received into the Grand Stand, or were accommodated with carriages from thence. On Friday morning they were all alive; but a poor woman named Elizabeth Smith, was in a very dangerous state, she having been below, at the time of the accident. Mr Redhead, senior, of Biddick, had a thigh broken; Mr Blackbird, of Newbottle, a leg and thigh; Mr Fiddler, a midshipman, a leg; a pitman called the Duke, an arm; Sir H. Vane's groom, a leg; Mr Moffitt, founder, and several others, were much hurt, but had no limbs broken. Mrs Wylam, the proprietor, was hurt on the shoulder. The greatest sufferers were four casks of spirits, twelve dozen bottles of malt liquor, and seven dozen of wine, which were crushed to pieces.

On Monday, about five o'clock, afternoon, a gentleman walking round the cragg at the foot of Nelson's monument, Cañton-hill, Edinburgh, unfortunately fell over the precipice and was killed on the spot; a medical gentleman arrived about five minutes after the accident, but the vital spark had fled.

30th.—**MRS SIDDONS' RETIREMENT.**—**COVENT-GARDEN.**—The departure of Mrs Siddons from the stage is an event that most sensibly interests every amateur in the art. She has so long maintained the lustre of the genuine drama, that it fills the breast with the most sincere regret she should thus retire in the fulness of her fame, while her powers are undecayed by years, and when she sees no rising candidate in any adequate degree qualified to supply the place which she will leave vacant.

The play with which Mrs Siddons

took leave of the public last night was *Macbeth*. We need not say that in none of the extensive circle of her performances, does she display more conspicuously that powerful talent for the delineation of the lofty passions of the soul, which have so long distinguished her theatrical career, than in *Lady Macbeth*. Her *Isabella*, *Belvidera*, and *Mrs Beverley*, are admirable evidences of her softer powers. But from the period at which she first appeared, *Lady Macbeth* seemed to be the character in which her powers found their most extensive range: it was the triumph of his genius, whose like we shall never see again. He shews her to us in her sleep,—in that hour when all human nature is feeble; and shews us then the load of heavy thought that hung upon her during the day, but was sustained by the stern pride and preternatural vigour of her waking powers. No actress could go tamely through this her concluding scene: but when we say, that in it, as in the general spirit of the character, *Mrs Siddons* equalled the best of her efforts at the best period of her career, we offer her no cold panegyric. Her hushed step, her stifled voice, her fixed and dim eye, the countenance pale with unnatural thought,—for the time untouched with external things, but in its shades and shiverings standing a silent index of the agonies that rose thick within, were among the finest efforts of the art. After this scene the audience would see and hear no more—the electrical effect was produced—for the audience almost boisterous the scene. They became boisterous in their applause of her acting, and in calling for a repetition. The incongruity of stopping the march of a tragedy, for the encore of a whole

scene, like a song in an opera, struck one part of the house, while another continued to demand it. The curtain dropt—an attempt was made to solicit the pleasure of the house to permit the play to proceed—but no—and after a long suspension, the curtain rose, and *Mrs Siddons*, in the dress of the sleep scene, came forward and delivered a poetical address, written by *Horace Twiss*, her nephew, with great feeling and effect.—The following are the concluding lines:—

Judges and Friends! to whom the tragic strain
Of nature's feeling never spoke in vain,
Perhaps your hearts, when years have glided by,
And past emotions wake a fleeting sigh,
May think on her, whose lips have pour'd
so long
The charmed sorrows of your Shakspeare's
song:
On her, who, parting to return no more,
Is now the mourner she but seem'd before,
Herself subdued, resigns the melting spell,
And breathes, with swelling heart, her long,
her last farewell!

She made her reverences with great emotion, and *Mr Kemble* stepped on the stage to assist in leading her off. The house took leave of their favourite with reiterated acclamations.

Mr Kemble then came on, and in a short address requested to know the pleasure of the house, whether they would hear the remainder of the play; all the 5th act, except the first scene, remaining unperformed; but the universal cry of the house was that they could hear no more, and with this unexampled compliment to the great tragic actress of the age, the scene closed. It had an unutterable effect on the feelings of the company, who immediately began to retire.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT.

The weather throughout the whole

month has been particularly favourable for the different operations of the season. The fallows have wrought in the most satisfactory manner. The fields intended for turnip were got properly cleaned and pulverised, and the occasional showers that fell, have, in most cases, raised a regular and healthy braird of both Swedish and common turnip. Although the wheat in general is tolerably close upon the ground, yet present appearances certainly indicate a light crop, and even late, as in the most favourable situations it is only getting into the ear; but much depends upon the future state of the weather, in determining the nature or value of the ensuing crop. Barley is likewise rather light, and not near so promising as at the date of the last report; but oats are every where well planted, and in most cases promise an abundant crop. Hay, upon clay lands, from a deficiency of clover, will be rather light, but upon free and dry soils the crop will be very abundant; it will be eight or ten days, however, before the harvesting of that article becomes general. Pasture grass continues to afford a plentiful supply of food to the different kinds of stock, and the grazier has seldom been better paid, than by the sales already effected, although cattle were considered very dear when put upon the grass.

Markets for grain have been upon the advance during the month; and although as much may still remain as to afford a supply for the home markets, yet very little more will likely be exported, as the corn-merchants at the different sea-ports are nearly all barehanded. Butcher-markets are still high.

FASHIONS.—*Morning Dishabille.*

—A high dress of fine French cambric or plain India muslin, richly embroidered round the bottom with a deep border; a demi sleeve, ornamented *a l'antique*, surmounting the long sleeve, which is finished at the wrist by a narrow ruffle; the bust adorned partly *en militaire*, partly *a l'antique*, to correspond with the demi sleeve; the whole of the upper part of the dress ornamented by a profusion of lace, and finished at the throat by an old English ruff. Peasant's cap, with two rows of lace set on full, confined under the chin by a band formed of the same material as the cap, and terminating in a bow on the crown. Plain black kid or jean slippers.

Equestrian Costume.—An habit of bright green, ornamented down the front, and embroidered at the cuffs, *a la militaire*, with black. Small riding hat of black beaver, fancifully adorned with gold cordon and tassels, with a long ostrich feather in green in front, or a green hat with black tassels and black feather. Black half boots, laced and fringed with green; York tan gloves.

When this dress is worn as a carriage or walking costume, it is made as a pelisse, without the riding jacket, and confined round the waist by a fancy belt of black and green.

JULY.

1st.—According to the new local militia act, passed 20th June last, the numbers to be enrolled for the different counties of Scotland are,

<i>Men.</i>		<i>Men.</i>
Co. of Edin.	1932	Argyll, 1456
City ditto,	1240	Inverness, 1536

Linlithgow, ..	376	Perth,	2612
Haddington, ..	616	Forfar,	2044
Berwick,	620	Kincardine, ..	544
Peebles,	180	Aberdeen,	2560
Selkirk,	100	Banff,	716
Roxburgh, ..	712	Elgin,	552
Kirkcudbright, 604		Nairn,	172
Wigton,	476	Cromarty, ...	64
Ayr,	1744	Ross,	180
Renfrew,	1616	Sutherland, ..	400
Lanark,	3004	Caithness, ...	484
Stirling,	1052	Dumfries, ...	1136
Kinross,	140	Clackmannan, 224	
Fife,	1936		
Dumbarton, .	428	Total, ...	31,140
Bute,	244		

Lisbon, June 15.—His majesty's ship *Union*, of 98 guns, Captain Linzee, put in here last Wednesday, on her way to Gibraltar, in consequence of the captain's having been stabbed the preceding day, on his quarter-deck, by one of his crew. Admiral Berkeley of course instantly ordered a court-martial.

The first lieutenant of the *Union* was prosecutor (the captain being confined by his wound), and another lieutenant and two sailors who saw the act, were examined for the prosecution, with the assistant-surgeon, who described the wound as under the second rib in the chest, and the nearest possible escape from being mortal.

The prisoner made no defence, but that he was drunk, and brought two of his messmates, who had known him for ten years, who gave him a good character, and considered him an inoffensive man, but sometimes deranged when in liquor. He was unanimously found guilty, and sentenced to be hanged on board such ship, and at such time, as Admiral Berkeley should direct; which sentence was carried into execution, on Friday morning, on board the *Union*, at the fore yard-arm; a boat's crew from each man of war in the *Tagus*

attending. His name is Abchurch, a native of London.

Captain Linzee is doing well, but the ship has not yet sailed; nor can he be expected to be able to resume his command for some days, if they wait for that.

ALGERINE OUTRAGE.—An Algerine squadron, consisting of two frigates, two sloops, and two brigs, has been for some time past cruising in the Mediterranean. On the 27th of April, the Haughty gun-brig, Lieutenant Harvey, proceeding with a convoy for Malta, fell in with it, when the Algerine commodore, after examining the ships, ordered the detention of a Greek vessel, laden with corn. On this order being notified to Lieutenant Harvey, he immediately went on board the Algerine, accompanied by his surgeon, as interpreter, to remonstrate against this unfriendly act, and to request the liberation of the vessel. Instead, however, of his request being complied with, he received the most gross and abusive language; his own ship was threatened to be seized; and on refusing to deliver up some papers belonging to the Greek vessel, he was knocked down, repeatedly kicked, and his pockets rifled. He was instantly obliged to depart, without obtaining the release of the vessel, and proceeded to Cagliari. A representation of the affair has been made to Sir E. Pellew, but there was no probability of redress being obtained from these ruffians.

3d.—**WICK.**—A melancholy accident happened here, on the morning of the 1st. Alexander Hector, late master of the ship *James* of Aberdeen, had been for some time in the habit of fishing in the bay, and occasionally on the coast here, in a boat of a peculiar construction, and of a

most uncommonly small size. He and a boy, named Doull, went about three miles from the land, on Tuesday evening, to fish, and were seen for some time by Mr Hector's brother, and the boy's father, who were fishing in another boat at a little distance from them; but, dreadful to relate, in an instant the small boat disappeared; and though the other boat hastened to the spot, nothing could be seen, but Mr Hector's hat and one oar, floating on the surface of the sea. As Mr Hector was very much reputed for his skill and activity in piloting vessels to and from the new harbour and river of Wick, his loss is greatly felt; and indeed all who knew him in private life lamented him much. He has left a disconsolate widow and several connections to mourn for his fate. The parents of the boy are also in great grief for the loss of their only son.

VIOLATION OF PAROLE.—It is now about three months since General Lefebvre broke his parole. We were not prepared to expect so speedily a similar violation of honour on the part of another French general officer. Philippon, the late governor of Badajos, who surrendered to the Earl of Wellington on the 6th of April, and was sent by government on parole to Oswestry, contrived to quit that town on Wednesday last, accompanied by an officer of artillery of the name of Garnier. It has not yet been ascertained whether these disgraceful fugitives have gone; but there is some reason to suppose, that they are attended by three persons who reside near Deal. We are glad to learn that government has adopted every necessary precaution to prevent their escape from this country: full descriptions of their persons having been sent to all the out-ports, and to other places

where there is any probability of detecting them; and strict orders have been issued, for the careful examination of every suspicious person who may be found near the coast. The artillery officer who accompanies Philippon is said to speak pretty good English, whence it is conjectured that he has probably assumed the appearance and character of a friend acting as an interpreter. Philippon himself is a tall man, being nearly six feet in height, of a stout frame, with a fair complexion, and having a scar over his left eye.

7th.—HORRIBLE CATASTROPHE.—Monday morning, about nine o'clock, the inhabitants of Plymouth were thrown into indescribable terror, by the commission of one of those dreadful crimes which have so lately brutalized the species, and disgraced the British name. Mr Hyne, flour-merchant, of Old Town, Plymouth, while sitting at breakfast with his wife and two children, suddenly seized one of them, and cut its throat, he then seized the other, and, on the interference of his agonised wife, he fired a pistol at her, when she fell, and he completely severed the wind-pipe of the second. He finished the horrible business by blowing his own brains out with a second pistol.

The consternation of the neighbours on rushing in to the scene of blood, may be easily conceived. Mrs Hyne was found living; a ball had entered her shoulder, and she had been stunned for the moment by the report of the pistol, which was held very close, and which only missed its intended effect by the agitation of Mr Hyne. The unfortunate and wretched perpetrator of this deed was about thirty years of age, had always borne a good character, and was considered to be a man possessing property.—

He had transacted business on the Saturday preceding, was seen walking on the Hoe, at Plymouth, on the Sabbath evening, with his family, apparently a happy group, and had promised to meet several tradesmen at Plymouth Dock on Monday morning.

8th.—The Roxburgh sale concluded on Saturday. The total of the sale was above 28,000*l*. The library cost the late Duke under 5000*l*:

9th.—A marble statue of the late Mr Pitt was erected last week at the entrance of the senate-house at Cambridge. It is deemed a good likeness, and the figure considered a fine piece of statuary. Nollekins was the artist: the price 3000 guineas. More than double that sum was subscribed for the purpose soon after Mr Pitt's death, in the year 1806, by 616 members of the university only. An engraved plate of the statue is to be taken for the subscribers who prefer it to having part of their subscription refunded, and the remaining surplus applied to founding an university scholarship. The only inscription on the pedestal is the word "PITT."

14th.—Intelligence from Russia fully confirms that the determination of the Emperor Alexander is fixed and immovable, ultimately to appeal to the sword, and to rest the justice of his cause on its perilous decision. Not only does he firmly adhere to the promises he has made to this country, but he has also adopted the advice suggested to the British government by Lord Wellington, of maintaining a defensive war, and removing every thing into the interior of the country, which might in any degree tend to the support of the enemy; thus has he embraced the system so wisely acted upon in Portugal by Lord Wellington; and, in

furtherance of it, every sort of provisions and stores are daily removing as the enemy advances.

The following exposé of the views of Buonaparte and the progress of his armies has reached us through the medium of his bulletins.

"Gumbinnen, June 20, 1812.

"Towards the end of 1810, Russia altered her political system—the English spirit regained its influence—the ukase respecting commerce was its first act.

"In February, 1811, five divisions of the Russian army quitted the Danube by forced marches, and proceeded to Poland. By this movement Russia sacrificed Wallachia and Moldavia.

"When the Russian armies were united and formed, a protest against France appeared, which was transmitted to every cabinet. Russia by that announced, that she felt no wish even to save appearances. All means of conciliation were employed on the part of France—all were ineffectual.

"Towards the close of 1811, six months after, it was manifest to France that all this could end only in war.—Preparations were made for it. The garrison of Dantzick was increased to 20,000 men. Stores of every description, cannons, muskets, powder, ammunition, pontoons, were conveyed to that place. Considerable sums of money were placed at the disposal of the department of engineers, for the augmentation of its fortifications. The army was placed on the war establishment. The cavalry, the train of artillery, and the military baggage train, were completed.

"In March, 1812, a treaty of alliance was concluded with Austria. The preceding month a treaty had been concluded with Prussia.

"In April the first corps of the grand army marched for the Oder, the second corps to the Elbe, the third corps to the Lower Oder, the fourth corps set out from Verona, crossed the Tyrol and proceeded to Silesia. The guards left Paris.

"On the 22d of April, the Emperor of Russia took the command of the army,

quitted St Petersburg, and moved his head-quarters to Wilna.

"In the commencement of May, the first corps arrived on the Vistula, at Elbing and Marienburg; the second corps at Marienwerder; the third corps at Thorn; the fourth and sixth corps at Plock; the fifth corps assembled at Warsaw; the eighth corps on the right of Warsaw; and the seventh corps at Pultawy.

"The emperor set out from St Cloud on the 9th of May, crossed the Rhine on the 13th, the Elbe on the 29th, and the Vistula on the 6th of June.

"Wilkowski, June 22, 1812.

"All means of effecting an understanding between the two empires became impossible. The spirit which reigned in the Russian cabinet hurried it on to war. General Narbonne, aide-de-camp to the emperor, was dispatched to Wilna, and could remain there only a few days; by that was gained the proof, that the demand, equally arrogant and extraordinary, which had been made by Prince Kurakin, and in which he declared, that he would not enter into any explanation before France had evacuated the territory of her own allies, in order to leave them at the mercy of Russia, was the *sine qua non* of that cabinet, and it made that a matter of boast to foreign powers.

"The first corps advanced to the Pregel. The Prince of Eckmuhl had his head-quarters on the 11th of June at Koningsberg.

"The Marshal Duke of Reggio, commanding the second corps, had his head-quarters at Wehlau: the Marshal Duke of Elchingen, commanding the third corps, at Soldass; the Prince Viceroy at Rastenburg, the King of Westphalia at Warsaw; the Prince Poniatowski at Pultusk; the emperor moved his head quarters, on the 13th to Koningsberg, on the Pregel; on the 17th to Insterburg; on the 19th to Gumbinnen.

"A slight hope of accommodation still remained. The emperor had given orders to Count Lauriston, to wait on the Emperor Alexander, or on his minister for foreign affairs, and to ascertain whether there might not yet be some means

of obtaining a reconsideration of the demand of Prince Kurakin, and of reconciling the honour of France, and the interest of her allies, with the opening a negotiation.

"The same spirit which had previously swayed the Russian cabinet, upon various pretexts, prevented Count Lauriston from accomplishing his mission; and it appeared for the first time, that an ambassador, under circumstances of so much importance, was unable to obtain an interview, either with the sovereign or his minister. The secretary of legation, Provost, brought this intelligence to Gumbinnen; and the emperor issued orders to march for the purpose of passing the Niemen. The "conquered," observed he, "assume the tone of conquerors; fate drags them on; let their destinies be fulfilled." His majesty caused the following to be inserted in the orders of the army:—

PROCLAMATION.—"Soldiers, the second war of Poland has commenced. The first was brought to a close at Friedland and Tilsit. At Tilsit, Russia swore eternal alliance with France and war with England. She now violates her oaths. She refuses to give any explanation of her strange conduct, until the eagles of France shall have repassed the Rhine, leaving, by such a movement, our allies at her mercy. Russia is dragged along by a fatality. Her destinies must be accomplished. Should she then consider us degenerate? Are we no longer to be looked upon as the soldiers of Austerlitz? She offers us the alternative of dishonour or war. The choice cannot admit of hesitation. Let us then march forward; let us pass the Niemen; let us carry the war into her territory. The second war of Poland will be as glorious to the French arms as the first; but the peace which we shall conclude will be its own guarantee, and will put an end to the proud and haughty influence which Russia has for 50 years exercised in the affairs of Europe.

"At our head-quarters at Wilkowsiki, June 22, 1812.

"Authenticated. (Signed) "NAPOLEON.
"Prince of NEUFCHATEL, Maj.-Gen."

15th.—**BELFAST.**—On Monday night last the fly coach was attacked on its way from Dublin to between Balbriggan and Drogheda, by a party of nine or ten robbers. The guard behaved extremely well, firing the whole of his ammunition at them, which consisted of several rounds, from different arms. He was then of course overpowered, and the robbers succeeded in plundering the whole of the passengers of their cash, luggage, and, it is said, of even part of their clothes. The only person hurt belonging to the coach was the coachman, who received a ball through his arm. It is uncertain whether any of the banditti were killed or wounded, but they got clear off with their booty.

Captain Barclay, the celebrated pedestrian, lately backed himself against time, for a considerable sum, to run nine miles within an hour. The ground fixed on was the 3d mile on the turnpike road from Stonehaven to Aberdeen. The captain ran the first seven miles in 49 minutes; after which he stopped, and took some refreshment. In the remaining eleven minutes, he ran one mile and a half, so that he lost by half a mile. This wonderful effort was witnessed with astonishment, by a number of spectators. Several horses on the road were unable to keep up with him. (They must have been wretched brutes indeed not to be able to master eight miles and a half in the hour!) He was dressed in flannel, with thin shoes and no stockings.

POISONING RACE-HORSES.—*Trial and Conviction of Dawson, at Cambridge Assizes.*—This trial, which excited so much interest in the sporting world, came on yesterday.

The prisoner was arraigned on four indictments, with numerous counts,

viz. for poisoning a horse belonging to Mr Adams of Royston, Herts, and a blood mare belonging to Mr Northey, at Newmarket, in 1809; and also for poisoning a horse belonging to Sir F. Standish, and another belonging to Lord Foley, in 1811, at the same place.

He was tried and convicted on the first case only.

Serjeant Sellon opened the case, and detailed the nature of the evidence.

The principal witness, as on the former trial, was Cecil Bishop, an accomplice with the prisoner. He proved having been for some time acquainted with Dawson, and that, on application to him, he had furnished him with corrosive sublimate to sicken horses, as a friend of his had been tricked by physicking his horse, which was about to run a match. He went on to prove, that he and Dawson had become gradually acquainted; and that, on the prisoner complaining the stuff was not strong enough, he prepared him a solution of arsenic. Witness described this as not offensive in smell, the prisoner having informed him that the horses had thrown up their heads, and refused to partake of the water into which the corrosive sublimate had been infused. The prisoner complained the stuff was not strong enough, and on being informed, that, if it was made stronger, it would kill the horses, he replied he did not mind that. The Newmarket frequenters were rogues, and if he (meaning witness) had a fortune to lose, they would plunder him of it. The prisoner afterwards informed witness, he used the stuff, which was then strong enough, as it had killed a hackney and two brood mares. The other part of Bishop's testimony went to prove the case against the prisoner.

Mrs Tillbrook, a respectable house-keeper at Newmarket, where the prisoner lodged, proved having found a bottle of liquid concealed under Dawson's bed, previous to the horses having been poisoned, and that Dawson was out late on the Saturday and Sunday evenings, previous to that event, which took place on the Monday. After Dawson had left the house, she found the bottle, which she identified as having contained the said liquid, and which a chemist proved to have contained poison. Witness also proved, that Dawson had cautioned her that he had poison in the house for some dogs, lest any one should have the curiosity to taste it.

Other witnesses proved a chain of circumstances, which left no doubt of the prisoner's guilt.

Mr King, for the prisoner, took a legal objection, that no criminal offence had been committed, and that the subject was a matter of trespass. He contended, that the indictment must fall, as it was necessary to prove that the prisoner had malice against the owner of the horse, to impoverish him, and not against the animal. He also contended, that the object of the prisoner was to injure, and not to kill.

The objections, however, were over-ruled, without reply, and the prisoner was convicted.

The judge pronounced sentence of death on the prisoner, and informed him, in strong language, he could not expect mercy to be extended to him.

20th.—The old established banking house of Kensington and Co. of Lombard-street, stopped payment yesterday morning. A sensation alarming beyond all precedent was excited in the city and elsewhere in consequence of this calamitous event. The house of Kensington was much connected with Scotland.

WAR WITH AMERICA.—The senate have agreed, 19 to 13, to the resolution of the House of Representatives for declaring war against this country.

Proclamation issued in consequence by General Sawyer.

“Whereas war has been declared by the government of the United States of America, to exist between the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and the dependencies thereof, and the United States of America, and their territories;—and whereas divers persons, being subjects of the said United States of America, are now within the limits of this province, and it is expedient and necessary that such persons should depart from this province within a limited period:—I have therefore thought fit, by and with the advice of the executive council of this province, to issue this my proclamation to order, enjoin, and direct, and I do hereby order, enjoin, and direct, all persons who are subjects of the United States of America, to depart from this province within fourteen days from the day of the date of this proclamation.

“And whereas by an order of police issued by the city of Quebec, on the 29th inst: requiring all such subjects of the United States of America, as are now in the district of Quebec, to depart from the city of Quebec on or before the 1st day of July next, before twelve o'clock; and from the district of Quebec on or before the 3d day of July next, before twelve o'clock; And whereas the persons being subjects of the United States, who are now in the city and district of Quebec, are principally persons who have entered this province in good faith, in the prosecution of commercial pursuits—I have therefore thought fit to enlarge,

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and I do hereby enlarge the period allowed by the said order of police, for the departure of such persons from the city and district of Quebec, for and during the period of seven days from the day of the date of the proclamation.

“GEORGE PREVOST.

“30th June, 1812.”

21st.—SALAMANCA.—The French army under the command of Marshal Marmont was defeated this day by that of the allies, commanded by Lord Wellington, Duke of Ciudad Rodrigo, in the fields of Salamanca, on the left of the Tormes, near the Arrapelo, after seven hours continued firing, where the infantry as well as the cavalry and artillery of both nations did prodigies of valour. The French were successively dislodged from their advantageous positions, and they lost all the artillery which they had placed there. Their loss of men amounted to from ten to twelve thousand.

22d.—DREADFUL MURDER AT BARNES, SURREY.—We have this day to record another of those atrocious outrages against human nature which have recently stained the annals of this country. The Count and Countess D’Antraigues, two foreigners of distinction and great notoriety in the fashionable world, were, last night, savagely butchered by their own servant, who afterwards eluded the just vengeance of the law by putting an end to his own wretched existence.

It is a slight, and indeed but a sorry consolation to learn, that the monster who perpetrated this series of foul crimes was an Italian servant, who had been not long in the employment of the count and countess. From the particulars which have transpired, it would appear that the villain watched an opportunity, when the countess was in a room by herself, and rushed

upon her with a pistol, which he presented, but it missed fire. He then drew a poignard, and plunged it to the hilt in her back, as she was struggling to escape from his deadly grasp.

Her dying screams brought the Count D’Antraigues into the apartment, where he beheld his lady extended lifeless on her face at the feet of the assassin. The brutal savage then made at his master, and with one thrust of his poignard bereaved him of life also!

But a few seconds intervened when the servants in the other parts of the house were alarmed with the report of a pistol, and upon entering the apartment, the dreadful spectacle presented itself of three lifeless bodies drenched in blood, extended upon the floor. The assassin was found with his brains blown out, and the pistol was still in his hand.

The Count D’Antraigues was a person who has eminently distinguished himself in the troubles which have convulsed Europe for the last two and twenty years. In 1789 he made himself conspicuous by his activity in favour of the revolution; but during the tyranny of Robespierre he emigrated to Germany, and was employed in the service of Russia. At Venice, in 1797, he was arrested by Bernadotte at the order of Buonaparte, who pretended to have discovered in his portfolio, all the particulars of the plot upon which the 18th of Fructidor was founded.

The count made his escape from the citadel of Milan after he was confined, and was afterwards employed in the diplomatic mission of Russia, at the court of Dresden. In 1806 he was sent to England with credentials from the Emperor of Russia, who had granted him a pension, and placed great dependence upon his services.

He brought letters of very warm recommendation from the emperor to Lord Grenville, and afterwards paid his court successfully to ministers; for he received letters of denisation, and very considerable sums were lavished by government, for services which he and his coadjutors undertook to manage.—The countess, his wife, was originally an actress.

24th.—OREBRO.—A courier has just arrived with the news of peace having been concluded between the Russians and Turks. One of the articles is, that should Austria attack the Russians, the Turks are to send an auxiliary corps of 50,000 men to the assistance of Russia. The same courier brings orders for General Suchklin, to settle all difference between Russia and Great Britain, with Mr Thornton, and to request England to assist Sweden as much as in her power.

EXTRACT FROM THE BERLIN GAZETTE.

Treaty of Alliance between his Majesty the King of Prussia, and his Majesty the Emperor of the French, King of Italy, &c. &c. ratified at Berlin the 5th of March, 1812.

His majesty the King of Prussia, and his majesty the Emperor of the French, King of Italy, &c. wishing to bind more closely the ties which unite them, have named for their plenipotentiaries, namely, his majesty the King of Prussia, Mr Frederick William Louis, Baron de Krusemark, major-general of his majesty the King of Prussia, &c. His majesty the Emperor of the French, King of Italy, &c. Mr Hugues Bernard, Count Maret, Duke de Bassano, &c. his minister for foreign affairs, were, after having communicated their respective full powers, agreed upon the following articles :—

Art. I. There shall be a defensive alliance between his majesty the King of Prussia and his majesty the Emperor of the French, King of Italy, their heirs and successors, against all the powers of Europe with which either of the contracting parties has or shall enter into war.

Art. II. The two high contracting powers reciprocally guarantee to each other the integrity of the present territory.

Art. III. In case of the present alliance being brought to effect, and every time when such case shall happen, the contracting powers will fix upon the measures needful to be taken by particular conventions.

Art. IV. Every time that England shall make any attempts upon the rights of commerce, either by declaring in a state of blockade the coasts of one or other of the contracting parties, or any other disposition contrary to the maritime rights consecrated by the treaty of Utrecht, all the ports and coasts of the said powers, shall be equally interdicted to the ships of neutral nations who suffer the independence of their flag to be molested.

Art. V. The present treaty shall be ratified, the ratifications exchanged at Berlin, within the space of ten days, or sooner, if possible.

(Signed) The Duke of BASSANO.
The Baron KRUSEMARK.

27th.—Captain Hargrave arrived on Saturday night at the Admiralty, with dispatches from Admiral Sawyer, at Halifax, brought by the Mackarel schooner, which arrived at Portsmouth on Saturday morning. They state that on the 24th ult. the Belvidera frigate, commanded by Captain Byron, was cruising off Sandyhook, but not in sight of land, when she fell in with an American squadron, consisting of the President, United States, Congress, and Essex frigates, and Hornet sloop of war, which ships, as soon as they were within point-blank shot, without the least previous communication with the Belvidera, immediately commen-

ced firing upon her.—The *Belvidera*, of course, made sail from so very superior an hostile force, and the Americans pursued her, maintaining a running fight as long as the *Belvidera* was within reach of shot; in the course of which she had two men killed, and Captain Byron was much hurt in the thigh, by a gun falling upon him. The *Belvidera* made the best of her way to Halifax, to acquaint Admiral Sawyer of the transaction, and repair her damages. On her arrival there Admiral Sawyer sent Captain Thompson, in the *Calibre* sloop of war, with a flag of truce, to New York, to request an explanation of the matter; dispatched the *Rattler* to Bermuda, and the different cruising stations, to order all his squadron to assemble at Halifax, and sent Captain Hargrave in the *Mackarel* to England, with dispatches for government. The *Mackarel* has had a good passage of 26 days from Halifax.

FASHIONS.—Evening Dress—An embroidered crape round robe, decorated at the feet with a deep Vandyke fringe; short melon sleeve; bosom and back to correspond. White or blossom satin under-dress. Hair a dishevelled crop, ornamented with a small cluster of the Chinese rose on each side, and confined with a comb of pearl at the back of the head.—Necklace, ear-rings, and bracelets, of pearl and wrought gold. Grecian scarf of lilac silk, with embroidered variegated ends. Slippers of white satin, and gloves of French kid. Fan of imperial crape and ivory, embellished with gold antique devices.

Promenade Dress—A round high robe of fine cambric or jaconet muslin, with waggoner's sleeves, and high full-gathered collar. A cottage vest, of light green or lemon-coloured sarsnet, laced in front of the bosom with silk cord, and trimmed round with

broad thread lace; the vest left unconfined at the bottom of the waist. A Highland helmet, composed of the same material as the vest, with long square veil of white lace. A rosary and cross of the coquilla nut. Half-boots of pale green kid. Parasol of the same colour, with deep white silk awning. Gloves of buff-coloured kid.—*Ackermann's Repository of Arts, Fashions, &c.*

Opera, or Gala Dress.—A robe of imperial blue sarsnet, shot with white, with a demi-train, ornamented with fine French lace down each side, the front, and round the bottom; the trimming surmounted by a white satin ribbon; the robe left open a small space down the front, and fastened with clasps of sapphire and pearl, over a white satin slip petticoat; short fancy sleeves to correspond with the ornaments of the robe. Parisian cap made open, formed of rows of fine lace and strings of pearl, the hair dressed *a-la-Henriette* of France, appearing between, and much separated on the forehead. Pearl necklace, and hoop ear-rings of the same. Scarf shawl in twisted drapery of fine white lace. White kid gloves, and fan of ivory, ornamented with gold. Slippers the same colour as the robe, with white rosettes.

Evening Dress.—A pale willow green, shot with white; or plain white gossamer satin slip, with a demi-train, fringed with silver. Short close sleeves, the same as the slip, terminated with rows of scallops.—Short Grecian robe of white crape, embroidered and fringed with silver; the waist of satin, ornamented with pearls, beads, or a delicate trimming of silver; girdles, *a la repentie*, formed of silver cordon and rich silver tassels. Anne of Denmark hat, of white satin, with a long white ostrich feather drooping over the front, and

surmounted by a small bunch of rose buds or wild honeysuckles; pearl bandeau discovered on the right side of the head. Maltese ear-rings of pearl and sapphires, with pearl necklace and cross to correspond. White satin slippers, fringed with silver.—White kid gloves. The shawl or long mantle, generally thrown over this dress, should be of Maria Louisa blue, with very deep fringe.

General Observations.—Now the pelisse reposes safely in the cedar press, and the velvet and fur are embued with spicy odours, the preservatives of Turkey leather, camphire, and cedar shavings, which defend their warm and rich texture from the destructive moth, till winter shall again resume her frozen empire.

To these have succeeded the spencer, the mantilla, and the scarf shawl. The former of these articles is most in favour for walking, with a bonnet of the same, bent over the forehead, and the flower transferred from beneath to the front, or round the crown of the bonnet, but the most favourite ornament is a long white ostrich feather.

The gowns are made much the same as last month, consisting chiefly of French cambrics or Indian muslins for half dress, and coloured muslins, crapes, opera nets, gossamer satins, and French sarsonets, for evening parties.

The dressing and disposing the hair yet maintains its favour and preference in the style adopted by King Charles's beauties, and seems peculiarly suited to the English countenance. Flowers in half dress, and heron's and ostrich feathers in full dress, are now universally adopted.

The village basket has now taken place of the ridicule, which, with the cottage bonnet placed very backward,

with flowers underneath on each side the forehead, give to many of our ladies of very high rank the appearance of blooming and beautiful cottagers.

Stays are now very much thrown aside, and the exquisite *contour* of a fine Grecian form is now no longer, by being steel-clad, disguised in such impenetrable and hideous armour.

The favourite colours are blue, lilac, jonquil, Pomona, and pale willow green.—*La Belle Assemblee.*

AGRICULTURAL REPORTS.

ENGLAND.—Several pieces of rye have been cut in the home counties, but the wheat and oat harvest has been kept more than usually backward by the cold and rainy weather; the barleys are found later than either.—The crops of most kinds of grain are expected to turn out good on tender soil, but light on heavy lands, from the long continuance of wet through the summer as well as the spring season; the wheat, however, is more fully set in general than has been known for several years past; beans, pease, and other articles of the pulse kind, promise to turn out great crops; and the oats in the fen countries bid fair to be equally productive. Potatoes prove abundant in all districts. The latter sown turnips have generally planted well, and the forward ones in Norfolk and Suffolk continue very promising. The season has proved very favourable for the young clovers. The hop plantations of Farnham, Kent, and Sussex, do not afford the appearance of a third of an average crop; those of the Worcester and Hereford districts are more promising; the whole year's duty, however, is not estimated at more than 47,000l. The wool markets are rather higher for fine Merino and South Down fleeces. The Mid-

summer fairs have had but a scanty supply of lean stock, particularly in Scotch and Irish beasts, and therefore the prices have consequently been considerably higher. Horses of shape and make, of all sorts, are also dearer. The meat markets have rather declined, prime beef not exceeding 6s. and mutton 5s. 6d. per stone, through the month.

SCOTLAND.—The weather during this month has been generally cold and dry, without any heavy rains, but at times moderate showers, which have been beneficial for the growing crops. The fallow, potatoes, and turnip cleaning have met with little obstruction from dashing rains, which sometimes happen at this season. The general opinion of the present crops is, that they may be about a medium; but that it will be two or three weeks later to harvest than in ordinary seasons. There is a prospect of a full crop of potatoes, a large breadth being planted, especially those upon dry soils. Hay harvest is nearly finished, the bulk of it is in the rick, it is below an average when taken into account; there is great want of clover plants in many fields, and of course there will be no second crop; this will force the farmer to consume hay instead of the second crop of clover, and thereby diminish his disposable quantity; sales are making at 1s. to 1s. 4d. per stone from the rick. From the general opinion of a late harvest, the grain prices have been advancing, especially oats; the late spring caused great waste of them ere live stock could get grass; and as farmers and country people usually lay up as much meal in winter as will serve until harvest, they are become a new class of consumers of oatmeal, which increases the demand for this article. Our grain markets

at present are principally supplied from the North by shipping to Leith. A very small quantity comes otherwise, either by sea or land carriage. The cattle markets are still high and in demand, at higher prices for every description of beasts.

Lothian Report.—Seldom has the weather been more favourable for the various productions of agriculture than what has been experienced throughout this month. From the 1st to the 18th it was calm and dry, with clear sunshine, which was very advantageous for the blooming of the wheat, especially the earlier fields, as the abundance of the crop materially depends upon the facility with which that process in vegetation is accomplished. Part of the hay crop during that time was also got into the rick, and even in a few instances safely into the stack, without having received a single shower. During the rest of the month, there have been showers almost daily, which has retarded the hay harvest, fortunately, however, without injuring the crop in any degree worth noticing; while the growing crops of every description have certainly received the most extensive benefit. The wheat has improved wonderfully even in bulk, and should the weather continue favourable, present appearances certainly promise something like an average crop. Barley also is thriving; and pease and beans in most cases are very luxuriant, while oats in almost every situation have seldom promised a more abundant crop. Turnips, both Swedish and common, are thriving, having been greatly benefited by the late showers, which have been equally favourable to the potatoes, which crop is well planted almost every where, and appears healthy. May a bountiful Providence realize present appearances, for the sake of

the farmers as well as the rest of the community; as when the price of grain is exorbitantly high, the farmer is too often an object of envy, when it frequently happens he is one of the greatest sufferers. The fallows have wrought in the most satisfactory manner, and in many instances are already manured, yet the most of that business is still to perform. Hay may be considered as an average crop, the greater part of which is still in the fields, but few or no sales of this article have as yet been effected, although prices are expected to be rather higher than last year, as little or none of last crop remains on hand. The quantity of grain in this district is certainly very limited, an early harvest is therefore much to be desired, as, should the contrary unfortunately be the case, the consequences to the poor may be severe indeed.

AUGUST.

3d.—*Foreign-Office, Downing-Street.*—His Royal Highness, the Prince Regent has been pleased, in the name and on the behalf of his majesty, to appoint Horatio Walpole, Esq. (commonly called Lord Walpole) to be his majesty's secretary of embassy, at the court of St Petersburg.

6th.—On Sunday, agreeably to the alteration ordered at the last quarterly meeting of the queen's council, the following bulletin was shewn at St James's Palace:—

“Windsor Castle, August 1.

“Soon after the last monthly report, his majesty had a severe accession of his disorder; which quickly subsided; and his majesty has since continued as well as before that attack.”

(Signed by the five physicians.)

6th.—**MAIDSTONE.**—William Brown, a private in the royal artillery, was indicted for the wilful murder of Isabella M'Guire, a child of the age of seven years. The prisoner was servant to a Lieutenant Webber, and bore a most exemplary character in the regiment; some things, however, had been stolen from his master's closet, and he was suspected of the theft. He absented himself all the night of the 4th of April, and on the morning of the 5th, as early as between five and six, he came back to the barracks, and wakened a person of the name of Jefferys, with whom he had lived. After some preliminary conversation, he told him he had committed a crime for which he must be hanged, and desired to be taken to the guard-house. Adam Little, serjeant-major, there received him in custody, and desiring to speak to the serjeant in private, he then told him that last night he had murdered a little girl. The serjeant desired him to state farther particulars. He said, that getting over a stile, which led into a lane, he saw the child at play, who cried when she saw him; that he then took the child in his arms, and with his finger and thumb strangled it. As soon as it was dead, he carried it under his arm for some distance, and laid it on some stone steps in a place he described.

A witness was called, who found the child in the place where the prisoner described he had left it; and the surgeon stated, that by the marks under the throat, the child had evidently been strangled in the manner described by the prisoner.

The prisoner could ascribe no motive for this deed, but told the serjeant he had no malice against the child, and could not tell how he came to do it.

Mr Curwood, as counsel for the

prisoner, examined as to whether the prisoner might not be labouring under temporary inflammation of the brain, from the improper use of mercurial medicine.

The serjeant said, he knew the prisoner administered mercury and laudanum to himself without medical advice, but he did not know in what quantities.

The lord chief baron, in summing up the evidence, stated, that the mere atrocity of the act itself must not be considered evidence of insanity—otherwise the most guilty criminals would escape; and here was evidence much too slight to infer any derangement of mind.

The jury found the prisoner guilty, and he received sentence to be executed on the Monday.

7th.—Yesterday morning, at six o'clock, two houses in Great Russell-street, Covent-garden, formerly the Blue Posts Tavern, which was under repair, fell to the ground with a tremendous crash. Unfortunately, at the time, several workmen who were employed in repairing the building were inside, in different parts of the premises. The greater part of the crazy edifice fell inwards, and buried nearly the whole in the ruins. Every effort was immediately made to extricate the unfortunate sufferers, and palings were erected across the street to Drury lane theatre, to prevent their exertions from being impeded, and the workmen continued at their labours until night. Several were taken out of the cellar and ground-floor, and as the materials of the building were light and unsubstantial, the lives of many were saved. There were 16 persons in the interior of the miserable building when it fell; those in the cellar escaped, but many of the others dug out of the ruins presented

very miserable objects, and were conveyed to Middlesex hospital, two of whom died, and three soon returned, and exerted themselves to recover others from the ruins. A poor woman, who was passing when the houses fell, is supposed to have been killed, as her basket was found in the street, and she has not since been heard of. The workmen continued digging on the ruins the whole of last night, and the neighbourhood was thrown into general alarm by the accident.

A remarkable instance of the fecundity of bees lately occurred at Meiklebog, a high-lying farm in the Abbey parish of Paisley. Mr Matthew Sprowl, farmer there, has a hive two years old, which, in the course of last year, swarmed only once; but, to the astonishment of every person in the neighbourhood, no less than four fine swarms have been lately produced from the same hive, within the short period of 18 days, viz. on the 10th, 20th, 23d, and 28th of July. This is allowed to be the most uncommon instance of prolification ever known in this part of the country.

Died at Dalmarnock, in the parish of Little Dunkeld, on the 28th July, Angus Stewart, Chelseaman, aged 96. This man was, in his youth, in Prince Charles's army, at Culloden; he was afterwards in the 42d regiment, and in Quebec at the death of the brave General Wolfe, from which he was draughted into the 78th regiment.

The following interesting and affecting story will be read with interest:—In the gallant and sanguinary action which the Swallow maintained against a superior force, close in with Frejus, a short time since, there was a seaman named Phe-lan, who had his wife on board; she

was stationed (as is usual when women are on board in time of battle) to assist the surgeon in care of the wounded. From the close manner in which the Swallow engaged the enemy, yard-arm and yard-arm, the wounded, as may be expected, were brought below very fast, amongst the rest a messmate of her husband's, who received a musket-ball through the side. Her exertions were used to console the poor fellow, who was in great agonies and nearly breathing his last; when, by some chance, she heard her husband was wounded on deck; her anxiety could not one moment be restrained; she rushed instantly on deck, and received the wounded tar in her arms; he faintly raised his head to kiss her—she burst into a flood of tears, and told him to take courage, "all would yet be well;" but scarcely pronounced the last syllable when an ill-directed shot took her head off. The poor tar, who was closely wrapt in her arms, opened his eyes once more—then shut them for ever. What renders the circumstance the more affecting was, the poor creature had been only three weeks delivered of a fine boy, who was thus in a moment deprived of a father and a mother. As soon as the action subsided "and nature began again to take its course," the feelings of the tars, who wanted no unnecessary incitement to stimulate them, were all interested for the child; many said, and all feared, he must die; they all agreed he should have a hundred fathers, but what could be the substitute of a nurse and mother? However, active humanity soon discovered there was a Maltese goat on board, belonging to the officers, which gave an abundance of milk, and as there was no better expedient, she was resorted to, for the purpose of suckling the unfortunate child,

who, singular to say, is thriving and getting one of the finest little fellows in the world, and so tractable is his nurse, that she even lies down when the little babe is brought to be suckled by her.

10th.—On Wednesday last, the birth-day of the Prince Regent, the first stone of the Breakwater, in Plymouth Sound, was lowered down.—At ten o'clock in the morning two boats from every ship in Hamoaze attended at the Admiral's Stairs, Mount Wise. About noon the commander in chief, Sir R. Calder, Bart. accompanied by Admiral Sir Edward Buller, Bart. and all the captains or commanders of his majesty's vessels in commission at this port, rowed off in procession, with flags and streamers flying, passing between the Island and the Main, and rounding the eastern end of Drake's Island on their passage towards the outer part of the Sound.

The mayor and corporation of Plymouth also went in procession to the Barbican Stairs, where they took water, and also proceeded to the Sound. A vast number of boats from the shore were scattered over the Sound; and the ships of war were gaily decorated with the colours of different nations—the standard of the united kingdom flying over the whole. Towards one o'clock the boats assembled round the vessel that held the stone (about four tons weight), and in which were cut the names of Sir Robert Calder, Port Admiral, and the Prince Regent.—Exactly at ten o'clock the Camel store-ship gave the signal, by firing a gun, and the stone was lowered to its base, at the western extremity of the Breakwater, amid a royal salute of cannon from the ships in Cawsand Bay, between the Island and the Main, Plymouth Sound, and Hamoaze. To

enable the public to obtain as near a view as possible of the ceremony, the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe threw open the gates of his enchanting grounds, the eastern parts of which were crowded with the beauty and fashion of the neighbourhood.

The scene, heightened by the beauty of a fine day, was charming beyond description; the grand, open bosom of the Sound was crowded by an immense number of pleasure-boats, cutters, barges, &c. filled with admiring beholders, amongst whom were some highly respectable characters; the men of war, in commemoration of the natal day of our august prince, bearing the royal standard at the main, were dressed with all the beauty which the numerous and variegated flags can give them, and formed a pleasing picture, surrounded as they were by the numberless parties around them.

The long ramparts of the citadel facing the sea, the hoe, and the extensive and commanding heights on each side the Sound, were crowded with beauty, fashion, and a rejoicing multitude of loyal people, who vied with each other in expressing their satisfaction at the commencing of an undertaking which ultimately will so much tend to the improvement of this port and to the security of the British navy.

EXECUTION OF DAWSON, THE PRISONER OF HORSES.—Dawson suffered the sentence of the law on Saturday, at 12 o'clock, at the top of Cambridge Castle, amidst a surrounding assemblage of at least 12,000 persons, it being on the market day. Previous to his condemnation, and for a day or two after, Dawson's conduct was unruly and boisterous in the extreme, but by the unremitted and continual pious exhortations of the reverend Mr Pearce, chaplain, he became reconciled to his unhappy fate, and devoted

his whole time to prayer. The prisoner has made an unsolicited declaration of the whole poisoning business, from the time of the physicking of Rubens at Brighton, to the poisoning at Newmarket, in 1811. To the honour of the turf be it said, not a single gentleman is included in the confession, and Dawson appears to have been rather an agent than a principal. The parting farewell with his wife on Thursday was a heart-rending scene. She is a most respectable woman, and the prisoner seemed more affected at his indifference to her at former times, than at approaching death itself. He ascended the platform with manly fortitude, at 12 o'clock, and, after spending 20 minutes in fervent prayer, he was launched into eternity. The body was deposited in a coffin, and remains for interment this day. In his last moments the culprit declared, in his fervency of prayer, that he never meant to kill, but merely to stop the horses from winning.

The Crown Prince, Bernadotte, has lately received from the Swedish States an addition to his income of about 7000*l.* sterling. The allowance for himself and family is now 20,000*l.* per annum. Since his elevation he has purchased several valuable estates in Sweden.

12th.—Last week the barn of Mr Wing, of Banham-haugh, Norfolk, was broken open, and the fleeces of nearly 60 sheep, which had been deposited in the corn hole, were taken away. Nothing has yet transpired to lead to the discovery of the offenders, although suspicions are entertained of a gang who have long infested the neighbourhood, and who, the same or the following night, are supposed to have stolen four sacks of wheat from Mr Norton of Old Buckenham.

Mr Wallis, surgeon, of Longbo-

rough, near Nottingham, was summoned to attend a lady in labour; at two o'clock in the morning, on the 6th instant. On entering the door where this pretended lady was, a villain met him, and discharged a pistol at his head. Fortunately the shot missed him, and the fellow made his escape. Mr Wallis had received a letter, threatening to deprive him of his life, some time since, but paid no regard to it. Three hundred guineas are offered as a reward, to discover the perpetrator.

Lately, Mr Faulkaor, a respectable farmer at Baughurst, put an end to his existence. He arose earlier than usual, and was seen to carry a quantity of straw into his house, which it appears he set on fire, and having placed the butt end of a gun into the middle of it, and the muzzle in his mouth, sat down in a chair till the explosion took place, and the charge going through his head, killed him on the spot. He had been for some time in a desponding state of mind.

13th.—At the Warwick assizes, T. Tole, an Irish pedlar, of about 50 years of age, was found guilty of the wilful murder of M. M'Comesky, a fellow-traveller and countryman. He denied his guilt until a short time previous to his execution, which took place on Friday. The prisoner was attended by a catholic priest for about two hours, and partook of the sacrament, as administered by the Romish church. He seemed much affected with his awful situation. The warrant for the execution of the criminal was received by Mr Totnall, at nine o'clock. He came on the scaffold at half-past 11 o'clock, attended by the reverend Mr Langhorne, and previous thereto by two catholic priests. The rope was adjusted immediately as he appeared on the scaffold, and in less than five

minutes he was launched into eternity, without uttering a single sentence, in the presence of several hundred persons.—At this assize, Barnabas Waters and his son, who had picked up a bill, valued 11l. and converted it to their own use, were tried and found guilty. In their defence they said, that having found the property they conceived they had a right to it as their own. But the presiding judge, in passing sentence, expressed himself in terms of indignation and astonishment, that such an idea should for a moment be entertained by any one; it was the duty of every man when he found the property of another to use all diligence to find the owner.—They were each sentenced to one year's imprisonment.

14th.—LONDON.—THE PRINCE REGENT'S BIRTH-DAY.—On Wednesday, the anniversary of his royal highness the Prince Regent's birth was celebrated, with nearly the same demonstrations of public respect as have usually been shewn on the king's birth-day, except in the splendour and gaiety of a court. Several hundreds of the nobility and gentry called at Carlton-house in the morning, and left their names in writing. The morning was ushered in with a general ringing of bells, and the display of flags and standards from the churches and public buildings. The king's guard was mounted by the brigade of grenadiers in white gaiters, under the command of Colonel Staples: the band in their state uniforms. The officers of the guards on duty were entertained with a turtle feast on the occasion. At one o'clock the Park guns discharged a double royal salute, for the first time since his royal highness's appointment to the regency. A barrel of porter was distributed among the populace at the

gates of St James's palace. In the evening a very grand fete was given, as usual, at Vauxhall gardens. The opera-house, the theatres, the Prince's and King's tradesmen's houses, were brilliantly illuminated.

The Prince Regent, accompanied by the Duke of Clarence, left Carlton-house about eleven o'clock, for Frogmore, where the day was celebrated by the Queen.

LEEDS.—EXTRAORDINARY PHENOMENA—The following marvellous narrative, communicated by the ghost-seers, has produced a good deal of conversation in a part of this county, and may serve to astonish the credulous, amuse the sceptical, and occupy the speculative:—

“ On Sunday evening, the 28th ultimo, between seven and eight o'clock, A. Jackson, farmer, aged 45 years, and M. Turner, the son of W. Turner, farmer, aged 15 years, while engaged in inspecting their cattle, grazing on Havarah Park, near Ripley, part of the estate of Sir J. Ingleby, Bart. were suddenly surprised by a most extraordinary appearance in the park. Turner, whose attention was first drawn to this spectacle, said, ‘ Look, Anthony, what a quantity of beasts!’—‘ Beasts!’ cried Anthony, ‘ Lord bless us! they are not beasts, they are men!’—By this time the body was in motion, and the spectators discovered that it was an army of soldiers, dressed in a white military uniform, and that in the centre stood a personage of commanding aspect, clothed in scarlet. After performing a number of evolutions, the body began to march in perfect order to the summit of a hill, passing the spectators at a distance of about one hundred yards. No sooner had the first body, which seemed to consist of several hundreds, and extended four

deep, over an inclosure of 30 acres; attained the hill, than another assemblage of men, far more numerous than the former, dressed in dark-coloured clothes, arose and marched, without any apparent hostility, after the military spectres; at the top of the hill both the parties formed what the spectators called an L, and passing down the opposite side of the hill, disappeared. At this time a volume of smoke, apparently like that vomited by a park of artillery, spread over the plain, and was so impervious, as for nearly two minutes to hide the cattle from the view of Jackson and Turner, who hurried home with all possible expedition: and the effect upon their minds, even at this distance of time, is so strong, that they cannot mention the circumstance without visible emotion.

“ We have had the curiosity, and an idle curiosity perhaps it was, to collate the accounts of this strange vision, as given by the two spectators, and find them agree in every part, with these exceptions:—The young man says, that as far as he could mark the progress of time, while a scene so novel and alarming was passing before him, he thinks that from the appearance of the first body to the disappearance of the smoke, might be about five minutes; Jackson says, it could not be less than a quarter of an hour, and that during all this time they were making to each other such observations as arose out of the spectacle. The junior spectator says, he observed, amongst the first body, arms glistening in the sun; the senior says it may be so; but that did not strike him, nor can he, in thinking of it since, recall any such appearance to his recollection.

“ On this strange story we shall only observe, that the ground form-

ing the scene of action is perfectly sound, and not likely to emit any of those exhalations which might arise from a swamp; that the narrators are both persons of character; that those who know them best, believe them most, and that they themselves are unquestionably convinced of the truth of their own narrative; that tradition records a scene somewhat similar, exhibited on Stockton forest, about the breaking out of the present war; and that we shall be glad to receive any satisfactory elucidation of this *Phantasmagoria*.”

Thus far the *Leeds Mercury*.— We do not know whether the following article will be considered as affording any satisfactory elucidation; but it may, perhaps, contribute something to the amusement of our readers:—

(From an Account of Cumberland.)

“Souter-fell is nearly 900 yards high, barricadoed on the north and west side with precipitous rocks, but somewhat more open on the east, and easier of access. On this mountain occurred the extraordinary phenomena, that, towards the middle of the past century, excited so much conversation and alarm. We mean the visionary appearances of armed men, and other figures, the causes of which never yet received a satisfactory solution, though, from the circumstances hereafter-mentioned, there seems reason to believe, that they are not entirely inexplicable. The particulars are related somewhat differently; but as Mr Clarke procured the attestations of two of the persons to whom the phenomena were first visible, to the account inserted in his “Survey of the Lakes,” we shall relate the circumstance from that authority.

“By the attested relation, it seems, that the first time any of these visionary phenomena were observed was on a summer's evening, in the year 1743. As D. Stricket, then servant to J. Wren, of Wiltonhall,* the next house to Blakehills,* was sitting at the door with his master, they saw the figure of a man with a dog, pursuing some horses along Souter-fell side, a place so steep that a horse can scarcely travel on it. They appeared to run at an amazing pace, till they got out of sight at the lower end of the fell.— The next morning Stricket and his master ascended the steep side of the mountain, in full expectation that they should find the man lying dead, as they were persuaded that the swiftness with which he ran must have killed him; and imagined likewise, that they should pick up some of the shoes, which they thought the horses must have lost in galloping at such a furious rate. They, however, were disappointed, for there appeared not the least vestiges of either man or horses; not so much as the mark of a horse's hoof upon the turf. Astonishment, and a degree of fear, perhaps, for some time, induced them to conceal the circumstances; but they at length disclosed them, and, as might be expected, were only laughed at for their credulity.

“The following year, 1744, on the 23d of June, as the same D. Stricket, who at the time lived with Mr W. Lancaster's father, of Blakehills, was walking a little above the house, about half-past seven in the evening, he saw a troop of horsemen riding on Souter-fell side, in pretty close ranks, and at a brisk pace. Mindful of the ridicule which had been excited against him the preceding year, he continued to

* These places are about half a mile from Souter-fell.

observe them in silence for some time ; but being at last convinced that the appearance was real, he went into the house, and informed Mr Lancaster that he had something curious to shew him. They went out together ; but, before Stricket had either spoken or pointed to the place, his master's son had himself discovered the aerial troopers ; and, when conscious that the same appearances were visible to both, they informed the family, and the phenomena were alike seen by all.

“ These visionary horsemen seemed to come from the lowest part of Souther-fell, and became visible at a place called Knott ; they then moved in regular troops along the side of the fell, till they came opposite to Blakehills, when they went over the mountain. Thus they described a kind of *curvilinear* path ; and both their first and last appearances were bounded by the top of the mountain.

“ The pace at which these shadowy forms proceeded, was a *regular swift walk* ; and the whole time of the continuance of their appearance was upwards of two hours ; but farther observation was then precluded by the approach of darkness. Many troops were seen in succession ; and frequently the last, or last but one, in a troop, would quit his position, gallop to the front, and then observe the same pace with the others. The same changes were visible to all the spectators ; and the view of the phenomena was not confined to Blakehills only, “ but was seen by every person at every cottage within the distance of a mile.”—Such are the particulars of this singular relation, as given by Mr Clarke. The

attestation is signed by Lancaster and Stricket, and dated the 21st of July, 1745. The number of persons who witnessed the march of these aerial travellers seems to have been 26.

These phenomena have been by some considered as a mere *deceptio visus* ; but it appears in the highest degree improbable, that so many spectators should experience the same kind of illusion, and at exactly the same period. We should rather attribute the appearances to particular states of the atmosphere, and suppose them to be the shadows of realities ; † the airy resemblances of *scenes actually passing* in a distant part of the country, and by some singular operations of natural causes, thus expressively imaged on the acclivity of the mountains. We shall illustrate our opinion by some particulars relating to the *Spectre of the Broken*, an aerial figure that is sometimes seen among the Hartz mountains in Hanover : ‡—

“ Having ascended the Broken,” observes M. Haue, from whose diary this account is transcribed, “ for the thirtieth time, I was at length so fortunate as to have the pleasure of seeing the phenomenon. The sun rose about four o'clock, and the atmosphere being quite serene towards the east, his rays could pass without any obstruction over the Heinrichshohe. In the south-west, however, towards Achtermannshohe, a brisk west wind carried before it thin transparent vapours. About a quarter past four I looked round, to see whether the atmosphere would permit me to have a free prospect to the south-west, when I observed, at a very great distance,

† It should be remarked, that the time when these appearances were observed, was the eve of the rebellion, when some troops of horsemen might be privately exercising.

‡ See Gottingisches Journal der Naturwissenschaften, Vol. I. Part III.

towards Achtermannshohe, a human figure of a monstrous size! A violent gust of wind having nearly carried away my hat, I clapped my hand to it, by moving my arm towards my head, and the colossal figure did the same.

“The pleasure which I felt at this discovery can hardly be described; for I had made already many a weary step in the hopes of seeing this shadowy image, without being able to gratify my curiosity. I immediately made another movement, by bending my body, and the colossal figure before me repeated it. I was desirous of doing the same thing once more, but my colossus had vanished. I remained in the same position, waiting to see whether it would return, and in a few minutes it again made its appearance on the Achtermannshohe. I paid my respects to it a second time, and it did the same to me. I then called the landlord of the *Broken* (the neighbouring inn), and having both taken the same position which I had taken alone, we looked towards the Achtermannshohe, but saw nothing. We had not, however, stood long, when two such colossal figures were formed over the above eminence, which repeated their compliments by bending their bodies as we did, after which they vanished. We retained our position, kept our eyes fixed on the same spot, and in a little time the two figures again stood before us, and were joined by a third. Every movement that we made, these figures imitated; but with this difference, that the phenomenon was sometimes weak and faint, sometimes strong and well defined.”

This curious detail, concerning the imitative powers of the Spectre of the Broken, demonstrates that the actions of human beings are some-

times pictured on the clouds; and when all the circumstances of the phenomena on Souther-fell are considered, it seems highly probable that some thin vapours must have been hovering round its summit at the time when the appearances were observed. It is also probable, that these vapours must have been impressed with the shadowy forms that seemed to “imitate humanity,” by a particular operation of the sun’s rays, united with some singular, but unknown retractive combination, that were then taking place in the atmosphere.

17th.—Letters from several officers of the British army, dated Salamanca and Valladolid the 25th ult. state that Lord Wellington, by a feigned retreat into the plains of Salamanca, drew Marmont from his strong position; for a whole week he endeavoured to turn Lord Wellington’s right without effect. On the 22d Lord Wellington seeing a favourable opportunity attacked Marmont’s left with so much vigour and effect as to turn it: then, according to Buonaparte’s plan, pierced his centre, divided it from both flanks, and threw the enemy into such confusion, that after making a stand for about two hours, they gave way at all points. Then the carnage took place, which continued till eleven o’clock, when night alone saved their whole army from total destruction. They left 12,000 killed and wounded on the field of battle, which for five leagues round was covered with dead, wounded, and dying. Seven thousand prisoners were brought in the first day, and the heavy cavalry and 95th rifle corps brought in 2000 the next day.

Marmont suffered amputation in a farm-house on his retreat, and just had the arteries taken up, and the

stump dressed, when an advanced party of the allies entered the village of Panaramba, which he had left on horseback, with his surgeon, about twenty minutes before they came to the house. The whole English army on the advance were hailed as deliverers in every town they came into, each vying who should bring forward most refreshments and provisions.

When his Excellency Marshal General Lord Wellington approached Salamanca, he was received at a distance of a quarter of a league by a piquet of children, of from eight to nine years old, armed in that way which their strength admitted. On the bridge, at the entrance of the place, was posted another piquet of children, of a similar age, with a band of music, which so delighted the great Wellington, that he dismounted and entered the place on foot, surrounded and followed by those guards of honour. At the gate of the fortress he was received by Governor Vives, and a general of division, amidst acclamations and repeated cries of "Long live the the liberator of Castile and Estremadura!" and was conducted, flowers being strewed all the way, to his apartments. The streets were completely ornamented, and from the windows were thrown upon the hero all sorts of flowers. His excellency, for the purpose of pleasing the people, remained at the window an hour and a half. A lady presented him with a nosegay, beautifully embroidered and surrounded by a border, on which were these words:—

"To the ever victorious and immortal Wellington, Duke of Ciudad Rodrigo; this is offered by a Spanish lady, grateful for the taking of the two bulwarks of Castile and Estremadura."

18th.—WHITEHALL.—His Roy-

al Highness the Prince Regent has been pleased, in the name and on the behalf of his majesty, to grant the dignity of a marquis of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland unto the Right Honourable Arthur, Earl of Wellington, Knight of the Most Honourable Military Order of the Bath, and the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten, by the name, stile, and title of Marquis Wellington, of Wellington, in the county of Somerset.

19th.—FIRE AT WOOLWICH.—Monday a fire of considerable magnitude broke out, about seven o'clock in the evening, in the pitch storehouse, belonging to the rope-yard, at Woolwich, which burnt with great fury, and excited considerable alarm among the inhabitants. The alarm bells rang, and the drums beat to arms for all the men in the employ of government to assemble, when, with the timely assistance of the numerous fire engines belonging to the dock-yard and arsenal, it was completely got under about nine o'clock; but the damage done is very considerable. It is generally supposed, by those who are best acquainted with the place, to have been wilfully set on fire by some person employed there; and it is much to be lamented that more caution is not used by government in selecting labourers on whom dependence can be placed. The greatest care has, for some considerable time, been taken about the admission of strangers.

20th.—This morning Thomas Bowler was executed at Newgate, agreeably to his sentence, for shooting at, with an intent to kill, his neighbour, Mr Burrowea. Bowler has, since his condemnation, appeared perfectly indifferent to his fate, and when it was communicated to him on Thursday

so'ennight, he asked, if it was to take place the next day? and on being answered that it was to be on the week following, he said, "Very well," and took no further notice. He has constantly refused any consolatory aid from religion, offered him by Dr Ford; and after entering the chapel on Saturday last, he turned hastily round, and invited Dr Ford to go home with him, and take a glass of good wine. He refused going to chapel on Sunday last, and from the singularity of his conduct, it was not deemed advisable to press him, as he appeared to be in a superannuated state. Mr Bowler was 65 years of age, and has left a property of 80,000l to his family, by a will made since he has been in Newgate. He ascended the scaffold with the greatest composure, and was launched into eternity apparently insensible to his awful fate.

An interesting account of the battle of Salamanca is given in the following letter; the full particulars will be found in the Gazette.

"I shall endeavour to give you some account of a victory the most brilliant, and I trust most decisive, that has ever graced the British arms—a victory in which it will be impossible to decide whether to admire more the matchless skill of the general, or the dauntless bravery of his troops.

"On the 17th July the enemy crossed the Douro at Tordesillas, having made a feint at Toro, and advanced towards Salamanca by the road through Nave Del Rey; Lord Wellington put himself in position across that road at Cadezal, where some skirmishing and cannonade took place during the 18th; at night he moved to his left, and tried to turn our right, but at daylight found the

allies opposite to him. He went on taking ground to his left with the same intention for three days, but always found the lord in his place. On the 21st he crossed the Tormes at Alvasse Tormes, and we at Santa Martha. On the 22d we were in a very good position, our left on the Tormes, and covering Salamanca, the enemy in our front, having opposite our right a large wood, which facilitated his forming columns of attack.

"Marmont, in person, moved columns backward and forward, to the right and left all morning to distract our attention, and fancied these columns in the wood were not seen, but had they been in the bowels of the earth Lord Wellington would have found them out. About mid-day, he shewed a wish to attack the right of our line, conceiving he had out flanked us, and commenced a heavy cannonade. To his entire dismay, however, Lord Wellington had detached a division which outflanked him. When this division had reached its destination, Lord Wellington, with the eye of an eagle, and the rapidity of lightning, changed his defence into an attack, and each division of the British, formed in two lines, advanced to the heights occupied by the enemy. Then came the tug. Lord Wellington had shown us generalship. It was now the turn of the troops. They did not fire, but with a slow, but steady pace ascended the hills, broke through the enemy's centre, and, in less than three hours, destroyed their army. The cannonade at first, and afterwards cannonade and musketry, was tremendous. All did their duty, but, as the fight now became general, I can only tell you what I myself saw. The third division, under General Pakenham, commenced by turning the enemy's left;

as soon as it appeared that they were sufficiently advanced, General Leith's division, the 5th, began their attack, descended from their position, part defiled through and round a village, formed on the other side, and ascended the enemy's position, under the continued fire of about 20 pieces of cannon. The 4th division, General Cole's, was on the left of the 5th, and General Pack's brigade on its left. The 1st and 6th divisions in reserve of the left, till afterwards, when the 6th division prolonged the line to the left, and stormed the right of the enemy's second position. General Leith had his division in two lines, the royal Scots, 9th, 38th, 30th, 44th, and 1st battalion 4th, being the first; the Portuguese brigade, General Spry's, and the 2d battalion 4th, being the second.

“ These lines advanced without firing a shot, until they drew the enemy from his first position. It was beautiful, like a review—the general in front of the centre, with his hat off, as at a general salute. The enemy kept their ground, and threw in their fire, which was only answered with a shout at the top of the hill. When within five yards of their columns the general brought the division to the charge, and successively walked over their different columns, taking guns, eagles, and colours. At this point of the day General Leith was severely wounded, but now supposed not dangerously, and is doing well. His aides-de-camp Leith, Hay, and Chivex, wounded, but not dangerously. The action closed with the day, when the enemy were completely defeated at all points—I may almost say annihilated. Next morning we found them in flight towards Madrid, leaving guns, arms, drums, and all sorts of warlike stores scattered

about. Lord Wellington is following them, making quantities of prisoners. General Le Marchant fell gloriously, leading his brigade of cavalry to a charge against their cavalry, who endeavoured, boldly enough, to turn the fate of the day—it was vain; Wellington had ordered they were to be destroyed; we had only to obey. It is said they have lost five generals, but as yet it has been impossible to ascertain what their other loss has been; ours, it is hoped, will not be considerable. Our wounded generals and troops in general are doing well, notwithstanding the excessive heat of the weather. The Portuguese troops behaved admirably; in short, every man did his duty. Indeed, of the conduct of the troops I can only say, every one rivalled his neighbour in carrying into execution the orders of his lordship. The regularity of a parade was preserved throughout; the cannonade only made them more steady; had the hills been made of red-hot iron, they would have been carried. I think, without vanity, we may hope the 22d of July will be a day to remember in the British history, when a proof was given to the world what a British general and army could do.”

21st.—EDINBURGH.—Owing to an extraordinary rise in the price of oatmeal, a crowd of people assembled in the Cowgate and Grassmarket, on Tuesday morning, for the purpose of intercepting the supplies on their road to the market. Several carts were accordingly seized, and their contents distributed among the populace; after which the mob proceeded to the Dalkeith road, where they seized several more carts, and retailed the meal at two shillings per peck, which they gave to the drivers. The shops also of the victual-dealers and bakers in

Nicholson-street and places adjoining were threatened by the populace, and were in consequence prudently shut up. In the evening the houses of several meal-sellers in different parts of the town were attacked and the windows broken; and in Leith there were also considerable tumults.—The magistrates, with a party of constables, repaired on the first alarm to the spot, and made every exertion to quell the tumult. As a necessary precaution, a party of soldiers was ordered from the castle, and in the forenoon the following judicious proclamation was issued:

By order of the Right Honourable the Lord Provost and Magistrates of Edinburgh.

“The inhabitants are enjoined to avoid all riotous proceedings in the present circumstances, as any tumults that may be excited can have no other effect than to deter persons who have provisions from bringing them into town, and thus to increase the scarcity.”

“The Lord Provost and Magistrates assure the inhabitants, that they will use all the means in their power to relieve them from their present distresses. At the same time, as the magistrates have every reason to know, that a scarcity of grain exists throughout the country, they give the inhabitants this public notice, of their determination to make use of the powers vested in them, to repress any tumultuous proceeding, and preserve the peace of the city.”

“Council Chamber, Edinburgh,
18th August, 1812.”

Yesterday every thing was quiet, and no doubt the means already adopted will so far palliate the existing evil as to prevent any recurrence of tumult or disorder, which, it must be obvious to every person of reflection, can have no other effect than to

drive away the supplies, and thus aggravate the existing mischief; for it is certain, that no one who has meal to sell will send it to market to be plundered.

CHESTER.—Wednesday his majesty's justices of assize, R. Dallas and F. Brunton, Esqrs. arrived at the castle, and immediately opened their commission.

Yesterday they attended the cathedral, where a suitable discourse was delivered by the Rev. Mr Yates, after which the judges returned to the castle, when Chief Justice Dallas gave an excellent charge to the grand jury; and this day the judges proceeded to the trial of John Lomas and Edith Morrey, both of whom were accused of the murder of her husband. After the trial had occupied the court nearly seven hours the prisoners were both convicted, and ordered for execution on Monday the 24th inst. On receiving his sentence, Lomas stretched out his hand and exclaimed—“I deserve it all—I don't wish to live—but I hope for mercy.” He maintained the greatest composure throughout the trial. Mrs Morrey, the miserable widow, pleaded pregnancy; a jury of matrons was instantly impanelled, and they returned a true bill. Her execution, therefore, will be procrastinated till the commencement of the ensuing year. She maintained the same intrepidity on her trial which she all along manifested, and, with the exception of the unusual heat, did not seem at all incommoded.

It is computed that there were not less than 4000 persons in and about the court during the awful investigation.

Lomas was executed on Monday the 24th.

Booth, convicted of forging bank-

notes, was executed at Stafford on Saturday last. A most distressing occurrence took place at the time of his execution; the rope slipping he fell to the ground, and many people thought that he was dead; but the unfortunate man got up, and fell on his knees, praying to the Almighty for mercy for his misdeeds: the assistants then prepared the scaffold again, but, owing to a mistake, the drop remained fast when Booth gave the signal for it to fall; and it was not until much force had been applied that the drop fell, when the unhappy criminal at length suffered the sentence of the law.

The life of John Barnsley, who received sentence of transportation at the last Warwick sessions, presents an instance of perseverance in crimes seldom to be paralleled.—He was indicted and acquitted at the Lent assizes, 1801; he was convicted at the Midsummer sessions, 1801, and sentenced to twelve months imprisonment in a solitary cell; after being at large little more than a year, he was, at the sessions 1803, sentenced to seven years transportation; scarcely settled after his return, he was convicted at the summer assizes, 1811, and received sentence of six months imprisonment; indicted at the Lent assizes, 1812, he was acquitted; but, continuing his criminal career, he has just been sentenced again to seven years transportation!

A woman who lives in a respectable house in Cork, lately took some unaccountable dislike to one of her four children, a fine little boy not four years of age,—and determined on starving him! This she has been in the habit of doing for some months, by giving him nothing but cold potatoes [not enough of them,] and water, keeping the infant almost con-

tinually tied to a bed-post, and frequently confined under a table on the kitchen ground floor. Last winter, some of the child's toes mortified from the cold, and dropped off.—He is intelligent and sensible—no sickness or bodily pain—not one ounce of flesh on its whole body—pale—eyes sunk deep in the head—the hair apparently pulled out by the root in many places.—The child has been weighed, and scarcely turned the beam at eight pounds. The abandoned mother is in custody, and will be tried at the ensuing Cork assizes.

22d.—SHEFFIELD.—On Tuesday last, a great number of persons assembled in this town, and proceeded in a tumultuous manner to the meal and flour dealers, and demanded their flour at 3s per stone. A person from amongst the mob presented a paper, purporting to be a written agreement to sell at the reduced price, which he insisted upon being signed, using threats on the least hesitation. The riot act was read in different parts of the town, the military were put in motion, and a number of the infatuated people taken into custody.

A large concourse of people has assembled in the Adelphi, for several days, drawn together by the following unusual circumstances:—A house, situated at the corner of Buckingham-street, is occupied by some persons, whom the owners have endeavoured to eject, but hitherto without success, notwithstanding every process of law has been resorted to, and every stratagem devised for that purpose. The house makes a singular appearance, all the windows, excepting one on the first floor, being shut, and every article of furniture removed; while there are several officers stationed in various parts of it, to take advantage of any movement, the pre-

sent occupiers may inadvertently make. At the window, not fastened up, are seen two respectably dressed females; who, it is reported, have maintained themselves in this unpleasant situation against their adversaries for more than a fortnight, exposed to the greatest privations, with half the window-frameremoved. From the strictness with which their motions are watched, it is almost impracticable for either to procure food for their support; but this great difficulty has hitherto been surmounted by the humanity of several individuals, who convey food to the prisoners in baskets, which are hastily drawn up by means of strings thrown in at the window, and when emptied, are let down again. Drink in bottles has also been conveyed in a similar manner, as also wearing apparel. For what period this affair is to continue it is impossible to conjecture, as the females appear not at all distressed by their confinement, and are as well supplied with provisions as the nature of their situation will admit.

A most remarkable circumstance took place at Folkestone, on the 19th instant. After the tide had ebbed in the usual way for three hours, and left the Hope sloop a-ground in the harbour (the crew of which were preparing to unload her), it suddenly rose three feet perpendicular, and as suddenly ebbed, which was repeated three times in less than a quarter of an hour. This phenomenon having occurred several times at Portsmouth and Plymouth about the time of the earthquake at Lisbon, has given rise to many speculative opinions, and indeed it is generally thought to have opened in consequence of some great convulsion of nature.

26th.—The prince regent, after the late review of his own regiment, had the officers called to him by

sound of trumpet, when he expressed to them his thanks for the very high state of discipline the regiment was in, and informed them it was the last time he should ever appear at their head.

27th.—A most shocking and deeply regretted catastrophe occurred at Brighton on Monday, in the commission of an act of suicide, by Mrs. Louisa Maria Goldingham, a niece of Major-General Popham, at her residence in Dorset Gardens. The deceased, who has left six blooming children to deplore the rash and fatal act of their unfortunate mother, had been in a drooping way for some time, but, excepting in a solitary instance, when she complained, in rather a strange manner, of her being unable to distinguish the letters in a book she held in her hand, no suspicions were entertained of her being in any way mentally deranged. About half past twelve o'clock, in the afternoon, she had left her parlour, and retired to her chamber, the door of which soon after being found locked, and no answers given to the questions put to her, her brother, Captain Popham, broke it open. On entering the room, he discovered his sister, in an horizontal position, on her face, and weltering in her blood. Though horror-struck at the spectacle, he yet endeavoured to raise her up; and, painful to relate, found that she had deeply lacerated her throat both on the right and left side with a razor, and, severing the jugular artery, had bled in the most profuse manner. She was not quite dead when discovered, but her last sigh escaped her almost immediately after. The coroner's inquest was taken on view of the body on Tuesday morning, when Captain Popham's testimony was to the above effect, and a verdict of *insanity returned*. Mr. Gold-

ingham, the husband of the deceased, is abroad.

The following form of prayer and thanksgiving to Almighty God for the repeated successes obtained over the French army in Portugal and Spain, by the allied forces under the command of Marquis Wellington, and especially for the victory obtained on the 22d ult. in the neighbourhood of Salamanca, was on Sunday read in all churches and chapels, throughout London and Westminster, and within the bills of mortality. The same to be read in all other churches and chapels through England and Wales on the Sunday following :—

“Gracious God, accept, we implore thee, the praises and thanksgivings of a grateful nation, for the successes thou hast repeatedly vouchsafed to the allied army, in Portugal and Spain. Thine, O God, is the greatness, and the power, and the victory, and the majesty; without thee, there is neither success in the wisdom, nor strength in the courage of man. The skill of the captain, and the obedience of the soldier, are thine. Direct our hearts, O God! so as to exult in victory, that we forget not whence it cometh; so to use it, that we provoke not thy heavy displeasure against us. Continue, we pray thee, thy favour and protection to our captains, and soldiers, and allies. Unite their counsels, and prosper their enterprises for the general good. And in thy great mercy, O God! open the eyes of our blinded and infatuated enemies, that they may see and understand the wickedness they are working. Touch them with the spirit of remorse, awaken their justice, and correct their inordinate ambition, so that at thy appointed time, and under thy good Providence, the miseries of war may cease, and destructions be brought to a perpetual end. These prayers and thanksgivings we humbly submit to thy divine Majesty, in the name and through the mediation of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.”

30th.—SOUTH QUEENSFERRY.—

A melancholy accident occurred here this forenoon. Part of the Renfrewshire militia arrived here this morning, on their way for the military depot at Perth. One of the privates (named Gemmel) in a state of intoxication, unfortunately attempted to swim from a ridge of rocks betwixt the Newhall-inn and the harbour. He was viewed, in awful suspense, by a numerous concourse of people, who had been attracted to the spot on learning the dangerous situation of the person. The feelings of the spectators may be easily conceived, when, on his reaching about half way to the harbour, he was seen suddenly to disappear.—Two boats immediately put off to his assistance, and a great number of the privates of the regiment swam towards the spot, and continued for a considerable time making every effort to save their comrade. Their exertions proved, however, fruitless, and it was not until an hour afterwards, that the body was found a lifeless corpse.

SPANISH CELEBRATION.—On Saturday the principal Spanish gentlemen in London, who had lately taken the oath to the constitutions, assembled to celebrate the day. They proceeded in the morning to the Spanish ambassador's chapel, where high mass was performed. The body of the chapel was set apart for the subscribers to the festivity, the floor and cushions covered with crimson cloth. The portrait of Ferdinand VII. was hung under a crimson canopy within the rails of the altar. A little after eleven, the ambassador, the Conde Fernan Nunez, entered in a richly embroidered Spanish court-dress, with the ribbon of the order of the Golden Fleece over it, attended by the suite of the embassy in military uniforms. Senor Tutor, president of the celebration, followed at

the head of the subscribers, all in full dress, and the mass began. The chanting was sustained by a very able choir, directed by Lanza. Senor Vaccari led the band with his usual excellence. Towards the close, the *Te Deum* by De Lesma, a very striking specimen of the composer's talents, was sung by Miss Hughes, and the senors De Lesma and Rasquellas. A grand patriotic march, chaunted by all the voices, closed the ceremony. This exquisite treat to the lovers of music, occupied in the entire nearly two hours; and too much praise cannot be given to the whole arrangement. Miss Hughes is already known as a very interesting singer. De Lesma's voice is firm, tasteful, and singularly articulate. That of Rasquellas we think without a superior for tenderness, taste, and elegance; its flexibility puts all the evolutions of the scale completely within its power, and its captivating taste leads it naturally to the choice of the finest and most finished graces. His march

"Vive, vive, siempre Iberia, &c."

was a vigorous and animated composition, brilliant, characteristic, and abounding with the richest spirit of harmony. The galleries were filled with Spanish and English ladies; among whom were the Duchesses of Yjer and Infantado.

About seven, the subscribers dined at the City of London Tavern. The dinner was sumptuous, with a profusion of Madeira, Hock, and Champagne. The tables were laid round three sides of the room; large plateaux placed along the centre, covered with emblematic ornaments, flags, and trophies; the standard of Spain, the arms of England in arcades

and wreaths. The mirrors, the blaze from the chandeliers, and the striking equipment of the room and of the assembly; produced a splendid and interesting coup-d'œil. A military band in the orchestra played Spanish marches and boleros during the evening. The ambassador, with Senor Tutor, the Marquis Apuntado, General Mazzaredo, the consul general, and several Spanish gentlemen, took their seats at the centre table. At the request of the ambassador, the president gave up the announcement of the toasts to him; and he acquitted himself with all the dignity and courtesy of a Spanish nobleman. The first toast after dinner was "Ferdinand the VIIth," drank standing, and with three times three. The grand march by Rasquellas was then played by the orchestra, and chaunted by the company. The shouts of *Vive! vive! siempre Iberia,* were loud and enthusiastic, and the march was encored with great applause. Then followed, "the Constitution of Spain," with three times three. "The health of George III. the friend of Spain," was next drank with universal acclamations; and God save the King admirably sung by Rasquellas and De Lesma, the whole company standing and joining in chorus. The toasts then succeeded rapidly, and the ambassador gave, "the Cortes,—the Spanish Regency and its president—the Prince Regent of England," with a brief panegyric on his popular virtues, and his honourable attachment to the cause of the peninsula, "the Emperor of Russia, the Prince Regent of Portugal, the King of Naples, the Allies of Spain; the liberties of Spain, as the beginning of the liberties of the continent; the Marquis of Wellington;

the reconciliation of the Americans with Spain; the Guerillas."

After the ambassador's retiring, Senor Tutor took the chair, and gave the health of "The Conde Fernan Nunez,—the ladies of Spain, England, and Portugal,—the English and Portuguese guests,—the Conqueror of Baylen,—the Patriotic Composers of the Music, which had so highly gratified them during the day,—the Stewards, &c. &c."

FASHIONS FOR LADIES.—*Riding Costume.*—Made of ladies habit cloth, of blue, trimmed down each side of the front with Spanish buttons, the waist rather long, with three small buttons on the hips; a short jacket full behind, the front habit fashion, with small buttons up to the neck, and a row of small buttons on each side of the breast; a lapel thrown back from the shoulder, and trimmed with Spanish buttons, has a most elegant effect, and gives a graceful finish to the dress. The collar is made about half a quarter in depth, and fastened negligently at the throat with a large cord and tassel; it opens sufficiently to display the shirt, which is of lace in general, but this article admits of considerable variation. A small woodland hat, whose colour corresponds with the dress, with two white ostrich feathers fastened behind, and falling carelessly over the left side. A cord and tassel is brought round the hat, and fastened near the top of the crown on the right side. Buff gloves and half boots either of buff jean or leather. Parasol to correspond with the dress.

Evening Costume.—Petticoat of white crape, with a demi train, the bottom trimmed with pink sarsnet vandykes, about half a quarter in depth. A white crape drapery falls

about three parts over the petticoat, and fastens at the side; it is rounded in front, and square behind, fastened down the side with three rows of grass-green ribband, trimmed round with an embroidery of grass-green and pink. A pink sarsnet Spanish body, the bosom quite square, and rather low in the front; the back is also square and very much cut down. The sleeve slashed in three divisions at the top, and finished round the bottom with a narrow green ribband. Spanish hat of pink sarsnet, with three large ostrich feathers, which fall over the left side. The hair dressed in full curls over the face. Ear-rings, necklace, and bracelets of pearl; the necklace is composed of three rows of pearl, to which is affixed a diamond cross, or small pearl locket. White kid gloves, and shoes, with bead rosettes; fans the same as last month.

General Observations.—Coloured sarsnets, trimmed with lace, are very much worn, both for full dress and dinner parties; for the former the front made of lace, is universal.

Pale pink, grass-green, lilac, blue, and buff, are the colours most prevalent; the two latter are highest in estimation. Lace never was more worn than it is at present; our fair fashionables still wear black and white lace dresses, but not so much as they did a few months back; lace sleeves and lace trimmings are, however, universal; short sleeves made very full are the most prevalent, but there has been a few long lace sleeves, which are also very full, and twisted round the arms to the wrist, fastened with pearl bracelets.

For dinner dresses, sprigged muslins over coloured sarsnet slips, are much worn; and have a very elegant

effect. The dresses are mostly made high on the shoulder, and brought in a peak at the centre of the bosom; the backs are square, and lower than usual, and the short sleeve has gained something in length since last month, as has also the waist.

For morning dresses the most recent invention is the Grecian peasant's jacket, with a petticoat to correspond; the form of this dress is extremely simple, but by no means becoming.

The Polish twill is also much worn for morning dresses; it is a sort of chambray, and can hardly be distinguished from sarsnet, except by the richness of texture.

For full dress, coloured crapes, embroidered round the bottom in large wreaths of flowers, have a very elegant appearance.

White crape dancing dresses, richly embroidered in silver, are also much worn; but the robe *a-la-syphie* is, it is thought, the most tasteful and elegant of that kind ever seen.

Pearl ornaments for the hair are very general, and their form does not differ from those of the last month; flowers, however, seem to dispute the palm of fashion with them; moss roses and corn flowers are very much worn. The hair is dressed in full curls on the forehead, and divided in front either by a flower or an ornament; it is strained back, and twisted up behind in the Grecian style, the ends falling in thick curls in the back of the neck.

Spanish hats of white satin, ornamented with ostrich feathers, are worn by some *elegantes* in full dress; for dinner parties also they are very prevalent in coloured sarsnet.

The introduction of a novel, and really elegant article into evening dress is half-boots of white silk, leather, or

sarsnet, the colour of the dress. They have for some time past also been universally worn in the morning.

Black and white lace veils are still as much worn as ever, and our *elegantes* throw them over the figure in a variety of forms.

AGRICULTURAL REPORTS.

ENGLAND.—The weather for the last fortnight, having proved favourable for the wheat harvest, the chief part of that corn within the eastern and home counties has been safely housed or stacked. The corn in the midland and northern districts is found so much backward, that but little was even cut before the beginning of the last week. Where the wheat stood up a fair reap, the sheaves prove heavy, and the grain of good quality; but where they have been laid, on rich soils, so that the weeds have grown luxuriantly through them, which is too much the case with the husbandry in most of the midland counties, the ear is found light, and the sample must, of course, be inferior. The barley and oat crops improved so considerably within the course of the month, as to promise now a full average crop. Pease are also great crops in most districts, and so are beans, but the latter are found fit to cut but in a very few places. The produce of potatoes is every where abundant. The hop plantations of Sussex and Farnham have rallied so much as to promise full half a crop; but in Kent they continue generally unpromising. The second crops of clover and grass are heavy, and, if a favourable time continues for making them, a reduction of the market prices for hay will be the natural consequence. Smithfield

has been well supplied through the month, and on terms favourable to the butchers. Lean beasts, particularly well-bred Scots, continue dear: but sheep are found much lower at most fairs. The wool markets, both for long and short fleeces, are better.

SCOTLAND.—We have had no injurious winds in this month, and the rains, though frequent, have been moderate; so that the weather may be described as having been, upon the whole, mild and favourable. In this case the crops have slowly advanced towards maturity, and, although the work is not as yet begun, there are sundry fields of barley and wheat, and even some early oats, so fully ripened, as to be ready for shearing; indeed some spots might have, without any loss, been cut ere now; but it would seem the owners wish to have the grain very completely matured. The harvest will not, however, be general for two or three weeks.

Although the pasture grass continues abundant, and there be a plentiful prospect of fodder, cattle of all sorts can be purchased at a reduced price, fat as well as lean; the beef, however, continues at 9d. per lb. but is expected to be cheaper soon. Potatoes are still 1s. the peck, of 28 pounds. Meal, for which there is little demand, 3s. 2d. per peck.—Quartern loaf 1s. 8d. The farmers are employed in pulling their lint, and taking it to the water; and those who have bog or meadow hay are busy in getting it winnowed, for which the weather is very favourable.

SECOND REPORT.

The weather has during this month been more favourable to the maturation of the crop than it was during

any of the months of last summer, and much more so than the month of August generally turns out. The three first days, and several days about the third week of this month, were rainy; but the rest have been mostly dry, and generally warm for this advanced season of the year. Indeed, by far the best weather during the whole season was from the 3d to the 18th of August, and the crop made great progress during that period. The operations of the hay harvest, which had been interrupted, were resumed, and the fairest chance afforded of completing them. The grain crops, which had made but little progress for two or three weeks before, began to advance with uncommon rapidity; and the potatoes, which had also remained for some time nearly stationary below ground, and were getting too much into stems and foliage above, have, by these two weeks of dry weather, been brought also to maturity.

Wheat, which has had a very promising appearance for several months past, has now nearly reached the sickle, and is in general the best crop that has been seen for several years. Very little has yet been begun to be reaped.

Barley, of which indeed but little is now generally sown, perhaps was never a more abundant crop, and much of it will be ready for the reapers by the second week of September.

Pease and beans are generally a heavy crop, and as the weather, during August, has been drier than usual, and as they have not been injured by winds, storms, or any disease, they bid fair to yield a valuable return.

Oats have still the most promising appearance. They are no doubt two

weeks later than last year, but they are every where a much more luxuriant crop than that of 1811. They are probably one of the most weighty crops ever seen, and as they have not been as yet in the least injured by storms, or any continuance of heavy rains, and as the severities of the winter continued till the second week of May, and more than an ordinary portion of frost has been met with through the months of June and July, and as the slightest tendency to frost has not been felt in August, we may reasonably expect that the ensuing winter will yet be at a great distance. We had real winter weather through the spring months; during the summer months it had a resemblance to that of the spring, being moist, generally warm, but often disposed to frost; and as the best summer weather during the season has been in August, we fondly hope a few weeks continuance of such weather will crown the harvest with the greatest abundance.

The potatoe crop is truly consoling. Never were there nearly so many planted, and never had that species of crop so promising an appearance as at present. They have not yet reached maturity, but are so far advanced as already to afford a great relief to the poor and labouring classes, and, if the weather were to prove as favourable for the next four weeks as it has been during August, the potatoe crop would be by far the most valuable that ever was dug from the earth, more than three times that of last year, and probably more than that of any preceding year whatever.

Hay has turned out above a medium crop, and, as it was never got easier and better dried, it will be much more valuable in quality than it generally is. The price continues to

fall, and, if the harvest proves favourable, it must fall still more.

As the weather continues fresh, mild, and moderately dry and warm, the pasture still yields a full bite. The dairy stock continues to fare well, and yield greater returns than usual at this advanced season. The cattle fattening on pasture still fare well, and promise to pay the grazier better than could have been expected, considering the state of them and the grass in May. The prices of butcher meat, and dairy produce, have fallen during this month, owing partly to the greater return than was probably two months ago, and partly to the depreciation of the earnings of mechanics, and high price of oatmeal, which they cannot subsist without.

As the weather was never better during the first week of grouse shooting, and as the birds were plenty, the sportsmen never had a better field, and vast numbers of grouse have fallen.

SEPTEMBER.

1st.—Government has received advices that a definitive treaty of alliance has been concluded between this country and the King of Persia, by Sir Gore Ouseley, on terms highly favourable to British interests. It has always been a primary object, in such transactions, to include the heir apparent, Mirza Abbas, in the stipulations of any treaty between Persia and Great Britain. This object has uniformly been recommended by Sir H. Jones, by General Malcolm, and by every person who possessed any correct knowledge of the condition of Persia. The French made an attempt to bring about the conclusion of a si-

milar treaty; but they failed in the attempt, notwithstanding all their boasted diplomatic dexterity. This must add to the satisfaction which is felt at the success of Sir Gore Ouseley, which is principally ascribed to his personal influence with the King of Persia, an influence supposed to be derived from his intimate knowledge of the language, and the customs of the country, and by the marked propriety and engaging moderation of his conduct since the arrival of the embassy in Persia. The treaty is considered here to be of a nature to unite the two countries in a lasting and advantageous connection; and if an alliance with Persia be of that value to this country, which it has so often been represented to be, the happy conclusion of this definitive treaty is an event of great importance, and one that promises to be attended with very beneficial results.

VOLUNTARY CONFESSION OF J. LOMAS, taken before Faithful Thomas, one of his majesty's coroners for the county of Chester.

[The following confession of Lomas of the murder of his master, and the conversation which took place with his paramour and mistress the evening preceding his execution, are interesting, as exhibiting a painful proof of the ascendancy invariably obtained, in an illicit connection of the sexes, by a vicious and designing woman over a youthful and uninformed mind: It will be in the recollection of our readers that the woman escaped for the present on the plea of pregnancy: She has since been executed.]

Stateth—That his mistress, Edith Morrey, set him on to murder his master, and he was to have all he had. She told him to go to William Shaw's, a public-house in Hankelow,

on Saturday afternoon, the 11th of April, to get some drink, and she would get things ready to kill him. His master was gone to Audlem, and she told him (John Lomas), that he must not go to bed. He came home about twelve o'clock, and as soon as his master was gone to bed and asleep, his mistress came up to his room. He was asleep. She awoke him, and told him his master was fast asleep, and he must come and kill him. He refused; she went down stairs, and afterwards came up again, and went down again, and he (John Lomas) followed her. She had got the axe ready, and gave it him into his hand. He said it would be found out, and they should be sure to be hanged. She said she would see him safe, and swear he was fast asleep in bed, and would send the servant girl to call him up. He (John Lomas) said, his master would awake before he reached the bed, and she said she would go in first, and put up her hand, if he was fast asleep, for him to come in and kill him. She put her hand up two or three times, and then said he must come in. He (Lomas) then went in, and his mistress (Edith Morrey) held the candle while he struck his master three times with the axe on his head. He struck him the first time over his temple. After he had struck him three times, he heard the servant wench, who slept in the next room, get upon the floor, and he said the servant woman was coming, on which his mistress wetted her finger and thumb, and put the candle out. He (John Lomas) ran away towards the door, and his master was shouting, "Oh! Lord!" His mistress turned him back again, and said he must go again, as he had not killed him; she said he must kill him. Then he went again, and struck at him in the dark,

three or four times with the axe; he thinks he only hit him once with the head of it, and then he ran out of the parlour. His mistress met him in the house-place, and opening a sheath, took out a razor, which she put into his hand, saying, he must go and kill him out—he must cut his throat. He refused, but she gave him a bit of a push, and said he must go. She then went first, and he followed, her with the razor in his hand. She flung the out door of the house open, and then went into the room where the servant girl slept, and shut the door after her, and he (John Lomas) went into the parlour. His master was coming off the bed backwards, and he touched him, on which his master rose up, and caught at him by the breast, and by his right hand that he had the razor in. He (Lomas) sprung out of his arms, and then laid hold of him by the head, as he was upon his knees, and cut his throat twice. He loosed him and ran, and his master fell to the floor, and he went up stairs and got into bed. After a while, the servant girl (Hannah Evans) came up to him to shout him up. She came and shook him, and he desired her to go down stairs again, and to leave the candle. He had the bloody shirt on, and did not put his arm out of bed; he was afraid of her seeing it. He then got up, and put his coat on over his bloody shirt. He dried his bloody hands upon his waistcoat. He also put his smock-frock on, and went down stairs. When he came down stairs the servant girl said, somebody had murdered her master, and he was desired to go in, and see if he was dead. He went to the parlour door, and just peeped in, and said, he thought he was. His mistress desired them to call Betty Spode up, and he and the

servant wench went and shouted her up, and she came with John Moors, James Sandilance, and Thomas Timmis. They went in to look at his master, but he did not go in. Thomas Timmis came out again, and John Moors went in with the candle. He came out again, and they all went to call up Mr James Morrey, his master's brother, and he returned with them back again, bringing Thomas Hall and Joseph Penlington with him. They went into the parlour. He (John Lomas) and Thomas Timmis sat in the house. They came out again, and asked him (John Lomas) to hunt some bags to lay him upon. He went up stairs to his own bed-chamber, and brought down the window-sheet, and gave it them. John Moors and Thomas Hall went away to search lodging-houses, and they came back again with Mr Groom, Mr Dooley, and other persons. John Moors came into the house for a pair of scissors. He (John Lomas) gave him them, and he saw Mr Groom and Mr Dooley measuring the feet in the garden, and he thinks Mr Groom asked him for his shoe. He fetched it, and they measured it. Mr Dooley and Thomas Hall came to him, and said, that they had some suspicion that he had been concerned in the business. He said he had not. They said he had, and asked him what made his smock bloody? he said he had been bleeding some calves and the mare. They asked him where his dirty shirt was? He said that it was it he had on. Mr Walley said it did not look like a dirty shirt, but he stuck to it. They said he must strip. He pulled off his coat, and they turned his sleeves. There was some blood upon the sleeves and on a button on his breeches. Mr Groom came down the stairs, and asked him

whether his box was not locked? He said it was, and he asked him to give him the key. He refused, and Mr Groom said he would break it open. He (John Lomas) then went up stairs with others, and his mistress was conveying the bloody things off out of the box. She was getting them away. He says, when he first put them off, he left them on the floor, and when he went up stairs again, he put them into the box, and locked it. He says, when he went from murdering his master it was dark, and he had cut his own right hand, and his hands were bloody with his master's blood. He put his hand in the dark on the table at the bottom of the stairs leading to his room, which left a mark of three bloody fingers. He also put his hand upon the stairs, which left a mark of three fingers there. He washed the mark on the table with some water that stood upon it, and spit on the stairs, and rubbed it off with his feet and his hands.

The following conversation took place between J. Lomas and Edith Morrey, on Sunday, the day before the execution of Lomas:—

John Lomas having expressed a desire to Mr Hudson to see Edith Morrey, before he died, Mr Hudson allowed them in his presence an interview, about five o'clock in the afternoon. Lomas was called into Mr Hudson's office a few minutes before Mrs Morrey, and told that the wretched woman had confessed her guilt, to which Lomas replied, "It is better that she has confessed;" and Mr Hudson observing that it was his wish, as he had spoken to Mr Fish, the chaplain, upon the propriety of it, to let them receive the sacrament together, it appeared to give a degree of satisfaction to Lomas,

who said, "I had rather she did receive the sacrament with me."

Mrs Morrey was then brought into the office, and seeing Lomas, she exclaimed, "O! dear!" sat down, and remained in silent affliction for some time with her face covered. Lomas, who was seated at some distance, endeavoured to comfort and soothe her, telling her to bear up, and to pray for mercy and forgiveness—their sins, he said, were very great, but God was good, and he hoped he would forgive them—he had repented, and he trusted through grace to find mercy. He said, "I must go now, you will have to stay a little longer, all our time is short, and if we repent of our sins we may meet in heaven." He then asked his mistress whether she had ever said to any one that he (Lomas) had got up to murder his master, at twelve, one, and half past one, the night before the murder, which she denied, saying, "It is not true, they have made that amongst them." She complained of a woman, whom she alluded to, as concerned in the fabrication of such report, as one that was never sober. Lomas then prayed to God to forgive them, and to forgive him, for he had done a very wicked act, and he deserved to die for it. He could not wish to live. "If they had not found me guilty, they would not have done justice; it is only doing me justice to hang me. There is a God above, and I hope to see my master in the other world."—At this Mrs Morrey said, "Pray God you may!" Lomas again admonished his mistress, as she had a longer time allowed her, to confess her sins and repent. To a question put by Mr Hudson, Mrs Morrey denied that she took the candle into the other room, and said, she would not let

the servant girl go through the window ; she repeated she did not hold the candle ; Lomas said, " Mistress, do not say so, it will do you no good to deny it ; when I told you Hannah was coming, you pinched the candle out."—Mrs Morrey's reply to this was, " My good lad, it was not so, there have been many false things said," and she then proceeded to animadvert upon some parts of the evidence upon the trial, which were afterwards, by the explanation of Mr Hudson, reconciled, and understood by the convicts to be correctly given. Mrs Morrey admitted that she took the shirt out of the box and threw it upon the bag of barley ; and Lomas said he put the box upon the bed. When Mr Hudson asked Mrs Morrey how she could ever expect to be acquitted, she declared it to be from a supposition that Lomas's confession could not be admitted evidence against her. Lomas observed, that he was not likely to do otherwise than confess—but the confession did not come against them, there was enough, he said, without it. Mrs Morrey then said her husband had declared the night of the murder, that he should turn Lomas away that week, for he suspected that he got up in the night to get to the drink. This, Lomas said, was very unlikely, for he had said nothing to him, but appeared very well satisfied, and was joking and in good humour with him that very night. They never had, he said, many words, any thing of that sort was soon over, they neither of them ever bore any malice, he liked his master, he was a very good master, but, added he, " I wish he had turned me away that night." And Mrs Morrey repeated, " I wish he had, but I hope your sins will be forgiven and mine too ; it was your own

fault, you were always proking at me, and would not let me alone." This was retorted upon her by Lomas, who said it was her that would not let him alone ; and he reminded her of a particular instance, on the very night of the murder, when she got out of bed and came to him, and he wanted her to go to bed again and not do it, and she would not ; and he was all in a tremble. She replied, " I know I have been too bad as well as you."

Mr Hudson asked whether she could have expected to live happy in case she had been acquitted, and she said, she never should have been happy, " I know I have done wrong, and I have sinned." She reminded Lomas of a time when he came back from the coal-pit and wanted to have done the deed, and she refused, because he had been bad, and had not eat any thing, and was weak. Mr Hudson asked Lomas, how he got the axe that he struck his master with, and he said, his mistress gave it into his hand. The observation she made to this was, " My dear lad, was it not on the chair?" He said, " Why, mistress, you put it into my hand," which she did not deny ; and being asked about the razor, he said his mistress concealed it under her petticoats—that he took the axe, and while his mistress held the candle, he struck his master three times ; she then pinched the candle out, and they both ran into the house-place, where they heard him groan, upon which his mistress said, " John, he is alive ; go, and kill him." Mrs Morrey replied to this, she only made the observation, " John, he is alive ;" he then went and struck him with the axe two or three times, in the dark, and returned ; when she gave him the razor, they still heard him groaning.

Lomas persisted in it, before her, that she directed him to go and kill him—to go and cut his throat. She continued to deny this part, whilst he repeated it as true; and he said he did go in consequence, and found his master raised in his bed, and attempting to get off backwards; when getting close up to him, his master, appearing to know him, laid his head upon Lomas's breast, and caught hold of his shirt with his right hand; Lomas said that he thrust his hand away, and got his master's head under his left arm, he then cut his throat twice, desperate cuts and deep, and then ran and got into bed and pretended to be asleep. The razor he put under a bag in his room, but in the morning he took it, and when he went to water the mare, he threw it into the pit near the house, and he saw it again, he said, on the trial, it being found there when the water was let off.

Mrs. Morrey was then solemnly questioned by Mr Hudson, about the truth of Lomas's declarations, and whether it was not nearly the truth—and she said, “It is nearly the truth.” She said she was 16 weeks gone with child, and entered into a calculation from the time of her being in prison. Lomas asked her about the time of her miscarriage, and she gave him the particular time, stating, that it was the day she prepared to go to Knighton, an allusion which he seemed to understand. Mr Hudson asked her how long she had been in bed with her husband before she got up to perpetrate the murder, but she could not particularly state. He questioned her as to whether her husband was sober, and she said he was sober enough.

Mr Hudson then addressed them in the language of admonition, and

prepared them for a final separation. Lomas said, “I forgive her, but it seems she does not forgive me.” And she said, “I have forgiven every body, and every thing that has been done against me.” Lomas said his half-brother had cursed her (Mrs Morrey), but he said nothing. He said, nothing cut him up so much as to see his poor father, what grief he was in—it was a hard case, he said, for him to bring children up to this end. “God help him, and God help my master's children; I hope they will take good ways.” He then enquired as to what situations they were in, and was informed by his mistress. He said his own mother was a very wicked woman. Then, addressing himself to his mistress, he piously called upon her to make her peace with God, and to read the Scriptures and pray. “Till I came,” he said, “to this place, I knew nothing of Scripture. I have been made to read the Bible, and to pray, and I am better off. I like the New Testament; I have read it, and I know that Christ came down to die for us poor miserable sinners. Mistress, I wish well to you, I will leave you a good book of prayers, and hope you will read it.” Mrs Morrey said she freely forgave Lomas, and he said he forgave her—and finally said, fare you well, mistress.

4th.—“Lord Wellington entered Madrid on the 15th ult. Took 1700 prisoners, and 186 pieces of cannon.”

In the evening an official bulletin was issued from the office of the War Department.

4th September, 1812, 6 o'clock, P. M.

“Dispatches have been received by Earl Bathurst from Marquis Wellington, dated the 13th and 15th ult. containing the intelligence of the allied army having entered Madrid af-

ter an inconsiderable resistance on the 12th ultimo, and that the Retiro had surrendered by capitulation on the 14th with 25,000 prisoners. In that place there were found 189 pieces of cannon, the eagles of the 13th and 51st regiments, 900 barrels of powder, 20,000 stand of arms, and considerable magazines of clothing, provisions and ammunition."

The following bulletin was shewn at St James's Palace on Saturday last:—

"Windsor Castle, Sept. 5.

"His majesty has continued nearly in the same state since the time of the last monthly report."

8th.—**HORRID MURDER.**—Some jocularities having passed on Sunday, at dinner, between a young man and the wife of a fishmonger, of the name of Dodd, resident at West Ham, Essex, the husband, enraged at what he construed into an improper familiarity, plunged a knife, with which he was eating, into the heart of the unfortunate woman; her death was instantaneous. Dodd was immediately secured.

LIVERPOOL.—The following important intelligence from America, was received from hence this day.

"The ship Pacific, a cartel with passengers, arrived here this morning, from New York, which she left on the morning of the 8th ult. She brings papers, from which the following are extracts.

"New York, July 31.

ANOTHER BALTIMORE RIOT.—It is with emotions of unutterable regret that we have to record the most alarming and sanguinary riot that this hitherto tranquil country has ever seen. Knowing the solicitude of the public to learn the details of those scenes of horror in which a sister city is involved, we have collected and published several letters on the mournful subject. As these were all writ-

ten in the midst of confusion and alarm, we cannot but earnestly hope that to-morrow's mail will show that the riot has been less fatal than is here represented.

"A letter in the Aurora states that the criminal court was in session when the riot commenced. A letter, which is now before us, says, "The court of justice is shut up, the judges will not preside; and the grand jury will not serve. Tears bedew the cheeks of the reflecting part of the community."

"Baltimore, July 29.

"I scarcely know how to begin to inform you of the horrid scene in which this city at present is involved. Since the destruction of the office of the Federal Republican, that paper has not been published until Monday last. It was then issued by C. Hanson and J. H. Heath. About eight o'clock in the evening, a mob began to assemble (about 30, mostly boys under 17 years of age), and to break the windows of the house, from which the papers were distributed to the subscribers in Baltimore. About 10 o'clock they were joined by many more. They then broke the doors, and attempted to enter the house. There were about 70 armed persons within, who immediately fired upon those who were entering the building, and killed three and wounded four others. The mob then armed themselves, brought a six-pounder to bear upon the house, fired into the building with their muskets, and wounded one man in the breast. This was at 12 o'clock, and the alarm bell did not ring till two in the morning.

"Two troops of horse then assembled. To them the men in the house surrendered, on condition that they should be taken to the prison unmolested. A company of infantry was called out to assist them, but it was with difficulty they were conveyed to the jail. The mob broke all the furniture in the house, which had been thus surrendered, broke the frames of the doors and windows, tore down the chimnies, and then marched to the prison, with the intention to murder the prisoners. Two regiments were put under arms, and continued so until seven

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in the morning, when the mob dispersed, and the military were dismissed. This calm was but a prelude to a more dreadful storm. At eight o'clock in the evening, the mob re-assembled in greater numbers; cut down the prison doors; entered, and, by beating and hanging, murdered, in cold blood, about twelve persons—the rest, to the number of ten, made their escape through the back door. Old General Lee from Virginia, was murdered—David Hoffman was left as dead, and is not expected to live, two young men of Hoffman's in the same case—Hanson and Heath the same—J. Thompson was beaten and supposed to be dead—he was then dragged with a rope, until they could obtain a cart, on which they put him, covered him with tar and feathers, and conveyed him thus about the city. Their barbarity did not cease here. They occasionally felt his pulse, and when they discovered the least indication of life, they again beat his head, until it was extinguished. This work continued until two o'clock, when they were persuaded to lodge him in the watch-house, where I saw him. He had then come to, and asked for a drink of water, which was given to him. The mob then dispersed, with a determination to meet again this morning at nine o'clock, for the purpose of tormenting this poor creature a little longer. All I have ever read of the French does not equal what I saw and heard last night. Such expressions as these were current—"We'll root out the Tories"—"We'll drink their blood"—"We'll eat their hearts."

"I have just heard that the mob are out, and have gotten poor Thompson again. I understand they intend to seize again upon the others who were beaten, and who are now in the hospital, and not expected to live till 12 o'clock. My thoughts are so confused from anxiety and want of rest, that I can scarcely write."

THE NAUTILUS CAPTURED.—It is with much regret (says the same paper) that we have to state the loss of the United States brig Nautilus, and a long list of American merchant-

men. They were captured by the British fleet which has recently passed along our coast, and we fear that they amount in value to more than all the British vessels that can be captured in a year.

10th.—**CONSTITUTION OF SICILY.**—"Palermo, 24th July, 1812.—The parliament held their second sitting (first for dispatch of business) on the 20th, when the following fourteen articles were resolved, and passed through the three chambers, by a large majority, in spite of the influence of the court. There is not perhaps in history so remarkable a revolution brought about, with so much tranquillity. The barons have given up their feudal rights, and if the resolutions are followed up the people will be free.

"The British minister deserves the highest credit for his conduct; the Sicilians admit that they owe every thing to his moderation, good sense, and firmness.

"1st. The supreme authority of making laws and imposing taxes is vested alone in the nation.

"2d. The executive power is in the king.

"3d. Judicial authority is in the magistrates, subject to the approval of parliament.

"4th. The king's person is sacred.

"5th. The ministers are responsible to parliament.

"6th. The two chambers to consist of lords and commons, and the clergy to have seats in the former.

"7th. The barons to have only one vote each.

"8th. The right of assembling parliament is in the king, and necessary every year.

"9th. The nation sole proprietor of the state.

"10th. No Sicilian can be judged or condemned, except by laws to be recognized by parliament.

" 11th. The feudal law is abolished, as well as the right of investiture (Monopoly).

" 12th. The privileges of the barons, over their vassals, is also abolished.

" 13th. Every proposition, relative to taxation, must originate in the lower chamber and be approved by the upper.

" 14th. A modification of the British constitution to be recommended this session

" The parliament had their second meeting last night, the 24th. The ecclesiastical chamber sent a deputation to the lords, stating, as their opinion, that the first article of the resolution should go to establish the religion of the country, which was carried, after a debate. It was then resolved, that the articles already voted by the three chambers should be forthwith presented to the king for his sanction, previous to any further proceedings, it being argued, that if the king should put his veto on these resolutions (which were to form the basis of the new constitution) any superstructure formed upon them must fall to the ground. There were only six dissentient voices on this question. Princes Frabbeia Cassino (the present minister of the interior), Cuto and Lucchisi Niscemi and two others, voted with the court. Butera, the premier baron, gave the first voice for the articles being immediately presented. Their deliberations continued to a late hour.

" The Marquis Salvo proposed and carried the 9th resolution against the ministers.

" Prince Belmonte made a most eloquent speech, and to his perseverance, ability, and firmness, every credit is due.

" The Marquis Salvo also proposed the trial by jury, which was opposed by the lords, but carried in the common.

" The Duke of Sperlenga proposed and carried the motion relative to the feudal law, on which occasion he delivered a brilliant speech."

WAR DEPARTMENT.

10th September 1812—8 o'clock A. M.

RAISING OF THE SIEGE OF CADIZ.—Major D'Oyly has this morning arrived with dispatches from Major-General Cooke to Earl Bathurst, dated Cadiz, 26th August, by which it appears; that, on the night of the 24th, and morning of the 25th, the enemy abandoned his positions and works opposite to that place, and the Isla de Leon, except the town of Port Santa Maria, where a body of troops remained till the middle of the day, and then withdrew to the Cartuga. He has left a very numerous artillery in the several works, and a large quantity of stores and powder. Most of the ordnance has been rendered useless.

Colonel Skerrett and the Spanish troops under General Cruz were at Manzanilla on the 22d.

12th.—**PEDESTRIANISM.**—J. Waring, a Lancashire-man, started from London on Thursday, for a wager of 100 guineas, to go to Northampton and return (136 miles), in 34 hours, which is, within two miles, at the rate of four miles an hour, without stoppages. He went the first 55 miles in 12 hours, and half the distance in 14½. After resting an hour and a half, he started on his return, and got through the business, with three minutes to spare, with excessive fatigue.

A few days since, such a shoal of red mullet drove from sea up the river Exe to Topsham, that they were sold at 2s. per dozen, and under; it is now several years since a shoal of the kind came up the Exe; some

have conjectured that they are pursued from the ocean by the porpoises, as a vast body of the latter have been seen playing in Exmouth harbour, and one morning last week some of a monstrous size approached so near the bathing-machines, as to cause no little alarm to those who were bathing.

MELANCHOLY CATASTROPHE.—On the morning of the 27th of August, 14 men belonging to Conway went out in a small boat to finish the loading of a flat lying near Ormshead, bound, with pavement flags, for Liverpool. After having accomplished their work, they left the vessel about ten at night, and began to row towards Conway; in a short while their cries were heard as if in great danger, but the vessel being aground, no assistance could be rendered to them. The cries of distress continued until one loud yell was uttered, after which there was universal silence. Next morning the boat was found, full of water, and drifted up the river. Seven hats, two jackets, and a waistcoat, were found on the water's edge; but none of the bodies have been washed ashore. Conway is filled with lamentation. Ten of the men have left large families. Eleven widows were unfortunately made, and 35 children left fatherless. Subscriptions for their relief have been set on foot, and the people, touched with their suffering, have been extremely liberal.—(*North Wales Gazette.*)

12th.—An interesting occurrence took place at Folkingham on Tuesday evening se'nnight.—A poor woman, who had obtained a pass billet to remain there all night, was sitting by the fire of the kitchen of the Greyhound inn, with an infant child at her breast, when two chimney-sweepers came in, who had been engaged to

sweep some of the chimneys belonging to the inn early next morning. They were, according to custom, treated with a supper, which they had begun to eat, when the younger, a boy about seven years of age, happening to cast his eyes upon the woman (who had been likewise viewing them with a fixed attention from their first entrance), suddenly started up, and exclaimed in a frantic tone—“That's my mother!” and immediately flew into her arms. It appeared that her name is Mary Davis, and that she is the wife of a private in the 2d regiment of foot guards, now serving in the peninsula; she resides in Westminster; her husband quitted her to embark for foreign service on the 20th of last January, and on the 28th of the same month she left her son in the care of a woman who occupied the front rooms of her house, while she went to wash for a family in the neighbourhood; on her return in the evening, the woman had decamped with her son, and, notwithstanding every effort was made to discover their retreat, they had not since been heard of; but having been lately informed that the woman was a native of Leeds, she had come to the resolution of going there in search of her child, and with this view had walked from London to Folkingham, a distance of 106 miles, with an infant not more than six weeks old in her arms. The boy's master stated, that about the latter end of last January he met a woman and boy in the neighbourhood of Sleaford, where he resides; she appeared very ragged, and otherwise much distressed, and was at that time beating the boy most severely; she then accosted him (the master), saying she was in great distress, and a long way from home, and after some further preliminary con-

versation, said, if he would give her two guineas to enable her to get home, she would bind her son apprentice to him; this proposal was agreed to, and the boy was regularly indentured, the woman having previously made affidavit as to being his own mother. This testimony was corroborated by the boy himself; but as no doubt remained in the mind of any one respecting the boy's real mother, his master, without further ceremony, resigned him to her. The inhabitants interested themselves very much in the poor woman's behalf, by not only paying her coach fare back to London (her children having been freed by one of the proprietors), but also by collecting for her the sum of 2l. 5s.

14th.—Lately, as James Adamson, of Postern Gate, near Hull, was fishing in the Humber, he had occasion to put his hand under water, when he imagined himself bitten or stung under the thumb nail by a venomous fish. The wound, not being considered of consequence, was neglected till Friday se'nnight, when a violent inflammation had taken place in his hand and arm, for which he was copiously bled, and otherwise medically treated, as the case seemed to require. The inflammation was not, however, arrested, but proceeded with such rapidity to mortification, that the poor man died on Monday.

Plymouth, Sept. 14.

INSURRECTION AT DARTMOOR PRISON.—An express arrived here last night, at eleven o'clock, informing General Stephens that a serious commotion had broken out among the prisoners in Dartmoor depot, that the Cheshire militia stationed there were under arms, and that immediate assistance was necessary.—Three field-pieces, with 15 gunners

and 15 artillery-drivers, were immediately sent off to Dartmoor, and their appearance quickly restored order among the insurgents. It appears that the bakehouse having been burnt down last week at Dartmoor, in which bread for the prisoners had usually been baked, a pound and a half of biscuit had been served out to each man, but this had been reduced by an order from government, to one pound, the usual allowance of bread. This was resented by the whole body of prisoners (about 7000), and they shewed so determined a disposition, that such measures were found necessary as were adopted. They even had it in contemplation to fire the prison and effect an escape. Some of them were for seizing the depot of arms at Tavistock, but the appearance of the artillery settled every thing.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT SERAMPORE.—Extract of a letter from Dr Joshua Marsham, of Serampore, Bengal, to Dr Ryland, Bristol, dated 12th March, and received the 9th September 1812:—

“MY DEAR SIR,

“Last night, about six o'clock, when I was sitting in my study, some one exclaimed, “The printing-office is on fire!” I ran instantly thither, and beheld, at the lower end of the office, which is a room 200 feet long, a stage, containing 700 reams of English paper, sent out to print the Tamul and Cingalese New Testament, enveloped in flames. Every window but one was fastened by a large flat bar of iron, which went across it, and was secured by a bolt in the inside. In five minutes the room was so filled with smoke that a candle would not live.

“Finding it impossible to open the windows, or for any one to go in without danger of instant death, we fastened that door again, in the hope of smothering the flame, and ascending the roof,

pierced it over the fire, and by incessantly pouring down water, so kept it under for three hours, that nothing but the paper appeared to have kindled, and there the flame was greatly abated. The alarm which we gave brought all the Europeans around us, to our assistance, besides our own native servants, so that we had all the assistance we could desire. While, however, the flames were got under there, I looked in, and suddenly saw a flame spread about twenty feet higher up. The smoke and steam increased so as to render it death to get three feet within the wall. In a few minutes the flames spread in every direction, and took away all hope of saving any thing from thence, and filled us with terror for Mrs Marshman's school, about thirty feet to the north-west, a bed-room for the boys, about sixteen feet full north, which communicated with brother Carey's, and the hall, library, and museum, within twelve feet of it, to the north-east. The wind, however, fell, and it burned as straight upwards as fire on a hearth, and communicated to nothing besides. It remained burning for six hours, and consumed the beams, five feet in circumference, the roof, the windows, and every thing but the walls. Happily no lives were lost, nor a bone broken. The loss we cannot at present estimate. It has consumed all but the six presses, which we rejoiced were saved, being in a side room. Two thousand reams of English paper are consumed, worth at least 5000l. sterling. Fonts of types in fourteen languages besides English, namely, Nagree (two fonts, large and small), Bengalee (two fonts), Orissa, Mahratta, Seek, Burman, Telinga, Tamul, Cingalese, Chinese, Persian, Arabic, Hebrew, and Greek, were burnt; besides fonts of English for carrying on ten works, which we have now in the press; and the cases, stones, brass rules, iron chases, &c. correspondent with all these. We have not types left for the circular letter, nor even to print a statement of the loss. The editions of the New Testament which are stopped are nine, viz. the Hindoostanee, Persian, and Tamul, printing under the patronage

of the Auxiliary Bible Society; and the Hindee (second edition), Telinga, Seek, Burman, Sungskrit (second edition), and Chinese. The editions of the Old Testament are five, the Sungskrit, Bengalee (second edition), Orissa, Mahratta, and Hindee. Among the English works suspended, till we get types from you, are, the "Sungskrit Grammar" (second edition); Brother Ward's work on the "Manners of the Hindoos" (second edition); "Confucius" (second edition); the "Dissertation on the Chinese" (second edition), enlarged to more than 200 pages; "Bengalee Dictionary," and a "Telinga Grammar," both by Brother Carey. The loss cannot be less than 12,000l. sterling, and all our labours are at once stopped.

"I trembled for Ward, lest the roof should have fallen in with him, or lest he should have entered too far, and at once have extinguished the spark of life; but we are all preserved, blessed be God. The flames touched nothing besides; they might have consumed every thing. The presses are preserved, and happily the matrices of all the fonts of types were deposited in another place; had these been burnt, it must have been years before they could have been replaced. We can now, however, begin casting types to-morrow, if we can find money; country paper can be substituted for English, and thus two or three months will put the versions of the Scriptures in motion again; but for English we shall be distressed till you send us a supply; we know not even how to send you a circular letter. I am writing this at Calcutta, to go by the packet this evening, whither I am come to inform Brother Carey, and therefore cannot tell you what types, nor how many. They must, however, be all the sizes, from the text of Confucius to the minion in the circular letter; also Italian, and every printing utensil accompanying. Perhaps some friend in London, in the printing line, can tell what goes to complete a printing-office with English types. You must also send a font of Greek and Hebrew, I am distressed to think where you will find mo-

ney, but send, if you incur a debt—the silver and the gold are the Lord's. The Christian sympathy of our friends almost overwhelms me. Mr Browne (President of the College) was confined by illness; but Mr Bird, his son-in-law, exerted himself for us in the most strenuous manner. I fear it affects Mr Browne's mind even more than my own; he sent off an express at midnight, to acquaint Mr Harington, who is deeply affected. Poor Mr Thomason (chaplain to the Governor-General), wept like a child to-day on hearing of it. He begs us to make out a minute statement of our loss, and says he will use all his interest on our behalf. How it arose we know not; Brother Ward and others think it must have been done by design, and that some idolater among our servants, turning pale with envy at the sight of the Bible printing in so many languages, contrived this mode of stopping the work. This, however, is mere conjecture.

"P. S.—One thing will enable us to go to work the sooner; the keys of a building, larger than the printing-office, which we have let for years as a warehouse, were given up to us on Saturday last. Thus we have a place to resume our labours the moment types are cast."

NOTICE.

"On account of the great and affecting loss which has been sustained by the missionaries at Serampore, Bengal, a collection will be made at Richmond Court chapel, after sermon, on the forenoon and evening of Sabbath next, the 20th current, when it is hoped that those who are present will exert themselves, and thus testify their concern for an event which must be lamented by every Christian. Worship, in the evening, will begin at six o'clock."

17th.—LONDON.—On Sunday night a gentleman, between 50 and 60 years of age, went into a house of a particular description near the Admiralty. He had not been long there when he died suddenly. He had with him a small dog, of the terrier kind, which immediately left the

room. There was nothing found on the gentleman's person to lead to a discovery of his identity. About 12 o'clock, however, on Monday night, three interesting young ladies, of very genteel appearance, between the ages of sixteen and twenty, arrived at the house in which the gentleman died, accompanied by the dog. They came in a chaise from Richmond, where they reside. It appears that the dog, immediately after the decease of his master, ran off to Richmond to his master's house. As soon as the door was opened, he rushed into the apartment of the young ladies, who were in the act of dressing themselves. He began to solicit their attention by whines and cries, and his eyes turned to the door, as if to invite them out. Failing in this, he became more earnest, seized their clothes, and pulled them towards the door with so much violence, that one of their gowns was torn. This excited great alarm, and from the intelligence shewn by the animal, it was resolved by the young ladies to accommodate themselves to the dog, who continued to invite them away. A chaise was accordingly ordered, and the three young ladies took their seats in it. The dog led the way, with his head almost constantly turned back, and his eyes fixed upon the carriage, until he led them to the house near the Admiralty, where his master died. There they alighted; but how great was their grief, horror, and surprise, to find their father dead in such a situation.

The deceased proved to be Mr Corbet, an inhabitant of Lewisham, in Kent, where he possessed a farm of considerable extent, and followed the business of an auctioneer, and was greatly respected in his neighbourhood. Sunday night he dropped

down in the house alluded to, when the people supposing him dead, immediately gave the alarm, and the body was conveyed to the Lord Cochrane hotel, within a few doors in Spring Gardens. Here it was discovered that the spark of life was not totally extinguished. He was carried up stairs and put to bed, and medical assistance was called in, but in vain—in a few minutes he was a corpse. As the people of the house were carrying him up stairs, a sum of 1100*l.* fell from his pocket in bank-notes, tied up in a bundle, and marked on the outside, “To be paid into Snow’s,” a circumstance sufficient in itself to shew that he had not been dishonestly treated by the female who accompanied him into the house from which he was brought, or any other person belonging to it. The interesting little dog after his return remained at his post, the faithful guardian of his beloved master’s remains. He lay on the foot of the bed with his eyes constantly fixed on the body with an eager, anxious, melancholy expression. The place was crowded with people, led by curiosity to this interesting scene. The dog never appeared to take any notice of these strange visitors, and no rude hand attempted to interrupt the little mourner in his melancholy office.—The verdict of the coroner’s inquest was, *Died by the Visitation of God.*

21st.—A most tragical event took place at Chepstow on Sunday last, which has plunged many families in that city and neighbourhood in the greatest distress. The particulars are as follow:—A party, consisting of

eight ladies and one gentleman,* accompanied by a man-servant, who had been to church in the morning, had afterwards ridden to Tintern Abbey, and then returned by water; it was perfectly calm, and a full moon; when they were about to land, the boatman informed them that the best place was below the bridge, which they were fast approaching, and where a number of ladies and gentlemen were walking. Before they had entered the arch, one of the ladies called out “There’s a rope, there’s a rope;” but it was not seen by any other of the party, being in part under the surface of the water; in an instant all was horror; the moment the boat touched the rope she upset! The cries of the unfortunate for assistance, the pushing off of boats from the shore, and the hurry of the good people who were anxious to save them, formed altogether a scene of inexpressible distress. The wretched remains of this late happy party are Miss Eliza Shute, Miss Ann, and Mr Rothery; the latter of whom had been twice carried down in supporting his wife, by struggling friends clinging to him, and checking his exertions; he at length got her to the head of the upset boat, but from one of the party again clinging to them, they both suddenly disappeared, and it was long before Mr Rothery rose to the surface, when he again grasped the boat, and was taken up in an almost lifeless state. Miss Ann Shute, after long struggling, reached the boat, and was taken off its bottom; and Miss Eliza was taken from underneath, upon turning up the boat.

* Mrs Shute, wife of Richard Shute, Esq. of Sydenham, Kent, and sister to Mrs Langley, of Waterhouse, near Bristol; her daughters Mary, Margaret, Eliza, and Ann; Miss Fisher, also sister to Mrs Langley; Mr, Mrs, and Miss Rothery, of Bristol.

The unpardonable conduct of the person who fastened the fatal rope to the pier, contrary to all rule, and the regulations of the port, and never before known to be done, and by which three families have been plunged into the greatest misery, renders it proper that his name should be made public; the coroner's inquest (held on Mary Shute, whose body is the only one yet found), states him to be the pilot who carried the vessel, to which the rope was attached, up to the river, named James Halford of Bristol.

25th.—ROBBERY AND SUICIDE.—Messrs Wilkinsons, upholders, on Ludgate-hill, having of late been frequently robbed of feathers, suspicion at last attached to a porter in their employ, and a plan was laid for his detection; it succeeded, and he was detected on Wednesday evening, when leaving work, with a large parcel of feathers in his possession: he was detained, and a constable sent for, and on being questioned, he confessed that he had taken feathers frequently before, and sold them to a broker, residing on the Surrey side of Blackfriars bridge. In order to detect the receiver, it was agreed that he should go as usual, accompanied by the officer, with the feathers; and when they arrived at the centre of Blackfriars bridge, he said the broker was in the habit of meeting him in the recess, and taking his bundle; it was therefore agreed, that he should stop there on the present occasion, and that the officer should wait near at hand to detect the broker when he came; they had not been long in waiting, when the officer was surprised by observing the bundle of feathers fly over the top of the bridge; and running forward to enquire the cause, he was just in time to see, but

not to prevent, the prisoner throwing himself over also. The body sunk immediately, and though instant search was made for it, has not yet been found.

Yesterday morning, at two o'clock, a most alarming fire broke out at Mr Holland's, tallow-chandler in South Audley Street, Grosvenor Square. It began in the back melting warehouse, in Reeves's Mews, and three of the adjoining stables were soon burnt to the ground. There were nearly 400 tons of tallow on the premises, all of which was consumed, and of course added greatly to the fury of the flames. Fifty chaldrons of coals, belonging to a retail dealer in that article, were also consumed. The following are some of the houses which have been destroyed or damaged on this occasion:

Messrs Stodart and Bolton, coach-makers; the carriages were all saved—the house of Madame Jaymond, milliner, has also sustained much damage—Mr Parson's, baker, Mount Street; the house burnt and an immense quantity of flour—Mr Teby's stables, and Mr Butcher's slaughter-houses, in Reeves's Mews, totally consumed—the house of Mr Owen, tinman, is much damaged. One man was considerably bruised; but no lives were lost.

American papers bring the following harangue from the gallant commodore Rogers. When he received the declaration of war on board the President, he ordered all hands on deck, and addressed them as follows:—“Now, lads, we have something to do that will shake the rust from your jackets. War is declared. We shall have another dart at our old enemies. It is the very thing you have long wanted. The rascals have been bullying over us these ten years. I am

glad the time is come at last, when we can have satisfaction. If there are any among you who are unwilling to risk your lives with me, say so, and you shall be paid off, and discharged."

26th.—ACCOUNT OF THE ENTRY OF THE ALLIES INTO SEVILLE.—By the arrival of a mail from Cadiz, dispatches relative to the capture of Seville by the allied forces, under the Spanish general La Cruz and Colonel Skerret, were received.

The loss of the allies is trifling, that of the British consisted of Lieutenant Brett, royal artillery, and one man killed; Lieutenant Llewelyn, of the 95th regiment, and 12 men, wounded.

Seville, August, 28, 1812.

"SIR,—I have the honour to report the movements of the detachment under my orders since the date of my last. The result of which, the capture of the city of Seville by assault, defended by eight French battalions and two regiments of dragoons entrenched, will, I trust, be considered as honourable to the allied arms, and serviceable to the cause of Spain.

"On the 24th inst. General Cruz Mourgeon, commanding the Spanish troops, and myself, judged it advisable to make a forward movement on Seville; for this purpose it was advisable to force the enemy's corps of observation of 350 cavalry and 200 infantry, at St Lucar la Mayor. I marched from Manzanilla with 800 troops, composed of the first regiment of guards, the 87th, and the Portuguese regiment, Brig.-Gen. Downie, accompanied with 600 Spanish troops. The Spanish column attacked on the right, and the British and Portuguese on the left. The French were driven through the streets with precipitation, leaving some killed, wounded,

and prisoners. We took post at San Lucar without the loss of a man.

"On the 26th instant, General Cruz and myself having judged that it would be attended with the most beneficial effects, both on the public opinion, and in saving the city from being plundered, if the French could be precipitated in their retreat from Seville, the allied troops in consequence marched for this purpose, and arrived at the heights of Castillejos de la Cuesta, immediately above Seville, on the morning of the 27th, at six o'clock.

"The Spanish troops formed our advance. The French advance was driven in. The cavalry retired, leaving the infantry in the plain, which last were charged by the Spanish cavalry, who made many prisoners.

"The Spanish troops attacked a redoubt on our left, and lost a good many men. The columns advanced into the plain, by which movement this redoubt was turned, and its communication cut off; the Spanish troops under General Cruz took the right, and made a detour to arrive and attack on that flank of Triana (the suburbs of Seville.) I ordered the redoubt to be masked by a detachment of the 20th Portuguese regiment, and advanced a field-piece with some troops, to keep in check the enemy's fire at one of the gates of the city opposite to us, and after giving sufficient time for the Spanish column to arrive, the British and Portuguese troops advanced to the attack in front; the cavalry and artillery advanced at a gallop, supported by the grenadiers of the guards, and the infantry following.

"The enemy abandoned the gate; we entered the suburbs, and advanced near to the bridge of Seville with as much rapidity as possible, in hopes of

preventing its destruction, which would have rendered it extremely difficult for us to succeed. We were checked by the fire of grape-shot and musketry at the turning of the street. The grenadiers of the guards advanced to our support, and drove every thing before them. At this moment part of the Spanish column arrived; we advanced to the bridge under a heavy fire; Captain Cadoux, of the 95th, with great judgment, made a flank movement on our left; Captain Roberts, of the artillery, brought up with rapidity two guns; a heavy fire of cannon and musketry was soon brought to bear on the enemy, who were driven from their position on the other side of the river, and from the bridge, which they had only in part destroyed. The grenadiers of the guards, and some Spanish troops, led the columns that crossed the bridge. A general rout ensued, and the enemy were driven through the streets, which were strewn with their dead, and pursued at all points, leaving behind them valuable captures of horses, baggage, and money.

"It is difficult for me to express the joy of the people of Seville. The inhabitants, under the fire of the French, brought planks to lay across the bridge; and their acclamations and vociferous marks of joy, added to the immense crowd, rendered it extremely difficult for the officers to advance through the streets with their columns.

"The vast extent of this city, the exhausted state of the troops who had advanced in double quick time for three miles, and the want of cavalry, rendered it impossible to continue the pursuit beyond the town. Such was the rapidity of our attack, that this victory over a French division, and the passage of a bridge which the enemy had materially de-

stroyed, with his infantry and artillery, formed on the banks of the river, was achieved with a loss that appears almost incredible.

"I have only to regret the loss of one officer, Lieutenant Brett, royal artillery, who was killed, gallantly fighting his gun, at the bridge. The intrepidity of this valuable officer was observed by the whole detachment.

"The loss of the enemy must have been very great. We have taken several officers, and, I believe, near two hundred prisoners. C. SKERRET."

REAPING MACHINE.—DALKEITH.—Yesterday, the committee of the Dalkeith Farming Club, and a numerous concourse of spectators, assembled at the farm of Smeaton, near Dalkeith, to witness the competition for the premium of 500*l.* offered by the club, to any inventor of a reaping machine, capable of cutting down two acres of corn in the period of five hours, with one or two horses, and two men. Several competitors were expected, but only one appeared, Mr Smith of the Deanstoun works, near Doune, Perthshire, who exhibited a machine of great elegance and simplicity, impelled by one horse moving behind; while the action of the axle puts in rapid motion, at the opposite end of the machine, a drum with a circular cutter affixed to it. By the movement of the drum, the cut grain is laid in a row, and the machine is so constructed, that the drum can, at pleasure, revolve towards the one or the other side, so as both in going and returning along the ridge to throw the grain towards the open side of the field.

The machine possesses great force, cutting a breadth of four feet at a time. The cutter can at pleasure be placed nearer to or farther from the ground, and on a smooth and level field it can be made to cut at any de-

gree of closeness to the ground which may be desired.

FRENCH EAGLES.—The ceremony of depositing these trophies of British valour in Whitehall Chapel, took place this morning. At an early hour all the guards who remain at home were drawn up in a hollow square, on the parade behind the War-office; the horse guards were also drawn up, and formed a lane towards the back gate of Carlton-house.—The bands of the respective regiments were in their state dresses.

Shortly after nine o'clock, the prince regent, dressed in full uniform, and accompanied by the Duke of Cambridge, arrived. They were both mounted on fine chargers, and were received with presented arms, the band playing the Royal Salute, and the spectators, thousands of whom were present, hailing his presence with shouts of joy and exultation. The next object of attention was the arrival of the queen and several of the princesses, who were also greeted by rapturous expressions of affection and loyalty, the guards presenting arms, and the band playing "God save the King." Her majesty was met at the entrance of the War-office by the Duke of Clarence, who conducted her to the board-room, where the Princess Charlotte of Wales had already arrived, accompanied by several ladies of distinction. The Duke of York was on the ground.

The ceremony commenced by the French eagles and colours being brought forth from the guard-house, and placed in the centre of a detachment of the guards: they were then carried round the area formed by the soldiery, preceded by the band; and as they passed the window where the queen and royal family were placed,

they were lowered, amidst the exulting shouts of thousands.

Her majesty seemed much affected, and was observed to shed tears; no doubt, for the loss of those brave men whose lives fell the sacrifice of these proofs of British valour. The eagles were then carried to the chapel, where they were deposited, with the usual ceremonies.

29th.—*Dissolution of Parliament, and declaring the calling of another.*

GEORGE, P. R.

Whereas we, acting in the name and on the behalf of his majesty, think fit, by and with the advice of his majesty's privy council, to dissolve this present parliament, which stands prorogued to Friday, the 21st day of October next; we do therefore, acting as aforesaid, publish this proclamation, and do hereby dissolve the said parliament accordingly; and the lords spiritual and temporal, and the knights, citizens, and burgesses, and the commissioners for shires and burghs, of the House of Commons, are discharged from their meeting and attendance, on the said Friday, the 2d day of October next: And we being desirous and resolved, as as soon as may be, to meet his majesty's people, and to have their advice in parliament, do hereby make known to all his majesty's loving subjects, our will and pleasure to call a new parliament; and do hereby further declare, in the name and on the behalf of his majesty, that with the advice of his majesty's privy council, we have this day given order, that the chancellor of that part of the united kingdom called Great Britain, and the chancellor of Ireland, do respectively forthwith issue out writs, in due form and according to law, for calling a new parliament: And we

do hereby also, in the name and on the behalf of his majesty, by this proclamation under the great seal of the united kingdom, require writs forthwith to be issued accordingly by the said chancellors respectively, for causing the lords spiritual and temporal, and commons who are to serve in the said parliament, to be duly returned to, and give their attendance at said parliament; which writs are to be returnable on Tuesday, the 24th day of November next.

Given at the court at Carlton House, the 29th day of September, 1812, and in the 52d year of his majesty's reign.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

[There is also the usual proclamation, ordering the electing and summoning the sixteen peers of Scotland.]

FASHIONS.—*Evening Dress*—A white crape robe, with demi-train, and long full sleeves, gathered at regular distances, and ornamented with simple bows of ribbon; bosom and back formed very low; the former ornamented with gold or Chinese silk trimming, and united with gold buckles on the right side. The robe is worn over a white satin slip, and trimmed at the bottom with lace or silver ribbon. Hair confined in the eastern style, and ornamented with a wreath of variegated flowers. Necklace and cross of blended pearl, and amber ear-rings *en suite*. Roman slippers of white satin, with gold clasps: fan of white and gold crape, or carved ivory. An occasional Grecian scarf of whitelace.

Walking Dress.—A Parisian wrapping dress of plain jaconet muslin, or fine cambric, trimmed on each side, round the neck and wrists, with double borders of fine mull muslin. The sleeves very full, confined at the wrist with gold bracelets and drop snap.

A Wellington hat, composed of blended straw and white satin, confined under the chin with white ribbon, and decorated with a wreath of flowers round the crown. A small lace cap beneath, with a flower on the right side. A long sash, or bracer, of blue figured ribbon, passed over the shoulders, and tied in front of the waist. Roman shoes, of buff-coloured kid or jean, gloves the same colour. Parasol of blue shot silk, with deep Chinese fringe.—*Ackermann's Repository*.

Walking Dress.—A pelisse of Princess Elizabeth lilac figured sarsnet, shot with white, and sufficiently short to show the flounce of the morning dress beneath it; it is made rather fuller than they have been worn, the waist moderately long, and buttoned all the way up with rich silk buttons; collar rather full, and a bow of figured ribbon tied at the throat, fastened at the bottom of the waist with silver clasp in front; sleeves very long and full. A ruff, either of scalloped lace, or rich work, but to the latter we strongly object, as it looks very heavy, and indeed is not so general as lace. Lilac gloves and shoes. Small Spanish hat of the same silk as the pelisse, ornamented with three ostrich feathers, which fall to the right side, a large bow of figured ribbon on the left.

Evening Dress.—White figured satin demi-train, richly trimmed round the bottom with crape intermixed with chenille; over this a short dress of white crape, made nearly to the knee in front, but considerably longer behind, and trimmed with a rich embroidery of chenille; this dress is cut down round the neck so as to display it very much, a short crape sleeve falls over the satin one, and is trimmed, as is also the bosom of the dress,

with chenille; the under sleeve is made very full, and looped up in front of the arm with a pearl ornament. The hair dressed very full on the forehead, and low at the sides; strained back from the front in the Grecian style, and fastened up in a knot at the back of the head, from whence two ringlets fall almost to the neck. White pearl sprig, placed very far back in the hair. Necklace and bracelets of the same. Spangled fan, and white kid gloves.—*La Belle Assemblée*.

AGRICULTURAL REPORTS.

ENGLAND.—In the south-western, and all the forward counties, harvest is finished, with the exception of beans, which also are nearly harvested. The same may be said of the earliest districts in Scotland. The late districts are now in the middle of their harvest. A more beautiful and prosperous season, with respect to the weather, was never experienced; but from the eager desire of anticipating the fall of markets, perhaps a greater quantity of wheat has been hurried immaturity to the threshing floor than was ever known in any previous year. Yet the speculation has by no means succeeded, for great part of the wheat so hurried has remained unsold upon the markets as unfit for immediate use, and must be kiln-dried, at great expence and waste. In the mean time dry saleable samples have hitherto suffered but a small declension of price. The probability, however, ought to be noted, that many errors in judgment were committed this year as to the state of the wheat crop, which in some parts, from the peculiar nature of the season wore the appearance of ripeness a week or two before it was actually so. The wheat cut in that deceptive

state, is, by consequence, shrivelled and light, and will detract considerably from the goodness of the general sample. Far from the ears of corn being of such magnitude this year as stated in the public papers, it is generally reported that the wheat ear was never smaller. It is nevertheless given on the highest authority, that there is a probability of the present growth of corn being equal to the consumption of the country for the ensuing year; although there never has been a September, within the last fifty years, in which so small a quantity of old corn remained in store. Of corn and pulse, generally there is not an average crop. Beans are partially good; peas generally bad, quantity and quality. Barley an inferior crop. Oats probably may reach an average crop, and are said to be of good quality in Scotland. Potatoe digging not yet finished, but the roots most abundant, and where good species were planted, of fine mealy quality. Hop-picking completed, the quantity small, the quality in great part very bad. Second crops of hay and clover well made and abundant. Turnips, a fair crop, although backward; the use of the Swedish species declining in the south. Cattle markets lower. Lean cattle, Scotch, Welsh, and Irish, in plenty, and store pigs. Fat pigs and lambs scarce and dear. Wool rather a rising market. The farmers universally engaged in threshing and sending corn to market.

SCOTLAND.—The state of the weather during the month of September has corresponded nearly with what it was during the four preceding months. It has been warm for that advanced period of the season, mild, and moist, without blast or storm, but the sun has for most part

been much obscured. The last six or eight days of August, and the first eight or ten days of September, were indeed the warmest, clearest, and the best weather this season, but it has, during the last three weeks, been grey, dark, and damp, with very little sunshine, and, except for two or three days, little rain compared with what usually falls at this time of the year.—Frost, the great thing now to be dreaded, has not yet done any harm worth notice. Every species of crop is truly abundant, as might well be expected in a season where the ground was properly dried in seed time, the labour gotten well executed, and the whole summer and harvest more than ordinary propitious to vegetation; where there has been no blast, no storms, no Lammas floods, no equinoctial gales, and where the frost, though frequent during the summer, only retarded the growth, but scarcely ever injured the tenderest plants. Wheat, which turns out far above a medium crop, is now mostly reaped, and the greatest part of it secured in the barnyard. It has seldom been so free from blight, disease, or blemish, and the grain seems to be excellent. Barley and bear, (of which, however, there are now much less sown than formerly) perhaps never yielded a better return, and as they were early they are mostly cut down, and the greatest part secured in the best possible condition. The meal of this valuable grain, well baked with potatoes, now forms a substitute for bread or flour, not only in tradesmen's families, but at the tea-tables of people of superior rank. Oats never grew more luxuriant than in the present season, and part of that species of crop has now reached the sickle, and some of it in the barn yard, in the best possi-

ble plight, yellow ripe, well grained, no way dased or wasted, and every way to the wish of the husbandman.

The season has been favourable to the very important operations of summer fallow; and the wheat after that preparation has been sown at the pleasure and convenience of the farmer, and in better condition than common in this climate.

The markets have fallen more during the last two weeks than they ever did in so short a period. Oatmeal, which lately sold at from 3s. to 3s. 4d. has now fallen to from 2s. to 2s. 2d. a peck. The potatoe crop is so very abundant, that they can scarcely be expected to sell at their real value; but the fall in the price of the oatmeal has been greater and more sudden than could have been expected. This change affords ground of consolation to the poor, and to the mechanics and labourers, who have experienced a season uncommonly severe, from the extreme dearth and their reduced incomes; and to which they have, with very few exceptions, submitted with a degree of fortitude and resignation truly commendable.

OCTOBER.

1st.—Some days ago a most distressing accident happened in the neighbourhood of Perth. A boy, who was employed in keeping the cattle of a farmer near Rossie, had tied the halter of a young horse, which he had in his charge, round his body, and the horse being startled, ran off with a violence which was increased by finding something dragging behind him. Every attempt that was made to stop him only re-

dered him more furious, and when this was at last accomplished, the body of the boy was found to be almost literally dashed to pieces.

DRURY LANE.—The new theatre opened on Saturday night, with the tragedy of Hamlet, and the entertainment of the Devil to Pay. When the curtain drew up the whole *corps dramatique* came forward and sung God save the King, which was followed by Rule Britannia, both of which were received with the loudest applause. Mr Elliston then delivered an address, as preferred by the committee to the many others received, written by Lord Byron.

A very curious and singular species of disturbance took place at this theatre on Wednesday and Thursday nights; from which it would appear, that the literati, who sent in addresses, pursuant to the advertisement of the sub-committee, are not satisfied with the decision of the judges. On Wednesday, after the comedy of the Hypocrite, Mr Busby, son of Dr Busby, the translator of Lucretius, forced his way from the pit upon the stage, for the purpose of reciting an address written by his father. A very great uproar was the immediate consequence; but the young gentleman refused to quit his post, and endeavoured “to gain a hearing from the cruel audience.” This, however, he could not effect. Mr Raymond then came forward, and strove to persuade him to leave the stage; but, as his representations were ineffectual, a couple of peace-officers were called in, who bore him from the stage in custody, amidst a tumult of hisses, mingled with expressions of approbation. The farce of the Bee Hive commenced, and experienced great opposition at first; this, however, soon died away, and the even-

ing’s performance met with no further interruption.

On Thursday night the business of the stage experienced a similar interruption from Dr Busby himself, who informed his friends, in the course of the afternoon, by a circular letter, that he intended to make a public appeal to the justice of the audience. This caused an overflow, not only of the house, but the lobbies and every avenue thereunto, and he accordingly attempted an harangue from one of the boxes, in which he stated that he thought respectfully of Lord Byron’s address, but he could show them something better of his own; all he demanded was justice, a fair hearing, and British liberality. This was received with a mixture of approbation and hisses; when, unfortunately for the orator, the overture commenced, and he was obliged to desist. The audience, however, not choosing to be deprived of their sport, determined that he should proceed, and on Mr Horne appearing he was hissed off the stage. Mr Raymond then came forward, and asked if the audience were desirous of the farce going on, which was answered in the affirmative; but scarce a word of it could be heard; and at the fall of the curtain the doctor was again called for, and, after a multitude of obeisances, commenced his oration.

“I have a strong, a powerful motive (said he) for requesting your attention. I am a friend to this theatre. I wish to open the way to superexcellence, to bring forward strong and powerful talent instead of letting it sink to oblivion. My son is now in the house, with an address which I had prepared for the opening of this theatre, and nothing would be a greater pride and satisfaction to me than that he should be allowed by the

managers to rehearse it on the stage, if you will give him leave."

This was immediately acceded to with loud and reiterated bursts of applause.

Mr Busby then began, and if the distinctness of his elocution had been equal to the energy of his gesture, Lord Byron must have "hid his diminished head;" but by peculiar ill-fortune, with the exception of the first lines, in consequence of the uproar, and the weakness of the voice of the reciter, the rest was left to imagination. They were as follows:—

When energising objects men pursue,
What are the prodigies they cannot do?

The audience listened, but the reciter was still inaudible; and probably their disappointment would have been strongly visited on the head of this new performer, but for the appearance of another exhibitor, who, after expostulating with him on the weakness of his voice, was proceeding to make a speech for himself, when he was silenced by a roar which would have overpowered the most inveterate self-love; and the orator was at length compelled to give up his task. The audience now grew satiated. Mr Raymond came forward, and after observing that all performances on that stage required the previous licence of the lord chamberlain, requested to know whether the pleasure of the house had not been sufficiently complied with. He was universally answered in the affirmative: then approaching Mr Busby with a profusion of bows, he took his arm, and with a happy mixture of argument and entreaty, forcible persuasion and gentle violence, led him off the stage. The audience immediately retired.

The successful address written by
VOL. V. PART II.

Lord Byron will be found in the poetical department; the following is Dr Busby's!

When energising objects men pursue,
What are the prodigies they cannot do?
A magic edifice you here survey,
Shot from the ruins of the other day
As Harlequin had smote the slumbrous
heap,

And bade the rubbish to a fabric leap.
Yet at the speed you'd never be amazed,
Knew you the zeal with which the pile
was raised;

Nor ever here your smiles would be re-
prised,

Knew you the rival flame that fires our
breast;

Flame! fire and flame! sad heart-appalling
sounds,

Dread metaphors, that ope our healing
wounds—

A sleeping pang awake—and—But away
With all reflections that would cloud the
day

That this triumphant, brilliant prospect
brings;

Where Hope, reviving, re-expands her
wings;

Where generous joy exults—where du-
teous ardour springs.

Oft on these boards we've proved—No
—not these boards—

The exalting sanction your applause af-
fords;

Warm with the fond remembrance, every
nerve

We'll strain, the future honour to deserve;
Give the great work our earnest strenuous
hand,

And (since new tenements new brooms de-
mand)

Rich novelty explore; all merit prize,
And court the living talents as they rise:

Th' illustrious dead revere—yet hope to
show,

That modern bards with ancient genius
glow.

Sense we'll consult, e'en in our farce and
fun,

And without *steeds* our *patent stage* shall
run;

Self actuated whirl—nor you deny,
While you're transported, that you gaily
fly;

Like Milton's chariot, that it lives—it
feels

And races from the spirit in the wheels.

E.

If mighty things with small we may
 compare,
 This spirit drives Britannia's conquering
 car,
 Burns in her ranks—and kindles every
 tar.
 Nelson displayed its power upon the main,
 And Wellington exhibits it in Spain;
 Another Marlborough, points to Blenheim's story,
 And with its lustre blends his kindred glory.
 In arms and science long our isle hath
 shone,
 And Shakespeare—wonderous Shakespeare
 —rear'd a throne
 For British Poesy—whose powers inspire
 The British pencil and the British lyre.
 Her we invoke!—her sister arts implore;
 Their smiles beseech whose charms yourselves adore.
 These, if we win, the graces too we gain,—
 Their dear, beloved, inseparable train;
 THREE who were witching airs from Cupid stole,
 And THREE acknowledged sovereigns of
 the soul;
 Harmonious throng! with nature blending art!
 Divine Sestetto! warbling to the heart;
 For Poesy shall here sustain the upper part.
 Thus lifted, gloriously we'll sweep along,
 Shine in our music, scenery, and song;
 Shine in our farce, masque, opera, and play,
 And prove Old Drury has not had her day.
 Nay more—so stretch the wing, the world
 shall cry,
 Old Drury never, never soared so high.
 "But hold (you'll say) this self-complacent
 boast;
 Easy to reckon thus without your host."
 True, true,—that lowers at once our
 mounting pride;
 'Tis yours alone our merit to decide;
 'Tis ours to look to you—you hold the
 prize.
 That bids our great, our best ambition rise,
 A double blessing your rewards impart,
 Each good provide, and elevate the heart.
 Our twofold feeling owns its twofold cause,
 Your bounty's comfort—rapture your applause;
 When in your fostering beam you bid us
 live,
 You give the means of life, and gild the
 means you give.

2d.—A correspondent in Montrose has furnished us with the following information:—It is a fact, not generally known, that the American Commodore Rodgers is a Scotchman. About twenty years ago, his father rode with the mail, then carried on horseback, between Montrose and Arbroath. The commodore was bred a baker in Montrose, but left that business early, and went to sea; and being soon after pressed into our navy, he took the first opportunity of deserting, and entered into the American service, where he has gradually risen to the station he now holds. It was on his desertion from the British navy that he assumed his mother's name, Rodgers, his own name being Gray.

An Armenian diamond merchant, named Bohljat, was on the 2d of July attacked by four robbers, near Manheim, who, after stripping him of a bag containing several diamonds, cut his throat, and threw his body into the Rhine. The water being shallow, some fishermen descried Bohljat, and carried him, in a state of insensibility, into the city, where a skilful surgeon sewed up his wound. On his convalescence, he made deposition of the robbery before a magistrate, and described one of the persons who had used him so barbarously to be hare-lipped. The magistrate departed, and shortly after returned in company with M. Folsche, an eminent jeweller, whom Bohljat recognised to be one of the robbers. What renders the circumstance more remarkable is, that Bohljat had letters of recommendation to Folsche, who, apprised of his being on the road, thus way-laid and attempted to assassinate his intended guest. The diamonds have been since found in Folsche's house, and restored to the

Armenian—they are valued at 18,000l. sterling.—Bohjat brought them from Persia to Russia, but, despairing of a sale there, on account of the war, was proceeding to Paris for a purchaser.

3d.—LONDON.—The 18th bulletin of the French army received to-day contains an account of a tremendous battle fought at Borodino; in which both French and Russians claim a victory. The Russians, however, maintained the field, from whence the French retreated upwards of nine miles. A more sanguinary contest has not taken place since the commencement of Buonaparte's bloody career. On the 5th of September, the two armies came in contact at a village called Moskwa, between Ghjat and Mojaisk. Here the Russians lost an important redoubt. On the 6th, they were reconnoitred by the enemy, and on the 7th the battle commenced. On the morning of the 7th, Buonaparte attempted to carry the Russian line by main force; and at eight, he avers that he had succeeded. "Then," says he, "the advantage of position which the enemy's batteries had enjoyed for two hours now belonged to us; the parapets which had been occupied against us during the attack, were now to our advantage." The Russians, undismayed by the loss of their batteries, determined to attempt the recovery of them. It was in this renovation of the battle, wherein the Russians became the assailants, that they chiefly suffered. "They stood for two hours," says the bulletin, "in close order, against the chain-shot, unwilling to retire, and renounce the hope of victory. The King of Naples decided their uncertainty; he penetrated through the breaches which the cannon-shot had made in

their condensed masses, and dispersed them on all sides." About two o'clock in the afternoon the battle ended. The French state the total loss of the Russians in killed, wounded, and prisoners, at 40,000 men, and their own at 10,000.

4th.—THE KING.—Yesterday the following bulletin was shewn at St James's Palace:—

"Windsor Castle, October 3, 1812.

"The king has suffered no fresh accession of his disorder since the last monthly report, and has continued nearly in an uniform state."

(Signed as usual.)

7th.—CAPTURE OF THE AMERICAN GENERAL HULL AND HIS ARMY.—Advices were received by government on Tuesday, communicating the failure of the expedition against Upper Canada, and the capture of the American General and his whole army. The Park and Tower guns were fired on the receipt of this gratifying intelligence, and the following bulletin published:—

"COLONIAL DEPARTMENT.

"Downing Street, 6th October, 1812—6 A. M.

"Captain Coore, aide-de-camp to Lieutenant-General Sir George Prevost, is just arrived with dispatches from that officer, dated Montreal, 26th August and 1st September, 1812.

"They announce the successful termination of the campaign in Upper Canada, by the surrender of Fort Detroit, 83 pieces of cannon, and the whole of the American army under the command of General Hull, on the 16th of August, to his majesty's forces, commanded by Major-General Brock. The officers and men are prisoners of war.

"The loss of the British, in the actions which preceded the surrender, is trifling, being only three men killed, and two officers and thirteen men wounded.

“ The names of the officers wounded are Captain Muir, and Lieutenant Sutherland, of the 41st regiment.”

10th.—Moscow was given up after holding a council of war, at which only one general was of opinion that the capital ought to be defended.

Immediately after his entry, Buonaparte hastened to make his proposals for peace. Prince Kutusoff replied, “ hitherto it has been your share to act offensively; it now comes to my turn to do so.” On the 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th September every thing was carried off, and gone from thence. The provisions for the armed people in Moscow, were all in boats ready to depart at the first signal.

The armed population of Moscow, 60,000 men strong, marched out of that city with Count Rostopchin.

CURIOUS ELOPEMENT.—A young woman in the South Street of Perth, after a courtship of seven years, and being publicly proclaimed on Sunday the 4th inst. with a shoemaker, in Powmarium, was last week married to a private of the Renfrewshire militia, presently stationed in the barracks of Perth, to the no small vexation and disappointment of poor Crispin, who immediately raised a process of damages against her before the sheriff. The young wife, however, grown tired of the soldier, ran off on Monday se’ennight to Edinburgh, with her old lover the cobbler, to be married, and left the son of Mars to experience some of that poignant grief and disappointment, which had so recently been the lot of Crispin.

11th.—**FATAL ACCIDENT.**—NEWCASTLE.—Robert Armstrong, a joiner, residing at a public-house at Martin, in Cleveland, kept by William

Webster, thought proper, unsolicited, to ask a companion to let him down by the bucket, into Webster’s well, which is about 60 feet deep, but only two in water, to bring up two wooden dishes which had been in the well for near five months. He had not been lowered more than 30 feet, before he fell out of the bucket into the well; his companion continued to lower the bucket to the water, and called to him, but obtained no answer. An alarm was given, when James Ingledew, of Martin, blacksmith, was lowered down in the bucket, without being tied to a rope, which he refused to have done, in order to save Armstrong, if possible. He was scarcely lowered 20 feet, before he fell in like manner. A ladder was then procured, and Joseph Tenison, of Martin, a labourer, was immediately, at his own request, lowered by the ladder into the well, to endeavour to save the other two: when he had been lowered a few yards, he was observed to fall on the side of the ladder senseless. It now occurred to the by-standers, but not before, that the cause of these disasters arose from foul air in the well; when a fourth man, William Hardwich, of Martin, labourer, went down on the ladder from which Joseph Tenison had fallen senseless into the well, with a rope tied round him. Harwich had not gone down more than 12 feet before he became senseless, and fell, when he was immediately hauled up, and on his arrival at the top of the well was black in the face, and apparently dead, but soon after recovered. Every effort was now used by a number of men with grappling-irons, but without effect, to bring up the three bodies. A well-sinker was then sent for, who endeavoured to take out the foul air, with which the well was

filled, but in vain. An improvement was then suggested and made in the grappling-irons, when, after much difficulty, the three bodies were brought up to the top. A surgeon examined them, and found them to have been dead for several hours. A coroner's inquest has since sat on the bodies, and their verdict was—"Accidental death, by suffocation in the well from foul air." Ingledeu has left a widow and five children. To this melancholy narrative, it may be proper to add, that no person should venture down a well of any depth, before he tries whether a candle will burn down to the water or not. If a candle will burn, he may go down with safety; if not, it is certain death. The foul air, the carbonic acid gas of chemistry, is heavier than atmospheric air, and always sinks to the bottom. It may be drawn out of the well by a bucket, in the same manner as water.

The latter end of the month of August, at an early hour in the morning, a bird was observed on a tree at a gentleman's house at Byrt; a clown who lived about the house as servant, mistook it for a hawk that had come to kill young fowl, and shot it, when it proved to be a beautiful green parrot, and had round its neck a gold ring, on which was engraved, "Captain Pakenham, of his majesty's ship *Saldanha*." A person in an adjoining field was listening to the bird when it was shot, and thought it was attempting to speak either the Spanish or French language. What seems extraordinary is, that the bird had not been seen in any part of the country before that morning, though the vessel from which it must have escaped was lost on the 4th December last, off Lough Swilly. The place where it was killed was about 20

4

miles from the wreck. Poor poll and a dog were the only survivors from that ill-fated ship and her gallant crew.

15th.—CORONER'S INQUEST.—On Wednesday and Thursday last an inquest was taken by the coroner of Portsmouth, on the body of Lieutenant John Bagnell, of the marines, who was mortally wounded in a duel by Lieutenant William Stuart, of the same corps, on South Sea Common, on the morning of Thursday, the 8th instant, of which wound he languished until Saturday the 10th, when he died.

Thomas and Jane Haines deposed, that the deceased was brought to their cottage, and that a pistol-ball was extracted from him by a surgeon. The ball entered the right side, near the arm-pit, and was taken out of the left shoulder. Lieutenant B. was subsequently conveyed to his lodgings, in Hambrook-row, in a post-chaise. Whilst he was proceeding to the cottage, he said to the gentleman who assisted him (Lieutenant John O'Hanlon), "John, he never came back to say he was sorry for it." The gentleman answered "No." When lying on the bed, he said, "I am sorry for you, Jack;" and they both shed tears.—He also said "I discharged my pistol, didn't I?" to which Lieutenant O'Hanlon replied, "Yes, you did."

A. Aubell, who nursed Lieutenant Bagnell, deposed, that she had much conversation with him, and that he said he had been wounded in a duel with Mr Stuart, and that he would have made it up on the ground, but Mr Stuart was not agreeable.

Lieutenant Day, of the mariner, deposed, that having received a message from Lieutenant Stuart, who wished to see him, he waited upon

him. He met him at the door of his lodging-house in Stone-street, and was instantly saluted with the following words, or to the effect—"Day, I am the most miserable wretch!" After Lieutenant Day had expressed his sorrow on the occasion, Lieutenant S. entered into the particulars of a dispute which had recently taken place between him and the deceased. He stated, that as he was about to leave Mr Bagnell, at his lodging, he (Stuart) observed that he should make a call on some one (a female whom they both visited is here alluded to), and Mr Bagnell immediately answered, "You will not be received." That Mr S. then said, "How do you know I shall not be received?" Upon which Mr B. replied, that he would not allow himself to be impertinently catechised. Mr Stuart rejoined, that he would not allow himself to be bullied. Bagnell then exclaimed, "What! call me bully in my house! walk out of it." That Mr S. thereupon went towards the door, and Mr B. followed him, with his hand touching, or nearly touching, his great coat. This induced Stuart to say, "Don't touch me, Bagnell, for that never can be made up;" and when he had got into the street, Stuart told Bagnell he should hear from him; that Bagnell, moving his hand to and fro, said, "Go along, go along;" that Stuart, in the course of his conversation with Lieutenant Day, said, he was very glad to hear Bagnell's wound was not mortal, and that he was likely to recover.—Stuart also said, that Bagnell's first ball passed very near him.

Lieutenant Jessop, of the marines, deposed, that on returning to his lodgings on Friday afternoon last, he found them occupied by Lieutenant

W. Stuart, who appeared very much agitated, and said, "Jessop, am not I a wretched fellow? I never shall enjoy a moment's peace of mind as long as I live." That, after Lieutenant Stuart had told him the cause of the quarrel, he said, Bagnell must blame himself for what had happened, in being obstinate, and refusing to make an apology; that Stuart, however, shewed great distress of mind; he said it should be a lesson to him as long as he lived; and that, in future, whatever affront he might receive, or even if he was struck, he would not be induced to fight a duel again; but would rather verify the text in Scripture—"That if he received a blow on one cheek, he would offer the other to be struck also." This deponent was part of two days in the house with Lieutenant S. and he constantly evinced his great distress of mind and sorrow for the state of his poor friend Bagnell, as he called him.

DECLARATION OF WAR AGAINST AMERICA.

At the Court of Carlton-house, October, 13, 1812, present,

His Royal Highness the Prince Regent in council.

Whereas, in consequence of information having been received of a declaration of war by the government of the United States of America against his majesty, and of the issue of letters of marque and reprisal by the said government, against his majesty and his subjects, an order in council, bearing date the 31st of July last, was issued, directing that American ships and goods should be brought in and detained till further orders; and whereas his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, acting in the name and on the behalf of his majesty, forbore at that time to direct letters of marque and reprisal to be issued against the ships, goods, and citizens of the said United States of America, under the expectation that the said go-

vernment would, upon notification of the order in council of the 23d of June last, forthwith recall and annul the said declaration of war against his majesty, and also annul the said letters of marque and reprisal.

And whereas the said government of the United States of America, upon due notification to them of the said order in council of the 23d of June last, did not think fit to recall the said declaration of war and letters of marque and reprisal, but have proceeded to condemn, and persisted in condemning the ships and property of his majesty's subjects as prize of war, and have refused to ratify a suspension of arms agreed upon between Lieutenant-General Sir George Prevost, his majesty's governor-general of Canada, and General Dearborn, commanding the American forces in the northern provinces of the United States, and have directed hostilities to be recommenced in that quarter.

His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, acting in the name and on the behalf of his majesty, and with the advice of his majesty's privy council, is hereby pleased to order, and it is hereby ordered, that general reprisals be granted against the ships, goods, and citizens of the United States of America, and others inhabiting within the territories thereof (save and except any vessels to which his majesty's licence has been granted, or which have been directed to be released from the embargo, and have not terminated the original voyage on which they were detained and released), so that as well his majesty's fleets and ships, as also all other ships and vessels that shall be commissioned by letters of marque or general reprisals, or otherwise by his majesty's commissioners for executing the office of lord high admiral of Great Britain, shall or may lawfully seize all ships, vessels, and goods belonging to the government of the United States of America, or the citizens thereof, or others inhabiting within the territories thereof, and bring the same to judgment in any of the courts of admiralty within his majesty's dominions; and to that end his majesty's advocate-general, with the advocate of the

admiralty, are forthwith to prepare the draught of a commission, and present the same to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent at this board, authorising the commissioners for executing the office of lord high admiral, or any person or persons by them empowered and appointed, to issue forth and grant letters of marque and reprisals to any of his majesty's subjects, or others whom the said commissioners shall deem fitly qualified in that behalf, for apprehending, seizing, and taking the ships, vessels, and goods belonging to the government of the United States of America, or the citizens thereof, or others inhabiting within the countries, territories, or dominions thereof (except as aforesaid), and that such powers and clauses be inserted in the said commission as have been usual, and are according to former precedents; and his majesty's advocate-general, with the advocate of the admiralty, are also forthwith to prepare the draught of a commission, and present the same to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent at this board, authorising the said commissioners for executing the office of lord high admiral to will and require the high court of admiralty of Great Britain, and the lieutenant and judge of the said court, his surrogate or surrogates, as also the several courts of admiralty within his majesty's dominions, to take cognisance of, and judicially proceed upon all and all manner of captures, seizures, prizes, and reprisals of all ships and goods that are or shall be taken, and to hear and determine the same, and, according to the course of admiralty and the laws of nations, to adjudge and condemn all such ships, vessels, and goods as shall belong to the government of the United States of America, or the citizens thereof, or to others inhabiting within the countries, territories, and dominions thereof (except as aforesaid); and that such powers and clauses be inserted in the said commission as have been usual, and are according to former precedents; and they are likewise to prepare and lay before his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, at this board, a draught of such instructions as may be proper to be sent to the courts

of admiralty in his majesty's foreign governments and plantations, for their guidance herein, as also another draught of instructions for such ships as shall be commissioned for the purpose above-mentioned.

His Royal Highness the Prince Regent is nevertheless pleased hereby to declare, in the name and on the behalf of his majesty, that nothing in this order contained shall be understood to recall or affect the declaration which his majesty's naval commander on the American station has been authorised to make to the government of the United States of America—namely, that his royal highness, animated by a sincere desire to arrest the calamities of war, has authorised the said commander to sign a convention, recalling and annulling, from a day to be named, all hostile orders issued by the respective governments, with a view of restoring, without delay, the relations of amity and commerce between his majesty and the United States of America.

From the court at Carlton-house, the thirteenth of October one thousand eight hundred and twelve.

CASTLEREAGH	LIVERPOOL
N. VANSITTART	BATHURST
CHARLES LONG	MELVILLE
	SIDMOUTH.

A child, who lately began to learn to read, in the charity school at Greenford, was among other words spelling M, I, L, K. which he could not immediately put together to say what they spelt, when the master said, "Well, child, what does M, I, L, K, spell?"—The boy still hesitating, the master again said, "Why, what does your mother put in her tea?"—"Rum, Sir," replied the boy.

Foreign-Office, October 15.

Accounts have been this morning received from General Viscount Cathcart, dated St Petersburg, September 22, and stating to the following effect:—

Marshal Prince Kutusow having withdrawn his army from before Moscow, the enemy entered it on the 14th. But the emperor of Russia has determined to persevere, and refuse every overture to negotiate, direct or indirect.

By every account, the French lost 40,000 men in the battle of Borodino, and retreated 13 versts. Two days after the battle, Kutusow retired a short distance on the Moscow road; he then endeavoured to find a position more tenable near Moscow; but, such not being to be found, he retired, after a council of war, to a strong position, leaving the enemy to enter the city, which was in flames in all parts, but whether set on fire by the French, or by the Russians previous to their evacuation of the place, is and will remain undecided. The following is the account given in the French papers.

"Moscow, September 20.

"Three hundred incendiaries have been arrested and shot: They were provided with fuses six inches long, which they had between two pieces of wood; they had also squibs which they threw upon the roofs of the houses. The wretch, Rostopchin, had these prepared on the pretence that he wished to send a balloon full of combustible matter amidst the French army. He thus got together the squibs and other materials necessary for the execution of his project.

"The fires subsided on the 19th and 20th; three quarters of the city are burned; among other palaces, that beautiful one of Catharine, which had been newly furnished;—not above one quarter of the houses remain."

Canterbury, Oct. 16.—SUICIDE.—Wednesday morning, between one and

two o'clock, a person of the name of William Gwin threw himself from the window of an attic chamber, at the George Inn, in the High Street of this city, and fractured his skull, of which he immediately died. The following are the circumstances, as related before the coroner, by a young man who slept in the same room:— That he was awoke by a man huzzing, which alarmed him much, as no person was in the other bed when he retired to rest; that he listened in fear, and heard him repeating prayers for nearly half an hour, in his bed; the man then got up, went to the window, and opened it; he soon returned from thence, sat himself down upon the foot of the bed, and drew a table near to him; in this situation he prayed for some time; then got up again, and went to the window, put his knees on the window-board, and with his hands held each side of the frame, still praying and blessing his family, and concluded with exclaiming—*Here goes! here goes! and here goes!* throwing himself out at the last exclamation. The young man immediately went to the window, and saw him lying apparently lifeless on the ground, and alarmed the family. The latter part of his evidence was confirmed by a woman, who heard the last word, and saw him throw himself out. The jury had not the least doubt of insanity, and returned a verdict accordingly.

20th.—MOST HORRIBLE MURDERS.

—Wednesday was committed to Exeter jail Thomas Liscombe, labourer, charged with the wilful murder of Margaret Huxtable, at Dodbrooke, a child about nine years of age, in January last (for the discovery of the perpetrator of which the Prince Regent offered a reward of 200 guineas);

also charged with the wilful murder of Sarah Ford, about sixty years of age, of the parish of North Huish, on the preceding Saturday. When brought to the Dartmouth Inn, Plymouth, he voluntarily confessed the murder of Sarah Ford, which he effected by first beating her with a broom-stick, and cutting her neck with a wood-hook; he then took from her 22s. 6d. threw a bag over her head, closed the window-curtain, went up stairs, broke open a box, took an entire suit of clothes belonging to the husband of the deceased, in which he dressed himself, left the house, after locking the door, and throwing away the key; he then went to the river, where he sunk the whole of his own clothes, except his hat, which he left near the corpse of the woman. He was conducted to King's-bridge, with a view to ascertain if he was concerned in the murder of the child at Dodbrooke, on the 20th of January last, as he had been four times apprehended and examined by a committee of gentlemen and magistrates, which had been formed for the purpose of investigating that foul deed, but had escaped for want of sufficient evidence. Tuesday morning, after requesting his uncle to be sent for, in his presence and that of the constable, he confessed the horrible act, by saying, "Well, I did murder the child." Upon being interrogated as to the particulars, he farther stated, that about 6 o'clock in the evening of the 20th of January last, he met the child between Bell Cross and the Houses; that he treated her to shew him the way to Sentry-gate, and he would give her a penny; she complied with his request, and proceeded over the stone steps and the stile leading to it; that

in the second field he took her out of the path, went across that field into the next, where he attempted to violate her person, but could not effect it, in consequence of her cries and resistance; he then took a stick from the hedge, struck her twice on the head, which he supposed to have stunned her, as she made no more noise or resistance; afterwards he dashed her head to pieces with large stones, and it being dark, he says, to be certain she was quite dead, he felt with his hand, and found her brains were beaten out; he stripped her of all her clothes but her stockings, which he intended to have taken away, but thinking them of little value, left them in the same field, except the shift; he then went to a pool, near Sentry-gate, washed his trousers and his hands, and wiped them with the shift, which he threw into the hedge; he returned to his lodgings at Moreleigh, at about half-past nine o'clock.

He is a man of small stature, about five feet five inches high, walks lame of the left leg, lisps in his speech, sandy complexion, dark hair, and an aquiline nose, and has altogether a most unpleasant forbidding appearance. He strongly asserts he has no associate, but was the sole perpetrator of these bloody murders.

Another horrid murder was committed last Monday night at Longford, a small village near Market Drayton, Shropshire, (about ten miles distant from the place where Mrs Morrey and her servant murdered Mr Morrey) on the bodies of Mr Francis Bruce, a farmer, and his housekeeper, who were both found on Tuesday morning in their kitchen, with their throats cut, and the house robbed. On Wednesday the co-

roner's jury sat, but no discovery was made of the wretches who had perpetrated the deed, but it was supposed to have been done before eight o'clock in the evening, as they generally retired early to bed. The blood had been traced on a stile and gate at Morton, a distance of about a mile.

Wexford, Oct. 26.—**MELANCHOLY EVENT.**—Early in the summer, a Mr Needham, an eminent architect, was employed to superintend a light-house, ordered by government to be erected on Tuskar Rock; and for this purpose a number of experienced persons were sent down from Dublin, who, together with some people from this town likewise employed there, formed an aggregate of 25. They constructed for their accommodation, on the north side of the rock, near the place appointed for the structure, three small wooden houses; for the better security of which, massy iron bars were inserted in the rock, and to these the houses were fastened down by chains of an enormous size. About four o'clock on Monday morning the hapless inmates were suddenly aroused by a wave breaking on the houses with a most tremendous crash, which was followed by others in quick succession, equally terrific; and instantly the boards on which they slept began to float. At this direful period, the tide having nearly two hours and a half to flow, those poor half-dressed creatures were compelled to leave their huts, and fasten ropes to headers and stretchers (stones weighing about a ton and a half each, preparing for the building) to which they clung. Now the work of destruction commenced—the houses had not been forsaken more than two minutes, when there was not a vestige of them to be

seen. The violence of the waves increased with the tide; the ponderous stones above-mentioned were hurled about as if pebbles; some of the persons made fast to them were killed, and others forced from their hold into the ocean. Some were so fortunate, while the waves were rebounding, as to gain the spot where the houses stood, and secure themselves by tying ropes to the bars in the rock. In this situation, the waves rolled ten feet over them. When the tide fell, and left that part of the rock dry, the survivors proceeded to fasten a cable as tight as possible to two ring bolts about thirty yards asunder, to which they bound themselves by small ropes round the waist; but here at the rise of the next tide, they had nearly the same horror to encounter, as the waves several times broke over them. At the fall of this tide they again united themselves, and sought shelter from the butment of the building, where they were discovered about eleven o'clock on Wednesday morning (by the boat employed to attend the rock, in consequence of the weather becoming calmer), having remained from two o'clock on Sunday, at which hour they dined, without any kind of sustenance. In the evening, ten of the unfortunate men were conveyed to town, exhibiting a truly distressing appearance; three were brought to the hospital, one of whom had his leg broken, and the others were much injured. In short, all suffered in some manner.

American Wagery in the Announce of the Death of Cooke the Comedian.

On Saturday morning, September 26, took leave of this worldly stage, George Frederick Cooke, in the 57th year of his age. The celebrity of this universally excellent player has received the approbation of all ranks

and *all countries* in so public and extensive a manner, as to bid defiance to eulogium. We need only remark, that "*The Man of the World*" has quitted it for ever, *Sir John* now feigns not the sleep of death, and there may he in quiet lie till the last act, when "*Richard will be himself again.*"—(*Boston General Advertiser, October 2.*)

27th.—**ROBBERY OF THE LEEDS MAIL.**—We have to announce one of the most extensive robberies of the mail that has occurred since the establishment of mail coaches—a plan which professed to give not only additional celerity, but also perfect security to the conveyance of letters. When the fact of the robbery reached the Exchange, it got into general circulation, and produced a considerable degree of alarm and agitation throughout the city. At an early hour Mr Freeling, secretary to the general Post-office, gave information at the Mansion-house, where the deposition of the guard was taken. Last night, while the Leeds mail coach was proceeding at a sharp pace, between Kettering and Higham Ferrers, the coachman spoke to the guard, and not being able, or pretending not to hear what he said in answer, requested that he would lean forwards over the coach. The guard did so, and continued about five minutes in conversation with him, and on resuming his seat, found, to his astonishment, that the lock of the lid of the hind part of the coach where the bags are deposited had been forced. He instantly ordered the coach to be stopped, and communicated to the driver the extraordinary occurrence that had taken place, and his suspicions that more serious injury had been sustained. The coach having pulled up, the guard and the coach-

man proceeded to examine the depositary of the mails, and missed no less than sixteen bags.—Leeds; Bradford; Halifax; Mansfield; Barnsley; Wakefield; Huddersfield; Nottingham; Chesterfield; Sheffield; Rotherham; Melton Mowbray; Kettering; Thrapston; Oakham; Uppingham.

The coachman also underwent a private examination, but the solicitor of the Post-office has taken the precaution of preventing any part of the examination from being made public in this early stage of a transaction involved in no ordinary mystery.

It will perhaps be recollected, that a few years ago the Leeds mail coach, in its progress from town, was robbed near Barnet, but it being the evening of a fast-day, there were scarcely any money or remittances in the bags.—On the present occasion the amount is very great.

Last week, as Lieutenant White, of the Royal Engineers, was riding a spirited horse, on the Maidstone road, the animal took fright, and ran away with him; Lieutenant White threw himself from the saddle, and unfortunately falling on his head, produced so violent a concussion, that he remained in the most dangerous situation; he is since dead.

28th.—An affray unfortunately took place in the beginning of this month, in Holbeach Marsh, Lincolnshire, when a labourer in the service of a Mr Wilders, was killed by the servant of a Mr Cooper. The following are authentic particulars, as stated before the coroner:—An inquest was held on Wednesday, the 7th instant, by S. Edwards, jun. gent. on the body of J. Dalmore, labourer, a native of King's County, Ireland, whose death was thus occasioned. The witnesses examined were two wo-

men who were present at the time the scuffle happened. Their evidence was pretty much alike; both stating, that Mr W. Wilders came into the field to call his labourers to go and assist him in getting his waggons along the road, to the creek where he was delivering his corn; upon which occasion he desired them not to take their sickles with them, but to take a stick a-piece, in case Mr Cooper's labourers should attack them; but Mr W. begged them not to hurt any body. The deceased was passing alongside a waggon which Mr C. had placed across the road, close to a gate, to prevent Mr Wilders's teams from getting forward; when one Alderman, a labourer in the employ of Mr C. struck the unfortunate man over the head with a hodding spade, which made him stagger, and knocked his hat off. Alderman immediately repeated his blow, by chopping Delmore on his naked head with his weapon; upon which the women declared, they saw the blood, instantly following the blow, drop from the spade, and the unhappy victim of Alderman's fury fall on the ground. The jury adjourned until Monday the 12th, that the evidence of some other persons might be produced; when they again met, and returned a verdict of—*Wilful Murder* against Alderman, who has since been committed to Lincoln Castle to take his trial.

A female at Darmstadt lately poisoned her own brother, through a principle of humanity and filial piety.—He was ill, and his recovery was despaired of by the physicians. The girl, seeing that her parents, who doated on him, were exhausting themselves by their attendance and nightly watchings, believed that it was meritorious to save them, and put the

young man out of pain by administering opium to him. The mother, on discovering that he had been poisoned by his sister, died in a state of distraction; the father took to his bed, never spoke again, and survived only a few days.—The daughter was convicted upon her own confession, and broken alive upon the wheel.

29th.—On Monday, Rowland Preston, charged with the murder of Francis Bruce and his housekeeper, (see page 170) was brought before Mr Read, at Bow-Street, by William Smith, one of the conductors of the patrol belonging to this office, who apprehended him on Sunday at his lodgings in Crown-street, Soho, under authority of a warrant from the magistrates of the county where the offence was committed. The prisoner's person being identified by a person who came to London with the warrant, Mr Read ordered the prisoner to be conveyed to Market Drayton, properly secured, under the care of that constable, and Smith, the conductor of the patrol, who apprehended him.

FASHIONS.—*Walking Dress.*—Jaconot muslin dress, made rather below the knee, and open in front; trimmed round with a rich worked muslin border scalloped and laid on rather full; waist moderately long, and a collar falling about a nail over the throat, which, as well as the sleeve, is edged with the same pattern trimming as the dress, but not more than half the width, the sleeve made very long and loose. Petticoat of jacconot muslin, trimmed to correspond with the dress. White shawl, of the newly-invented silk and cotton twill, with a rich coloured border thrown loosely over the shoulders. Cottage bonnet of yellow twilled sarsnet, tied under the chin with a large row of yellow ribband, small front, which displays a rich lace

cap, a bunch of corn-flowers in front. Yellow kid sandals and gloves.

Evening Dress.—Demi-train of pale amber, white satin body, made tight to the shape, and very low in the bosom, which is square, and trimmed round with a puffing of rich lace; between every puff a white silk small Spanish button, which has an extremely elegant effect; an epaulet sleeve, very short and full, with a double trimming of puffed lace, ornamented also with Spanish buttons. White satin sash, finished at the ends with a rich white silk fringe. Topaz necklace and ear-rings; gold chain of very light and elegant workmanship, and a glass rather larger than they have lately been worn. Hair divided on the forehead, and dressed very full on each temple; part of the front hair is brought over to the right side, and falls in loose ringlets in the neck; elegant half wreath of artificial flowers composed of various coloured precious stones. White and silver fan, white kid gloves, and white satin slippers, with a plaiting of ribband instead of rosettes.

General Observations.—The only novelty in head-dresses is the gipsy cap, the form of which is that of a small gipsy hat, but it is composed entirely of lace; round the edge it is wired to keep it in shape, and trimmed so as to conceal the wire with a plaiting of net; a small bouquet of artificial flowers in front, and an end of the lace, of which it is composed, falls to the right side; it is worn very much on one side of the head. Short white and coloured silk boots still continue to be worn, and are slashed *a-la-Wellington*, the same as last month. Slippers made quite square across the instep, with a plaiting of ribband, are just introduced, and promise to become general. In

jewellery, coloured stones are universal. Fans are increasing in size.

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AGRICULTURAL REPORTS.

ENGLAND.—It is but within the few last days of the month that the oat and bean harvest has been closed in the Fens of Lincoln and Cambridgeshire, and much of it has consequently been materially injured by the heavy rains to which it had been so long exposed. Our reports of the general wheat crop do not, we lament to state, promise that average produce on which this country can safely depend for the necessary supply of its people. The northern counties yield abundance of bread corn; but the southern, eastern, and midland districts, are found deficient, which, before the harvest, were expected to prove most productive. Potatoes are generally abundant, but they are daily rising in price, from the supposed deficiency above stated. Much clover seed has been destroyed by the wetness of the season, and considerable quantities are yet abroad. The wheat seed season has been a very varying and tedious one; the clover-leys early sown were broke up with difficulty, and required much work to cover the seed; and many of the low lands not sown before the wet weather set in, remain in several counties yet unsown. Most of the seed got in early has planted well. The turnip crops are generally good on tender soils, but on heavy land they are so much bound by the rains, that the hoe has been of no service to them. Lean stock has had a fall in price, both in beasts and sheep, from an apprehension of spring feed becoming short. Hay taken the rise from the same cause. The meat markets have been amply supplied through the month. Horses, of any size and shape, are become scarce and dear,

from the extensive demand for them for the cavalry service. The wool trade has experienced but little variation since our last report, except for the combing wool of cross-bred fleeces, which sells freely for more money.

SCOTLAND.—The weather during October has, like that of the five preceding months, been moderately warm, wet, and dark, without floods, frost or storms, so often experienced at this advanced period of the year, and with very little sunshine during the whole month.

The wind blew so high on the 3d and 4th as to threaten shaking, and, in some exposed situations where the corn was ripe, some slight damage was sustained; but the heavy showers on the 4th prevented further injury. From that to the 17th, the weather was mild and damp, with very little wind or sunshine. From the 17th to the end of the month, the wind has blown most agreeably. Much rain has fallen. The weather has been so mild as still to ripen the green corn, but the sun has continued to be much obscured.

The fears entertained, about the end of September, of the crop being blasted with frost, have been happily dispelled, and all the anxiety entertained about the ripening of the crop has been done away. The frosts, that some pretended to view with so much alarm, have done no harm deserving of notice, and, notwithstanding the continued rains and dark weather, during so much of the month of October, by far the greatest part of the crop has attained greater perfection, and is better filled and ripened, than commonly happens in this country.

Some fields, on the verges of the moors, have not attained that degree

of maturity that could have been wished, and almost everywhere a few green stalks, raised in a season so long and so uncommonly favourable to growth, have appeared among the ripe corn, and given the appearance of lateness to those who looked to the fields from a distance. But, whatever effect these might have in the eyes of those who are strangers to agriculture, or handle to alarmists, every intelligent farmer will readily admit that, even where these green stalks have appeared, the great body of the crop was never sooner ripe, nor the grain more weighty, sound, and substantial.

The crop, to this day, is no way dashed or wasted, with storms, blasts, mildews, or frosts, and it seldom came to the sickle in greater abundance, or in more complete maturity. But, being luxuriant, much of it has been lodged by the continued rains, and the weather has been very unfavourable to the reaping, and still more to the inning, but no material damage has yet been generally sustained. Some corn that was cut about the end of September or beginning of October, and has not yet been secured, especially under the cover of plantations, and other sheltered situations, or where the corn had been much lodged, and wet when reaped, has no doubt been injured by sprouting, but the winds, during the last two weeks, have been favourable to the crop, and have, in a great measure, where they could reach the stooks, put a stop to growing in the sheaf. Wherever the corn has been dry when reaped, and the stooks kept standing in the open field, germination has not begun, and, upon the whole, it has not yet done the tenth part of the injury it did last year.

On the vale of the Clyde, and

other early grounds, by far the greatest part of the crop is secure in the barn-yard. On the grounds in greater altitude, and of a medium quality, nearly the whole is reaped, but a very small proportion harvested; and on the verges of the moors a small part remains uncut, and very little has been got in. Perhaps few people living ever saw so much of the crop in the stook, and so little in the barn-yard. The greatest part of it, however, since the wind came to blow so agreeably, is by no means in so bad a condition as might have been expected. A few hours of a piercing drought would, at any time during this month, have rendered the one half of the corn sufficiently dry for stacking.

The labours of the harvest having occupied all hands, during this month, few having corn dry for the flail, and much of the crop being still exposed at hazard, and in the fields, the prices have started from 2s. to 2s. 6d. and the market for the last two weeks has been but ill supplied. What they may ultimately settle at for the winter, it would be difficult to speak with certainty. This is no doubt far above a medium crop; but as we have only doubtful prospects of supply from the Baltic and America, and as our own grain has not for many years been adequate to our consumption, even the great abundance which a bountiful providence has bestowed, is not, without importation, sufficient to keep the markets low.

The contrast between the spring and the summer and harvest quarter, regarding live stock, is remarkable. It was with difficulty, and at enormous expence, that cattle could be brought alive to the grass. They have since not only recovered their wonted good habit, but, to this very

day, they fare well and have still a full bite. The produce of the dairy has been great; and sheep and cattle fattening on pasture turn out well.

The turnip crop promises to be abundant, and the young wheats look well.

LOTHIAN REPORT.—The weather this month has been such as in ordinary years would have been considered tolerably good, but the crops being so late, and different weather wanted this season, of course it has been very backward and distressing, at the same time very expensive to the farmer, who has been obstructed by a short day, with long frosty night damps, from finishing the important works of harvest. The first three weeks were of this description, the last ten days have been more favourable, and a great quantity of grain has been carried home in the middle and upland parts of the county, though a large portion of the pease, and also some oats, are yet in the fields. Wheat sowing is behind, by reason of the wet state of the ground, and the potatoes being so late in getting up, they being the ordinary preparatory crop for wheat in this district. Grain of the different kinds has gradually advanced in value since the first of the month, and is now 8s. to 10s. per boll dearer; what appears in the market is cold and light in the grains, being brought from the fields where it has been exposed to the late weather. There is no doubt that the best and heaviest kinds are stooked, and will appear afterwards, and that, whenever the weather clears up, there will be a decline in price; the potatoes are a full crop, but, from the excessive consumption of them these two months past, it is doubtful whether the stock be greater at present for future use than last year at

this period, although the crop was much inferior to this.

Lean stock is still on the decline, but upon fat inconsiderable.

NOVEMBER.

1st.—By the arrival of the India ships we have the following intelligence:—

“*Madras, April 12.*—A very daring attempt was made in the month of February, by the prisoners in the jail at Beckergunge, to escape from their confinement, which threatened the most fatal consequences, and has not terminated without much bloodshed.—Mr Battye, the magistrate, on entering the Fouzdaree jail, to inspect it, as was his daily custom, was suddenly attacked by one of the prisoners, who forcibly caught hold of his arms, whilst another, in endeavouring to seize him round the body, was knocked down by his servant. The only other person in attendance was a Burkundaz, who was prevented from offering any assistance; as, on the first signal, some of the convicts rushed on him and wrenched the sword out of his hands: the man who obtained possession of it made several cuts at Mr Battye, and would in all probability have murdered him, but for the brave and intrepid conduct of the soubahdar, who, on hearing a noise, hurried to the magistrate’s assistance, and, by receiving the blows which were aimed at Mr Battye, succeeded in rescuing him; but was himself so dreadfully cut on the head and body, as to be left on the ground for dead. In the meantime, some of the prisoners had set fire to the thatch of the jail, which was burnt to ashes; whilst others wound-

ing the sentries, and seizing their muskets, opened the gates, and a general attempt was made to escape. But the alarm had by this time spread, and the Sepoys from the lines were assembled: twelve of the prisoners, the most desperate, and in whom the outrage originated, were shot dead on the spot. Owing to the good conduct of the Sepoys and Burgundazes, the remaining prisoners were without difficulty secured, and not a single man effected his escape; the Soubahdar, a Havildar, and five Sepoys, however, were dangerously wounded. Eleven of the prisoners that were killed had been convicted of a dakytee at the Zamindaree Kuchuree at Adampore; the other was a Faqueer, who, about two years ago, attempted to wound the magistrate with a daw in public Kuchuree, and had since been confined as a madman.

On the night of the 15th ultimo, a most atrocious robbery was committed at Mouza Govind Gunge, Pergunnah Moughowa, within the Zemindaree of Rajah Kishwur Singh, in which treasure to the amount of 5450 rupees was carried off, four men were killed, fourteen wounded, and six lost their lives by fire. It appears that eighteen Piadas escorting 4000 rupees in treasure, the property of Rajah Beer Kishwur Singh, arrived on the evening of the 15th ultimo, at Govind Gunge, on their way from Betteah to Chuprah, and deposited their charge at the house of one Ram Sahee Culwar, where they were to pass the night; (that about ten o'clock at night, a gang of robbers, consisting of about 200 men, set fire to Ram Sahee's house (in consequence of which six men were burnt to death,) and after killing and wounding eighteen others, succeeded

in carrying off the whole of the treasure, belonging to Rajah Beer Kishwur Singh, besides money and effects the property of other persons, amounting in value to 1600 rupees.—Through the active measures and indefatigable exertions of Mr M'Leod, acting judge at Sarun, 46 of the gang have been apprehended, and from the disclosures which they have made, it is expected that the remainder will be speepily taken, and some serious robberies prevented, which the same gang had intended to commit.

On Monday, the 25th ultimo, the Honourable Company's ship *Dover Castle*, Captain Richardson, bound to Madras, in attempting to work out from Saugor Roads, got aground, and lay for some time in a very dangerous situation; but by the exertions of the officers and seamen on board, by the assistance promptly supplied by the *Baring*, and from three pilot schooners, and also from Saugor Island, the ship was floated off, after throwing overboard all her guns and a part of her cargo. We are happy to say that not a life was lost. The ship is very materially hurt, and is now on her return to Calcutta, for the purpose of being repaired. She passed *Kedgeree* on Monday; and will reach *Diamond Harbour* soon.

HYDROPHOBIA.—On Tuesday, the 5th of May, a Bheestie who had been bitten three weeks before in the leg, by a mad dog, was carried to the native hospital, about three o'clock in the afternoon, with the symptoms of hydrophobia strongly upon him. He was immediately bled to the extent of forty ounces. The symptoms of the disease yielded in succession as the blood flowed; and before the vein was closed, he stretched out his hand for a cup of water, and calmly

drank it off, though the mere approach of the water but a few minutes before had thrown him into convulsions.

After the bleeding, he lay down on a cot, fell asleep, and continued so for nearly two hours. When he awoke, the symptoms of the disease were threatening to return: another vein was then opened, and eight ounces more of blood were taken away, which so entirely subdued the disease, that he has not had a symptom of it since.

A case lately published in the Madras papers, as successfully treated by bleeding, mercury, and opium, by Mr Tymon, surgeon of his Majesty's 22d dragoons, led to the practice adopted in this instance; and which it is highly gratifying to remark, has ever been more successful than on the former occasion; the cure in the latter case having been almost instantaneously effected, and that by bleeding alone, without the aid either of mercury or opium; for though these remedies were subsequently used, it was quite evident that the disease was previously and entirely overcome by the bleeding.

TREATY OF PEACE BETWEEN GREAT BRITAIN AND RUSSIA.

In the Name of the Most Holy and Indivisible Trinity.

His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias and his Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, being equally animated with the desire of re-establishing the ancient relations of amity and good understanding between the two kingdoms respectively, have nominated to this effect, as their Ministers Plenipotentiary, namely, his Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, the Sieur Peter Suchtelen,

Chief of the Department of Engineers, General and Member of the Council of State, &c. &c. and the Sieur Paul Baron de Nicolay, Gentleman of the Bedchamber, &c.; and his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, in the name of his Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of England and Ireland, the Sieur Edward Thornton, Esq. Plenipotentiary from his Britannic Majesty to the King of Sweden.

The said Plenipotentiaries, after exchanging their respective full powers, in good and due form, have agreed upon the following articles:—

I.—There shall be between his Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias and his Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, their heirs and successors, and between their kingdoms and subjects respectively, a firm, true, and inviolable peace, and a sincere and perfect union and amity, so that, from this moment, all subjects of disagreement that may have subsisted between them shall cease.

II.—The relations of amity and commerce between the two countries shall be re-established on each side, on the footing of the most favoured nations.

III.—If in resentment of the present re-establishment of peace and good understanding between the two countries, any power whatsoever shall make war upon his Imperial Majesty or his Britannic Majesty, the two contracting sovereigns agree to act in support of each other for the maintenance and security of their respective kingdoms.

IV.—The two high contracting parties reserve to themselves to establish a proper understanding and adjustment, as soon as possible, with respect to all matters that may concern their eventual interests, political as well as commercial.

V.—The present treaty shall be ratified by the two contracting parties, and the ratifications shall be exchanged in six weeks, or sooner, if possible.

And for the due performance of

the same we sign, in virtue of our full powers, and have signed the present treaty of peace, and have thereto affixed our seals.

Done at Orebro, the 6th (18) July, 1812.

SUCHTELEN (L. S.)

PAUL BARON DE NICOLAY.

EDWARD THORNTON (L. S.)

After sufficiently examining the articles of the present treaty of peace, we have approved of the same, which we now confirm, and by these presents most solemnly ratify, in all its tenor; promising on our imperial part, for us and for our successors, to observe and execute, inviolably, every thing that has been mentioned and repeated in the said treaty of peace. In witness whereof we have signed with our own hand this imperial ratification, and have thereto affixed the seal of our empire.

Done at Kamenoi Ostrow, the 1st of August, 1812, and the twelfth year of our reign.

(Signed) ALEXANDER.

(Countersigned)

Count ROMANZOW.

2d.—Tuesday morning a court-martial assembled on board the Monmouth (flag-ship) in the Downs, for the trial of Lieut. Richard Stewart Gamage, belonging to the Griffon sloop of war, for stabbing a serjeant of marines belonging to that ship, which caused his death; Admiral Foley, president. During the afternoon a gale of wind came on, which caused the president and members of the court to remain on board the Monmouth; and so violent was the hurricane, that all communication with the shore was for a time suspended. The court assembled again on Wednesday, and brought in a verdict of wilful murder, but recommended the officer to mercy.

BALLOONING.—The mechanician, Bittorf, who ascended from Mannheim, when he had risen to a considerable height, perceived, but too late, that his balloon was unfortunately damaged, and had no other resource than to open the pump. The balloon descended with great velocity, but, owing to the wind, without preserving its gravity: the inflammable matter which it contained kindled; the shreds caught fire, and fell upon M. Bittorf's head, arms, and breast, which were much burnt. On a sudden, his crazy vehicle struck upon the roof of a house, two stories high, from which he was precipitated, with a gondola attached to the balloon. The inhabitants took him up, and carried him, covered with wounds, to his own house, where he died the next day in great agony.

M. Zambeccari, accompanied by a friend, ascended in a balloon, from Boulogne, on the 21st of September. On his descent, the balloon became entangled in the branches of a high tree, and before it could be disengaged, caught fire. The two arobauts leaped out. M. Zambeccari was killed upon the spot; but M. Bonoga, his friend, survived, though some of his limbs were broken.

A few days since the Norwich Expedition coach was robbed of bank-notes to the amount of 5000l. The greatest precaution possible had been taken to guard against the coach being robbed, a box having been made in the coach-box under the seat of the coachman, in which was a leather bag fastened with an iron bar and rings, for the purpose of containing parcels that were constantly sent from the bankers in Norwich to the bankers in London. The keys of it were kept by the bankers in Norwich, and by the bankers they were connected

with in London. On the arrival of the coach, about ten o'clock in the morning, the clerk at the inn saw the bankers' parcel entered in the way-bill, as was expected, but on the box being opened it was discovered that the bag was not there, and it was strongly suspected that it had been stolen. About two o'clock of the same day 140*l.* of the Diss bank-notes were presented at the bankers in London for payment. It being suspected that they were part of those that had been stolen, the person who presented them was requested to walk into a back room, where he was questioned as to how he became possessed of them, and who he received them for. He replied, he received them for Mr Silvester, of Goswell-street. On his being questioned further, he said his name was Silvester, and that he had taken them of a Captain Wilson for the sale of some guineas. He referred them to Roberts and Co. and Hoares and Co. the bankers, for his character and respectability; he then received the 140*l.* It turned out that the parcel had been stolen; and that the notes presented by Silvester were in it.—Adkins, the Bow-street officer, was employed to make enquiries respecting Silvester, and the result was, he was summoned to appear at Bow-street office, where he underwent an examination before Mr Nares, who committed him for trial on suspicion of his being concerned in stealing the bag and its contents.

6th.—FOOTPAD ROBBERY.—On Saturday last, a footpad robbery took place about one o'clock in the day, attended with very extraordinary circumstances. Mr R. Thorley, on his way from town to his residence at Petersham, sent his servant forward

from Wandsworth with a message to his family, and instead of himself proceeding home through Richmond-park, as was his custom, he went by the private road, which turns off to Richmond a little beyond the seven-mile-stone on the Wandsworth road. When Mr Thorley had passed the first gate a short way, he perceived a female, attired like a quaker, and a man following her at a short distance, on the side-path, which is parallel with the horse road. The man appeared to be a carpenter, or mechanic, with an apron folded round him. As soon as Mr Thorley came opposite to him, he sprang suddenly from the foot-path into the main road, which causing Mr T.'s horse to startle, he involuntarily struck him across the breast with a rattan stick; and supposing the man to be intoxicated, he enquired what he was about. The robber, on this, took out a pistol from his left side, which Mr T. observed was loaded up to the muzzle, presented it, and said, "I must have your money."—Mr T. replied "You can have but little;"—and gave all the silver he had, consisting of a bank token or two, and a few shillings. The man observed, "If you will do me no injury, I shall not hurt you;" and then retired, saying, "Real distress has compelled me to this act.—This observation disarmed Mr T. of all resentment against the unfortunate wretch, and he was only solicitous to render him service. He told him it was a shocking alternative he had chosen; and enquired if he did not know, that by the act he had just committed, he had forfeited his life. The footpad walked on, and would hear no more. Mr T. was still anxious to learn the man's situation, and continued stationary and looking after him: but

the footpad mistaking his object, turned back, and followed him hastily, with a presented pistol. Mr T. did not, however, lose sight of him, retiring to no greater distance than was necessary to avoid the danger of the shot. At this instant, a person on horseback passed close to the robber; when Mr T. called out—"A highwayman!" The footpad immediately shewed his pistol, and desired the gentleman to go on, who proved to be a Mr Smith of the city. Mr T. and Mr S. conferred together as to the best mode of apprehending the man, when Mr Reeve, a magistrate, arrived on the spot. By this time the footpad had got over the hedge into an adjoining field; and a servant of Mr Nettleship having joined the party, means were immediately employed to take him. Mr Smith rode to Wandsworth for a constable, whilst the other persons stationed themselves in such directions as to prevent the possibility of an escape. At this moment a pistol was heard from the opposite side of the hedge to that on which Mr Reeve was; and that gentleman conceived at first that he had been fired at by the robber; but on farther investigation it was found that the wretched footpad had laid violent hands upon himself, by discharging the contents of the pistol into his own head. He was found without one of his shoes, lying on his back, and quite dead. The body was taken to the George inn, at Wandsworth, where a coroner's inquest was held upon it on Monday last before — Jemmet, Esq. coroner for the county. Verdict—*Felo-de-se.*

An inquest was held on Wednesday evening, at the Marquis of Granby, Villiers-street, Strand, on the body of ——— Greenwood, a tailor, residing in Carnaby-street. It appeared

that the deceased left his home, had been absent two days, and on the evening of Tuesday last, he came to the above public-house, where he fell in with a Corporal Jenkins, a recruiting officer of the Honourable East India Company's service, by whom he was enlisted; others joining in company, they drank very freely, when the deceased became very much intoxicated, and was put to bed in a garret, the door of which was locked upon him. In the course of the night he got out of a three-pair-of-stairs window, and scrambled along the roof, as was heard by a person in another house, and from several loose bricks falling, in consequence of his holding by them. Whether he fell from the roof, or contrived to slide down by means of leaden pipes communicating, or by what process he descended, is uncertain; but next morning, between three and four o'clock, a cry of murder was heard in the Griffin Coffee-house, in the passage of which the deceased was found lying. When asked how he came there, he said it was the damned watchman who brought him. He complained of feeling extremely ill, and was laid by the fire-side till eight o'clock, when he was carried back to the Marquis of Granby, and put to bed. He expired about ten o'clock. —Verdict,—*Died from the effects of intoxication.*

7th.—The Royal Society on Thursday evening had their first meeting for the season, when a letter from Sir H. Davy to the president was read, containing an account of a most extraordinary new detonating substance. It is composed of the two elastic fluids, azote and chlorine, and it appears in the form of a yellow oil, heavier than water, and explodes with great violence by heat equal to that

of the human body. It may be preserved for a time under water, but it requires the greatest caution to be experimented upon in dry vessels, as mere motion causes it to detonate. Sir H. Davy, in attempting to explode a small quantity, not larger than a mustard seed, in a close vessel, with a view to collect the products, received a very severe wound in the transparent corner of the eye, which at present prevents the sight. We learn that he is attended by Mr Ware, and we are happy to state that he is likely to sustain no permanent injury in consequence of the accident. It is mentioned in a private letter from Paris, that a substance, probably analogous, has been lately discovered there, but the preparation of it has not been made public.—There is reason to suppose it has been concealed, from its being applicable to the purposes of war.

10th.—An officer of his majesty's ship *Arab* arrived with dispatches from Rear-Admiral Hope, dated Gottenburgh, the 6th instant, which transmit bulletins of the operations of the armies under Prince Kutusoff, General Winzingerode, and General Wittgenstein.

On the 18th October, Kutusoff, understanding that Victor's corps had quitted Smolensk to join the grand army, decided to attack Murat's advanced guard of 45,000 men before Victor should join, and so suddenly, that Buonaparte should not have time to come to his assistance with the main army. The attack completely succeeded—the Russians took 38 pieces of cannon, 1500 prisoners, and the standard of the 1st regiment of curassiers; 2000 French killed remained on the field of battle.

On the morning of the 20th, Count

Wittgenstein stormed Polotak after two days hard fighting; forty-five staff and superior officers, and 2000 rank and file, were made prisoners, and an extraordinary number of the French were killed.

The Russian loss also was considerable; but their success was complete.

The Petersburg militia and volunteers had joined before this battle, and distinguished themselves in the most brilliant manner.

On the 22d, the corps of General Winzingerode entered Moscow, having obliged the French garrison to evacuate the place with such precipitation, that they abandoned all their hospitals.

Extract of a letter from an officer of our army in Spain, dated Madrid, Oct. 11 :

"Nothing could be more gay than we have been in this gayest of capitales—plays, dinners, balls, masks, concerts, &c. Since General Hill's army came to Aranzuez, this place has been crowded with the officers of the second division, whom we have not seen for a long period; the officers of the fourth division are likewise daily in from the Escorial.

"General Pakenham has taken up the Marquis of Wellington's quarters in the palace; but that able officer General Baron Alten commands us. Don Carlos is here, and lives in a most splendid style; he has replaced the municipality in the French interest by a patriotic one; and a tribunal sits, which daily tries those who have had more or less intercourse with the French, and have favoured their interest.

"The property of all those who went away with Joseph (and it includes most of the weak nobility) is

confiscated: many of those remaining are tried—to-day 20 families have been taken up and sent to the Retiro as disaffected. Last week a spy was strangled in the market-place, to the unbounded joy of the populace. It is said, he was detected carrying letters from Spult to the remainder of Marmont's army: he was a Spaniard, and a captain in the French service.

11th.—Intelligence was this day received from Lord Cathcart at Petersburg, that the fortunes of the French had changed in the north: His letter is addressed to Lord Castlereagh, and is couched in the following terms:

St. Petersburg, October 27.

MY LORD—I have the pleasure to acquaint your Lordship, that the guns are now firing, and that *Te Deum* is to be sung to-morrow, in the cathedral, for a most brilliant affair on the 18th, between the advanced guards of the French and Russian armies near Moscow, in which the former, under Murat, were defeated with great loss; and for the deliverance of Moscow, by General Winzingerode, on the 22d of October.

The bulletin is not yet published; but I have the honour to inclose a copy of the note I have this morning received, by the emperor's command, conveying this intelligence.

I have also inclosed a translation of the official account of the defeat of Marshal St Cyr, by Count Wittgenstein, and of the storming of Polotak on the 20th of October, as also that of the repulse of Marshal Macdonald's corps by General Steinheil.

Lieutenant-General Count Wittgenstein has been promoted to the rank of general of cavalry, and *Te Deum* for his victory was sung yesterday.

It appears that Prince Schwartzberg has retired to the westward, leaving some corps, which have been cut off; that the province of Volhyni is entirely cleared of the enemy; and that Admiral Tchichaguff may probably have reached Minsk about or soon after the 21st of October.—I have the honour to be, &c.

DUBLIN.—Some time ago, a circumstance took place which made considerable noise in this city: A woman went into a grocer's shop, and, having purchased some tea, tendered a 100l. note for payment; the man, surprised at such a sum, said he could not change that note, but if she had another he would. She then produced another note for 100l. then another; and so on to seven notes for 100l. each. The man then, and a neighbour, questioned her strictly, and threatened her. She then confessed she had stolen them from a gentleman who visited her, and more of the same kind. The man and his friend detained the 700l. and advised her to run away; but she, conceiving they meant to appropriate the money to their own use, went to the chief magistrate, and disclosed the circumstance, delivering up the remainder of the property, which amounted in all to 1000l. in 100l. notes on Messrs Ball, Plunket, and Doyne, bankers. The grocer, his friend, and the woman, were then all confined, and the magistrates published the circumstance, and called upon the owner to come and claim his property at their office, but no one appeared. The singularity of the circumstance occasioned a variety of conjectures; some thought the owner must be at least the young heir of a dukedom; others, that he was some character high in the church, and ashamed to come

forward. In the mean time, the magistrates were obliged to release the woman, who expressed a strong desire to restore the property when she found it was to such amount, hoping he would not prosecute, but probably give her some reward. Of course many conjectures were afloat, and numbers believed that the woman must have murdered the person from whom she had taken the property. The circumstance was beginning to be forgot, when a young man, clerk to Ball, Plunket, and Co. bankers, accidentally entered the bar-room of a public-house; the woman, who happened to be there at the same time, immediately cried out, "That is the person from whom I took the notes." He was immediately detained by the people present, and notice sent to the magistrates and to the bankers, but before they arrived, he found means to escape. An investigation took place at the bank, and it was found that he had taken from time to time notes to the amount of 10,000*l.* A reward was offered, and he was taken, just ready to quit the kingdom. In one of his boots were concealed 7500*l.* in notes, and his securities are answerable for 2500*l.* which makes up the sum of which he had defrauded the bank.—He is now lodged in Kilmainham jail to abide his trial.

The celebrated horse *Regulus* died lately; he was the sire of 3000 colts, that have produced upwards of 80,000.

18th.—MUTINY AND MURDER.—UNION-HALL.—A deposition was a few days since made before the Shadwell magistrates, by a boy named *Mades*, who formerly belonged to the *Adventurer*, South Sea whaler, Captain *Keith*, which ship it had hitherto been supposed was lost in the South Sea, but which, it appears from

Mades's deposition, was seized by the crew, who murdered the captain and chief mate, and afterwards scuttled the vessel. In consequence of *Mades's* statement, which was originally made before Mr *Evance* and Mr *Birnie*, at this office, *Glenneen*, *Wortly*, and *Goff*, were sent down to *Liverpool*, in search of *Charles Frederick Palm* and *Samuel Telling*, the second mate and cooper of the *Adventurer*, who, according to *Mades's* statement, were deeply concerned in this atrocious transaction. By the activity of the officers they were both discovered and taken into custody. They were brought up to town, and on Tuesday evening underwent a long examination before Mr *Birnie*, when *Telling* stated the following particulars, fully corroborative of *Mades's* previous evidence:

The *Adventurer*, of which the deceased Captain *Keith* was commander, and Mr *William Smith*, chief mate, sailed for the South Seas in September, 1811. The deponent sailed in her as cooper, and *Charles F. Palm*, a Swede, as second mate; they had been out between six and seven months before Captain *Keith* and Mr *Smith* were murdered. He could not remember the day, but it was about four in the morning; a boy, named *George*, was at the helm; the captain and chief mate were in bed; the rest of the crew were forward on deck; *Palm* was trying to strike a light when the captain came on deck in his shirt, and said to *Palm*, "Charles, what are you about?" *Palm* made him no answer, but immediately struck him with the cooper's hammer, which he had ready in his hand. The captain exclaimed, "Oh, Charles, you have done me;" in the meantime, the chief mate, who

followed the captain on deck, was attacked by another Swede, since dead, who struck him several blows with the cook's axe, and he and the captain being both brought down, Palm and two other Swedes, both of whom are since dead, threw their bodies overboard. The mate called out, "Boat, boat," after he was in the water, but they heard no more of him or the captain. After this all hands went below, except the boy at the helm, and Palm producing a bible, each took an oath upon it, wishing they might never see the light of heaven if ever they divulged what had passed; the boy at the helm was afterwards sworn also. Previous to this time, the captain had taken two black men on board at St Thomas's, and after the bodies of the captain and mate were thrown overboard, the two Swedes procured each a pistol and a glass of rum, and giving the rum to the blacks, whilst the poor fellows were in the act of drinking it, each of them received the contents of a pistol in his body, one of them was killed on the spot, and the other was only wounded, but both of them were, with the assistance of Palm, immediately thrown overboard. The wounded man swam and caught hold of the ship's rudder, but Palm taking up a spade, swore he would chop his hands off if he did not let go. The unfortunate wretch upon this let go his hold, and was seen no more. After this they plundered the captain's property, and Palm had five pounds. He then took the direction of the vessel, but it was afterwards determined to scuttle her, take to the boats, and endeavour to make the coast of Guinea. This was accordingly done, two boats were prepared, provisions put into them, and the crew, consisting of eleven persons,

got six into one boat, and five into the other; they were three days and nights before they made land, and then one of the boats was swamped, and a boy drowned. They walked along the beach till night, and then lay down on the sand to sleep. Next morning they proceeded up the country, and seeing some smoke rise from among a cluster of trees, they made up to them, when the blacks rushed out upon them, overpowered them, and they were plundered and stripped. After this they were driven further into the country, where they were kept for several weeks, and then sent to Port Lopez, from whence, Palm, Mades, and the deponent, found their way to Liverpool. A few days after the Adventurer left England, the crew were put upon short allowance, and so continued through the voyage. The men grumbled much, and said they might as well be killed as starved. On the morning on which the captain and mate were murdered, deponent heard Palm say, whilst striking a light, he would kill the captain. The Swedes said it should be so, and those who did not agree to it should share the same fate. The deponent lent a hand to heave the blacks overboard, but did not touch the captain or mate.

Palm's statement was as follows:—He sailed from England as second mate of the Adventurer; he had no quarrel with the captain till they got to the coast, and then it was about wages. He recollected the captain's bringing two black men on board from St Thomas's, and that soon after the captain was accidentally pulled overboard and drowned, by the bite of a whale line getting round his leg, after he had struck a fish. Mr Smith, the chief mate, was an old man, and died of sickness while at sea. With

respect to the two blacks, one of them jumped overboard after the captain, and was seen no more; he did not know what became of the other, but had been told that he went over after the captain also, and was lost.

They were both committed for further examination.

FURTHER PARTICULARS.

Palm and Telling were on Tuesday brought up for re-examination.

Henry Mades, a boy about 13 years of age, who was apprentice to Captain Keith, and on board the ship at the time, and in consequence of whose information the prisoners were apprehended, was again examined. His statement was precisely the same as that originally made by him. On the night on which the murders were committed, he was sleeping in his hammock, near the captain's cabin, who, as well as the chief mate, were in bed. A boy, named George Rose, was at the helm; and either in the first or second watch, he was awoke by Rose's calling to the captain, in a low tone down the hatchway—"Captain Keith, Captain Keith! something wrong is going forward on deck." The captain got out of bed directly, and went up in his shirt, but returned again immediately, and awoke the mate, and they went on deck together. Soon after he heard the mate call out "O Lord, O Lord!" He was alarmed, and got out of his hammock, and, as he was standing by the side of it, he saw Palm and others throw the captain's body overboard.—There was no resistance, and he supposed the captain was dead at the time. Soon after he heard the mate in the water, call out, "Boat, boat." In his account of what followed, viz. administering the oath of secrecy, the murder of the two blacks, the scuttling the vessel, and taking to

the boats, their afterwards falling into the hands of the blacks on the coast of Guinea, and their subsequent arrival in England, he fully corroborated Telling's statement. On his arrival in this country, he stated these circumstances to a gentleman, named Scrivenor, who took him to Union-hall, and, in consequence of his deposition, warrants were issued by Mr Evance, for the apprehending of Palm and Telling.

Palm, on being questioned, denied having been at all privy to the intended murder of Captain Keith, till the morning when it took place; he was then told that if he did not agree to it, he would himself share the same fate; he had, therefore, joined in it to preserve his own life. He had not stated this before, because he wished to preserve his oath.

The prisoners were both fully committed for trial at the next Admiralty Sessions.

14th.—ELECTION OF SCOTS PEERS.—Yesterday came on, at Holyroodhouse, the election of sixteen peers to represent the Scots nobility in parliament, when the following noblemen were chosen:—

<i>Votes.</i>	<i>Peers.</i>	<i>Votes.</i>
Marq. Queensb. † 50	Earl of Aboyne . . .	50
Earl of Rothes † 48	Earl of Aberdeen . .	51
Earl of Caithness 39	Earl of Glasgow . . .	49
Earl of Home	49 Lord Forbes	45
Earl of Kellie	50 Lord Saltoun . . .	48
Earl of Dalhousie 50	Lord Gray †	45
Earl of Selkirk	47 Lord Sinclair	49
Earl of Balcarra 49	Lord Napier	44

Those marked † were elected in the room of Earl of Strathmore, Earl of Haddington, and Lord Cathcart.

PEERS PRESENT.

Duke of Buccleuch	Earl of Balcarra
Duke of Atholl	Earl of Aboyne
Marq. of Queensb.	Earl of Aberdeen
Earl of Rothes	Earl of Glasgow
Earl of Caithness	Viscount Arbuthnot
Earl of Morton	Lord Forbes

Earl of Moray	Lord Gray
Earl of Home	Lord Sinclair
Earl of Kellie	Lord Napier
Earl of Lauderdale	Lord Elbank
Earl of Kinnoull	Lord Belhaven
Earl of Elgin	Lord Rollo
Earl of Wemyss	Lord Ruthven
Earl of Leven	Lord Kinnaird.
Earl of Selkirk	

PROXIES.

Duke of Lennox	to Lord Forbes
Earl of Dundonald	- Lord Gray
Earl of Breadalbane	- Lord Kinnaird
Earl of Stair	- Earl of Lauderdale
Lord Torphichen	- Lord Forbes
Lord Reay	- Lord Kinnaird.

SIGNED LISTS.

Duke of Gordon	Earl of Hyndford
Duke of Montrose	Earl of Portmore
Earl of Errol	Earl of Hopetoun
Earl of Eglinton	Viscount Stormont
Earl of Cassillis	Lord Somerville
Earl of Haddington	Lord Blantyre
Earl of Galloway	Lord Forrester
Earl of Northesk	Lord Kirkcudbright.
Earl of Dunmore	

There were 52 voters in all, viz. 29 present, 6 proxies, and 17 signed lists.

CORONER'S INQUEST.—On Thursday evening last, an inquest was held at the Eagle and Child public-house, Shoe-lane, before T. Shelton, Esq. to enquire into the circumstances which led to the death of Elizabeth Chaplin, who was murdered the preceding evening by her husband. After the usual inspection of the body of the unfortunate woman, which exhibited a most terrific spectacle, the throat being mangled in a shocking manner, the coroner proceeded to take the depositions of the persons in attendance.

J. Bedford, the landlord of the Eagle and Child, stated, that on Wednesday evening the deceased came to his house about half-past nine, and had a pint of beer, which she took away in her own vessel. In ten minutes afterwards, her husband,

John Chaplin, also came to the house and asked for another pint of beer. Witness at first refused to serve him, observing that his wife had just taken his beer home for him.—Chaplin, however, said, “he must have it, for he had murdered his wife.” Witness having formerly heard him say that he would kill his wife, now suspected that he had carried his threat into execution, and immediately gave him the beer with the view of detaining him. He then went to the tap-room, where some of his customers were assembled, and communicated to them what he had just heard. They all immediately came out, and went to Chaplin’s house to ascertain the fact, but they found the door shut, and a perfect silence prevailed within. While they were gone on this errand, Chaplin remained at the public-house, but soon afterwards went out and proceeded to his house, the door of which he unlocked and opened; upon which the body of his wife was discovered lying on the floor weltering in blood. He was instantly interrogated respecting the horrid deed, and confessed, without hesitation, that he had first knocked his wife down, and then cut her throat.

The constable stated, that in taking Chaplin to the Counter, he wanted to go to a pawn-broker’s in Fleet-market, and he went with him to observe his conduct. He put down the bundle without the least emotion, and conducted himself generally so as not to excite the slightest suspicion of his perfect sanity. The pawn-broker having declined any dealings with him, he said to witness, that he must go to some other person in the same line, as he must get money to obtain victuals for the short time he had to live. He said he was then happy, and hoped his wife was equally so, as

she was a very good woman. On searching him a shilling and some halfpence were found, but no knife. On being asked what instrument he had used to commit the murder, he said he had cut his wife's throat with a razor, which he had wiped and put away. On being conducted the next morning before the alderman, he was composed, and asked for a woman to whom he had given some halfpence to buy him some tobacco; he was told he should have it when she returned.

M. Taylor, the landlord of the prisoner, said, that he had known him and his wife for many years, that he was much addicted to drinking, but he never considered him deranged.

Mr Bailey, the surgeon, proved that the wound on the prisoner's wife was from ear to ear, and about two inches deep.

The jury brought in a verdict of—*Wilful Murder* against John Chaplin.

15th.—On Tuesday se'ennight was brought on Brighton beach, a singularly large fish, which has excited very general curiosity among the visitors and residents; and the exhibition of it is likely to prove highly lucrative to the proprietor, who, we understand, is an industrious and provident man. It is supposed that this inhabitant of the deep was attracted to our shores by the shoals of herrings, which are at this time abundant. It was discovered by the fishermen very near their boat; they threw out several large and strong ropes, which it snapped asunder in a moment. At length they entangled it with fifteen nets, many of which were irreparably injured.—It continued alive three hours after its entanglement, and was brought with great difficulty seven miles by this solitary boat, which was then joined

by another, and both together they towed it the remaining three miles. It evidently belongs to the class *Mammalia* of Linnæus, and order *Cetæ*. It seems most to resemble the genus *Physetea*, but differs from every other species of this genus in some striking particulars. We have met with no description exactly answering to it in natural history. In the year 1801, a fish as nearly as possible resembling it, was caught on the shores of Dorsetshire, and was afterwards exhibited in the metropolis. It measures twenty-seven feet three inches, from the nose to the end of the tail: in circumference it is about fifteen feet in its extreme bulk, is rather less towards the head, and gradually diminishes towards the other extremity. Its head is singularly shaped, rather small considering the magnitude of the body. Its eyes are very near the nose, and are like those of an ox. It has two spiracles on the snout like nostrils. The width of the mouth is about three feet and a half, and is capable of receiving a very large man: it has nine rows of small curved teeth, both in the upper and lower jaw. It has five amazingly large gills, which fall down towards the shoulders like so many capes of a fashionable box-coat. Each of its putural fins measures four feet six inches. Its dorsal fin, which seems to answer the purpose of a rudder on the back, measures three feet and a half. Its tail is horizontal, and is eight feet wide. It has two small fins, nearly opposite each other, towards the tail. It is a female, and the *mammæ* are of a very singular construction, and on opening one of them to the view of the spectators, the fisherman's hand was covered with milk.—There are two fins concealed with the *mammæ*, which mea-

sure each two feet six inches. The skin of this wonderful creature is uniformly rough; and it appears to us to have only one large spinal bone extending from one extremity to the other. From the liver of the fish of a similar kind caught on the shore of Dorsetshire, four hogsheads of oil were produced.

The footpad who shot himself on Saturday se'ennight, near Wandsworth, (see p. 180) after robbing Mr Thorley, has been recognised by his friends. He proves to be a journeyman bookbinder, (James Galar,) who resided in School-house-lane, Ratcliff.

16th.—On Monday se'ennight was interred, Mr Brookman, of London-street, Reading, and, according to his desire, was buried in an inch and half oak shell, which he had caused to be made four years previous to his death. About five days before his decease, he called on an undertaker, and went with him to the churchyard, and pointed out the spot he meant to be laid under. On his return home, he removed his coffin from its obscurity, and having inspected the proper cleansing of the *memento mori*, took to his bed, and died in the ensuing week.

BRISTOL.—An inquest was held here last week, on the body of J. Allen, servant to Mr Rodgers, wholesale shoemaker, Ellbroad-street. It appeared in evidence, that the deceased had been upwards of fourteen years in the employ of his master, at Stafford, and in this city, in the confidential situation of foreman, and that Mr Rodgers had for some time suspected that he had been robbed. Mr Rodgers, perceiving a journeyman whom he suspected coming to receive a certain quantity of goods, waited till he had been helped, when

he demanded to see the quantity, which proved to be much greater than he was entitled to. This led to further enquiry, the effect of which was, that the journeyman absconded; and the deceased, upon being taxed with a connection with him, likewise absented himself for a day or two; but he again came to his employ, when Mr Rodgers called him into his room, and acquainted him with the charges preferred against him, at which, in the first instance, he pretended much surprise; but his master persisting in his guilt, and on condition of his impeaching the whole of his accomplices, intimating hopes of pardon, he said, with a sigh, "I have robbed you, sir." In reply, Mr Rodgers said, "Then how can such a criminal expect mercy from me?" and repeated, "How can you expect it, knowing the confidence I have reposed in you?" Allen and his wife, who had accompanied him, fell upon their knees, and imploring pardon, exclaimed, "Oh! we have robbed the best of masters, and God will never forgive us!" To which Mr Rodgers replied, "That he was convinced he had not told the whole truth." Allen begged for time, and was detained by Mr Rodgers at his own house, from half past seven in the morning till about a quarter past four in the afternoon, when, after taking a little refreshment, Mr Rodgers returned to the room in which he had left Allen, and on opening the door he beheld the unhappy culprit drawing a knife across his wind-pipe with great violence. Allen, on seeing him, endeavoured to stab Mr Rodgers, and also a friend of the name of Haynes, who had come in to his assistance.—An alarm being given, he was secured, but expired almost immediately. Verdict of the jury—

Felo de se. On Tuesday evening, at five o'clock, the body was removed in a cart from Mr Rodgers' house, and buried in a cross-road, with the customary ceremonies. The number of spectators was immense, and the populace behaved with great decorum, appearing to feel the awfulness of the event.

18th.—UNION-HALL.—MURDER OF LIEUTENANT JOHNSON.—Our readers will recollect the murder of Lieutenant Johnson, which took place about four years ago in the Kent road, near the Five Bells public-house, as he was proceeding from town to Deptford, about nine o'clock in the evening. A proclamation appeared in the Gazette at the time, offering a reward for the discovery of the murderers, and a pardon to any one concerned who should give information, excepting only the person who actually committed the deed. No traces, however, of the murderers were discovered till within these few days, when a man named Roberts, who had been apprehended near Greenwich on a charge of house-breaking, on being taken before a country magistrate, intimated that he could give some important information relative to the murder. The prisoner was in consequence brought to this office, and has undergone several examinations before Mr Chamber and Mr Birnie, at which he stated the following particulars relative to this horrid transaction:—On the night on which it took place, he and three other men, named Mellon, Butler, and Grimes, had agreed to go out and rob somebody; they had not settled what route they would take, but on their way down Kent-street, they went into the public-house called the Red Cap, and had something to drink: whilst they were there the

deceased came in, and a girl of the town with him; they had something to drink at the bar, and in taking out his money to pay for it, he displayed several bank-notes to the view of the prisoner and his companions. They had previously heard him say he was going to Deptford, and it was immediately agreed to way-lay him; for this purpose they quitted the house before him, and proceeded down the road slowly; and when near the Five Bells, they heard the deceased coming along the road; they immediately prepared to attack him, and Mellon, who had a large stick in his hand, knocked him down; his pockets were then rifled of his notes and gold watch, but he beginning to recover, Mellon and Butler proposed to murder him, that he might not appear as an evidence against them: this was opposed by the prisoner and Grimes, who retired to a distance, the other two persevering in their design; the unfortunate victim struggled hard, and made much resistance; but they at length effected their purpose by cutting his throat; he had put up his hands to defend himself, and received several cuts upon them; when they found he was dead, they dragged the body through a gap in the hedge, and threw it into a ditch. They then returned to town, and went to a house of ill-fame in Tooley-street, where they passed the night with some girls of the town; here they divided their booty, amounting to 38l. in bank-notes; the gold watch was given to one of the girls to dispose of. Mellon had a jacket on, and Butler a coat, the sleeves of which were bloody; these, therefore, were burnt, and the prisoner went out and bought them other clothing at a second-hand shop in the neighbourhood; after this they

separated. At the time the Lieutenant was knocked down, his hat fell off; this the prisoner had picked up, and carefully preserved ever since, as well as the knife which was used to cut his throat, and which the prisoner found on going to the spot next day, thrown in the mud. Whether the knife had belonged to Mellon or Butler he could not tell, but he had most carefully preserved both it and the hat, having always contemplated making this discovery, and considering that these things would prove strongly corroborative of his testimony. By the vigilance of Collingbourn and Glennon, Mellon has been taken into custody, and has also undergone an examination, and both the prisoners are remanded.

On Friday Robert Ferguson was executed at Inverness, in pursuance of his sentence, for the murder of Captain C. Munro, late of the 42d regiment of foot. So uncommon a spectacle in that part of the country attracted a great concourse of spectators.

23d.—This day came on the election of office-bearers of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, when the following members were chosen:—

Sir James Hall, Bart. President — Lord Meadowbank and Lord Webb Seymour, Vice-Presidents.—Professor Playfair, Secretary.—James Bonar, Esq. Treasurer.—Thomas Allan, Esq. Keeper of the Museum and Library.

PHYSICAL CLASS.—Sir George Mackenzie, Bart. President.—Dr Hope, Secretary.

Counsellors.—Dr James Gregory, —Lord Hermand,—Professor Dugald Stewart,—Alexander Keith, Esq.—James Russell, Esq.—Dr Rutherford.

LITERARY CLASS.—Henry Mackenzie, Esq. President — Thomas Thomson, Esq. Secretary.

Counsellors.—Lord Robertson,—David Hume, Esq.—Reverend Principal Baird,—Lord President,—Sir H. Moncrieff, Bart.,—Reverend A. Alison.

DEAL.—The execution of Lieutenant Gamage for the murder of a serjeant of marines on board the Griffon sloop of war, pursuant to the sentence of a court martial, took place this morning at ten o'clock on board that ship. He bore his fate with manly fortitude. About eight o'clock he was attended by the clergyman, and remained with him till about half past nine, when the procession began from his cabin to the platform, from whence he was to be launched into eternity. The clergyman walked first; then Lieutenant Gamage, attended on each side by two friends, officers; several officers followed afterwards; every one present was deeply affected at the unfortunate fate of this young gentleman, the ship's company particularly. Boats from the different ships attended, as usual, round the execution, and the same sympathy and pity was observable in each—"God receive his soul," frequently burst forth from different seamen. He bowed and thanked them two or three times, and seemed deeply affected with the sympathy he excited. A letter from the spot says, "that he spoke shortly to his own crew, warning them to beware of giving way to sudden passion."—As soon as he reached the platform, he prayed again with the clergyman, and precisely at ten o'clock, the signal gun being fired, he was run up to the yard-arm, amidst repeated exclam-

mations from the seamen of " God bless and receive him ! " He appeared to suffer but little.

A few days ago, about six o'clock in the morning, a gentleman arrived at the hotel at Falmouth, in a post chaise. Immediately on his arrival he went to bed. He rose again at ten o'clock, and breakfasted; after which he went to the house of the captain of the Lisbon packet which was next in the order of sailing, and paid for his passage to Lisbon. He then returned to the hotel, and dined with a party of gentlemen, who had engaged for their passage to Lisbon in the same packet. At dinner he drank nothing but ale. After dinner, he went with the party to see a new packet launched. He returned at dusk, and ordered a glass of Hollands and water and two sheets of writing paper to be brought into his parlour. He went to bed about ten o'clock, and next morning, about half past ten, one of the chambermaids went to his room, in order to make the bed, &c. and, on opening the door, which had not been locked, she was struck with horror on perceiving the unfortunate man, with nothing on but his shirt, lying on the floor, which was covered with blood, and the wash-hand basin by his side, almost filled with blood. An alarm was given, and a surgeon immediately procured, but the body was quite dead. A razor lay by its side, with which the artery of the left arm, at the bend of the elbow, had been cut across, in a dreadful manner, which caused the deceased to bleed to death. On the table was found a letter and a note, of which the following are copies. The letter was folded, but

not sealed; the note was open:—
 " Oh ! Almighty Lord God, of infinite goodness and mercy, pray forgive me my manifold sins and wickedness. It has pleased thee to afflict me most grievously, and much heavier than I can possibly bear, being persecuted by a set of vile persons, whose only aim has been to ruin me, and bring me to destruction. I forgive, and hope they will be forgiven at the day of judgment. Oh Lord, have mercy upon me, have mercy upon me ! My sufferings are so great, that at times I am delirious. My ideas wander, I know not where. Those perjured villains were determined to seek my death, that their infamy might not come to light, *and that they perjured themselves is as true as thou art in heaven.** I here ever forgive them. Oh blessed Redeemer, look down with mercy upon me. Oh Lord, be pleased to pour down thy blessings on my late worthy partners, who are so sore afflicted by improper conduct brought on by others, who have sought my ruin, and who I did all in my power to serve. O God, be pleased to forgive them, as I do; and I hope they will profit by my untimely fate. Oh God, the thought of being made a bankrupt and an *outlaw* has fixed my fate. These words have cut me to the very soul—*outlaw !*—for every fellow to scoff at. Oh the thought is too much for me, although I ought to rejoice at being an outlaw, rather than exist in the same country with such men. May the authors of that infamous combination meet their just fate. They are my persecutors.† God of mercy, receive me into thy holy sanctuary. My mind is so agi-

* The words in italicks are interlined.

† What follows was written with a pencil.

tated I cannot go forward or backward."

"SIR,

"My name is Robert Mitchell, of Bristol. I will thank you to send the trunks and money, about 160*l.* to Mess. Powell, of the said place, and let me have Christian burial, for I have been unjustly persecuted by a set of vile swindlers and perjurers. You will take 20*l.* for your trouble. You will think it strange I should address you, having never seen you, but you are, I believe, agent for the Commercial Room, Bristol.

"Mr Hooton,

Of this place, Falmouth.

"Nine o'clock.—I wish I was no more, and that the Almighty would take me into his holy keeping."

A coroner's inquest sat on the body, and brought in a verdict of *Insanity*.

27th.—**MELANCHOLY CATASTROPHE.**—On Tuesday morning last, Sophia Edwards and Mary Nest, two female servants of the Rev. John Gibbons, of Brasted, Kent (one aged 22, and the other 19 years,) were found drowned in a pond in the garden belonging to the parsonage-house at that place; and the same day an inquest was taken on their bodies, when the following circumstances were disclosed:—Mr and Mrs Gibbons had been from home several weeks, leaving their house to the care of these females, who, during the absence of their master and mistress, had the misfortune to break some articles of furniture, and to spoil four dozen of knives and forks, by incautiously lighting a fire in an oven where they had been placed to keep them from rust. The unfortunate girls had, however, bought other knives and forks. Upon the return of this reverend gentleman and his wife, however, (on Saturday the

14th), the servants were severely reprimanded for what had happened, and one of them received notice to leave her place. They both appeared to be very uncomfortable during Sunday and Monday; and on the latter day the footman heard them in conversation respecting Martha Viner, a late servant in the same family, who had drowned herself in the pond in the garden; and observing one to the other, that she had done so through trouble. The elder then said to the younger, "We will have a swim to-night, Mary!" The other replied, "So we will, girl." The footman thought they were jesting, and said, "Aye, and I will swim with you." Sophia Edwards replied, "No you sha'n't; but I will have a swim, and afterwards I will haunt you." After this conversation, they continued about their work as usual, and at six o'clock asked the footman to get tea for them. While he was in the pantry for that purpose, he heard the kitchen door shut, and on his return into the kitchen they were both gone. The footman afterwards thought he heard them up stairs, and therefore took no notice of their absence, until eight o'clock, when he told his master and mistress. Search was made for them about the house, garden, and neighbourhood, during the whole night; and early on Tuesday morning the same pond was dragged which had so recently been the watery grave of Martha Viner, when both their bodies were found in it, lying close to each other. The jury returned a verdict of—*Found drowned*.

27th.—**DEFEAT OF ANOTHER AMERICAN ARMY.**—Government has received dispatches from Sir George Prevost, communicating the intelligence of the defeat of another American army.—We have to regret at

the same time the death of General Brock, who, with his Aide-de-Camp, Lieutenant-Colonel Macdonell, were both killed previous to the commencement of the action, in the defence of a post which was first attacked. In other respects, the British loss was trifling. The following are the particulars as transmitted by Major-General Sheaffe, addressed to Sir George Prevost, commander in chief:—

“Fort George, Oct. 13, 1812.

“SIR—I have the honour of informing your Excellency, that the enemy made an attack with a considerable force this morning before day-light, on the position of Queenstown. On receiving intelligence of it, Major-General Brock immediately proceeded to that post, and I am excessively grieved in having to add, that he fell whilst gallantly cheering his troops to an exertion for maintaining it.—With him, the position was lost; but the enemy was not allowed to retain it long. Reinforcements having been sent in from this post, composed of regular troops, militia, and Indians, a movement was made to turn his left, whilst some artillery, under the able directions of Captain Holcroft, supported by a body of infantry, engaged his attention in front. This operation was aided too by the judicious position which Norton, and the Indians with him, had taken on the woody brow of the high ground above Queenstown. A communication being thus opened with Chippawa, a junction was formed with succours that had been ordered from that post. The enemy was then attacked, and, after a short but spirited conflict, was completely defeated. I had the satisfaction of receiving the sword of their commander Brigadier-General Wadsworth, on the field of battle; and many officers, with up-

wards of 900 men, were made prisoners. A stand of colours and one 6-pounder were also taken. The action did not terminate till nearly three o'clock in the afternoon, and their loss in killed and wounded must have been considerable. Ours I believe to have been comparatively small; no officer was killed besides Major-General Brock, and Lieut.-Col. Macdonell, his aide-de-camp.”

FASHIONS.—Evening Dress.—A white crape or mull muslin petticoat, worn over white satin, finished round the bottom with a ball fringe of gold; crimson velvet or satin boddice, formed so as partially to expose the bosom and shoulders; a short bishop's sleeve, edged with ball fringe, and ornamented with the same round the bosom and shoulders. A short sash of shaded ribband, to correspond with the colour of the boddice, tied in short bows and ends in front of the figure. A shepherd's hat, composed of crimson velvet and white satin; a curled ostrich feather, placed entirely on one side, and waving towards the back of the neck. The hair divided on the forehead, and curled on each side, rather lower than of late. Treble neckchain, and amulet of wrought gold; short drop ear-rings, and bracelets *en suite*. Crimson velvet or satin slippers, trimmed with gold rosettes or fringe. White kid gloves, just avoiding the elbow. Fan of white and silver embossed crape or carved ivory. Occasional scarf of white French silk, with embroidered ends and border.

Parisian Opera Dress.—An evening or dinner robe, of white muslin, with short fancy sleeve, applied with lace, and trimmed with a fall of the same article round the bosom. A loose robe pelisse, of celestial blue satin or velvet, trimmed down each

side and round the neck with a full swansdown fur, and negligently confined in the centre of the bosom. An imperial helmet cap, composed of blue velvet, ornamented with a bandeau and beads; a full white ostrich feather, waving towards one side. Neck-lace and fancy ear-rings of pearl or of the blue satin bead. Slippers of blue velvet or kid, with silver clasps or small buckle. Gloves of primrose kid.—(*Ackermann's Repository.*)

AGRICULTURAL REPORTS.

ENGLAND.—Very little wheat yet sown, and, where the seed has been put in, the operation has been badly performed from the wetness of the land. Scarcely any young wheats have yet appeared above ground, excepting in those few districts where very early sowing is practised. The backwardness of the season has been universal, extending to every branch of husbandry. Clover seed and beans still abroad, receiving considerable injury, and not improbably part of the latter may remain abroad until the return of bean setting. Some oats and barley, still out, must be harvested by the hogs. The above account refers chiefly to our earliest and best tilled counties; in the north, of course, the harvest has been still more backward, expensive, and embarrassing; and, as it seems scarcely practicable to complete the required breadth of autumnal wheat-sowing, no doubt but recourse will be had to spring wheat, hitherto so successful, to an unusual extent in the ensuing year. Garden seeds have generally failed. Boiling pease rise but indifferently in Suffolk. Much corn is still out in the fen counties. The great hurry in the farmers of thrashing and sending wheat to market is abated, or rather at an end,

SCOTLAND.—At the beginning of the month a considerable number of fields, principally after beans and pease, remained to be sown with wheat, and the weather being favourable, the opportunity of bringing that business to a favourable conclusion was eagerly embraced by every individual concerned in the matter. Happily the most of farmers got what they intended sown, in decent order, previous to the 8th, as about that period the weather broke, and nothing of any consequence could have been done since, on account of the ground, especially the clays, being completely saturated by frequent very heavy rains. From the same cause, the ploughing of white stubbles has been considerably retarded; but, at this season of the year, that is a subject of no great importance. The injury such rains do to turnip stock is a matter of higher concern, as it is well known that the feeding of sheep, in particular, is greatly impeded by a continuance of cold and rainy weather. Corn markets have been freely supplied of late, without, however, any appearance of a decline in prices. As the present high prices must, in a great measure, be owing to the deficiency of crops in other quarters, it is impossible to say whether they have seen their height; but one thing is certain—dear grain at so early a period of the season, will have the necessary effect of compelling people to be economists, by which a sufficiency may be reserved for the summer. Such a remedy is certainly harsh, and must be severely felt by many; nevertheless it is evidently better than that the country should be so completely exhausted, as it was at the beginning of last harvest, when a single peck of meal could not be

had for money in many districts of the country.

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The streets and Park were for this reason also kept by the 10th hussars, now under orders to proceed with the 15th and 18th to Spain, as a brigade, under the command of Major-General Charles Stewart.

DECEMBER.

1st.—**OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.**
—Soon after twelve o'clock yesterday morning the Prince Regent proceeded from Carlton-house to St James's Palace, and about one set out from thence in his Majesty's state coach, through St James's Park, drawn by the cream-coloured horses, and attended precisely as the king used to be. The draft from the life guards for service in Spain having prevented that corps from furnishing the usual number of guards of honour, the deficiency was made up by the royal

blues. Her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte of Wales had her seat prepared for her upon the woolsack, immediately under the throne. The Prince Regent wore the robes of the king, as exercising the functions of majesty. Being higher in rank than Prince of Wales, and lower than the king, his royal highness wore a cocked hat, the crown and the coronet of the Prince of Wales, the sword of state and cap of maintenance being borne before him in the procession from the coach-door to the prince's chamber, and from thence to the house in the following order:—

Officers of the King's Household.
Heralds and Pursuivants.
Peers.

Norroy.

Clarencieux.

Lord Privy Seal.
Lord President.
Lord Chancellor.

Serjeants at Arms,
two and two.
Black Rod.

Serjeants at Arms,
two and two.
Garter.

Earl Marshal of England, with his Gold Staff, (Duke of Norfolk.)

{ The Prince of Wales's Coronet, borne by the Chief Officer of his Royal Highness, as Duke of Cornwall; (Warden of the-Stannaries, Earl of Yarmouth.)

{ Deputy Great Chamberlain, with his Wand; (Lord Gwydir, Deputy for the Heiresses of the Duke of Ancaster.)

Sword of State, borne by—

{ The Crown, borne by— }
Lord in Waiting.

{ Cap of Maintenance, borne by the Marquis of Winchester, premier Marquis.

The PRINCE REGENT.

In the Presence Chamber the Prince Regent robed, and his train was borne by the Master of the Robes and two Pages of Honour. He proceeded into the House of Lords, where, being seated on the throne, the Deputy

Great Chamberlain of England, Lord Gwydir, and Black Rod kneeling on one knee upon the lower step of the throne, his Royal Highness bowed to the Chamberlain, in token of his pleasure, when the Black Rod pro-

ceeded to command the attendance of the House of Commons; and introducing the Speaker and the other members to the House of Lords, according to the usual ceremonial, his Royal Highness delivered a most gracious speech from the throne.

Upon no former occasion were the streets more crowded, though the weather was unfavourable.

2d.—On Wednesday se'ennight, in the evening, as Mr Wiggin, miller, of Ardington, near Bridgnorth, was returning from Wolverhampton market, he was shot and mortally wounded by some miscreant, within a mile of his own house. It is supposed that his horse took fright at the discharge of the piece, and galloped to the turnpike, where Mr Wiggin fell off, and expired in about three quarters of an hour. The ball had passed through his body just below the heart. Pursuit was immediately made after the murderer, and two suspicious persons are in custody.

On Friday week, a young woman, in crossing the bridge of Dee, was met about the centre of the arch by a horse and cart. At the instant of her passing them, something startled the horse, and he sprang towards the side of the bridge on which she stood. Seeing the impossibility of escape, she leaped on the parapet; in making this exertion, however, she lost her balance, and was precipitated into the river from the tremendous height of this bridge, about 50 feet. A boat instantly put out; when, wonderful to relate, she was taken up in life, and is restored to her usual health.

The following singular circumstance took place on the entrance of the French into Moscow:—The Archbishop, who was in advanced age, whose character was held in the highest veneration, and who had com-

posed a prayer which was much admired, was in the act of performing divine service, when he was informed that the enemy had entered the city. He paused for a moment, crossed himself, and immediately expired.

3d.—HUDDERSFIELD.—The spirit of Luddism, which was thought to be extinct, has again appeared and raged with more than usual violence. Last Sunday night, about a quarter past nine o'clock, a number of men armed with pistols or short guns, one of them with the lower part of his face covered with a black handkerchief, entered the house of Mr W. Walker, of Newhall, near Huddersfield, cloth manufacturer; and after taking from him a gun, a pistol, and powder-horn, demanded his money, and obtained from him about 15*l.* in notes, the whole of which they offered to return him except one, if he would give them a guinea in gold: not being aware of this decoy, he took out a small purse, containing five guineas, which they immediately seized, and took all the gold, without returning the notes. The chief then proceeded to ransack his papers, while others of the party presented their pieces at Mr Walker, and after cautioning the family, on pain of death, not to quit the house for two hours after, they departed.

The same gang, on the same night, proceeded to the house of a shop-keeper at Fartown, from whom they took a gun, with silver and notes to the amount of 20*l.* together with a pair of silver tea-tongs, and two silver tea-spoons; not content with this booty, they went into the cellar, and seized a bottle of rum and some provisions. From thence they went to a farmer's house near Fixby; four men entered, two of them armed with blunderbusses, a third with a gun, and the other with a pistol; their

first demand was for arms, but on being told that the family had neither arms nor money, they ordered “ Enoch, Captain, Serjeant, and Hatchetmen, to enter ;” but on promising to find them some money, they retired at the word of command. Here they received 5*l*. They next proceeded to the house of Mr James Brook of Bracken-hall, in Fartown, where, after conducting themselves in an outrageous manner, they took his watch, a pound-note, and four shillings in silver. From thence they marched to John Wood’s, where, after breaking the door and windows, and rummaging the house, they called over the numbers from one to nine, and went away. They then went to the house of Mr William Radcliffe, at Woodside, where they obtained 11*l*. 10*s*. 6*d*. six guineas in gold, and between two and three pounds in silver, a quantity of tea, sugar, liquors, and plate. Their last visit was to the house of Moses Ball, Gilly Royd, which they plundered of two pounds in silver.

4th.—LONDON.—The metropolis was this morning thrown into great joy, by the arrival of Captain Drury from the Baltic, with dispatches from Count Rosen, governor of Stockholm, transmitted by Admiral Hope to the Admiralty, containing the substance of various actions between the Russians and the enemy, in which the Russians had been completely successful, and the destruction of the French very great.

7th.—On Tuesday last, a man was apprehended in St Mary’s Wynd, Edinburgh, with a large quantity of base coin in his possession. Upon information being given to the Police-office, the Lieutenant, with some of his attendants, repaired to the spot. On knocking at the door, admittance

was refused, and the fellow, taking alarm, leaped from a room window into a neighbouring yard, where he was taken, with a large quantity of leaden penny pieces and base shillings in his possession. He was recognised to be an old offender of the name of Watson, who had been formerly banished from the county of Edinburgh. A man of the name of Cowan, and his wife, have also been apprehended for a similar offence.

THE KING’S HEALTH.—On Sunday last the following bulletin was shewn at St James’s Palace :—

“ Windsor Castle, Dec. 6, 1812.

“ Since the last monthly report, his majesty has remained free from any considerable degree of excitement.”

(Signed by five physicians.)

COMMERCE.—Comparative view of the trade in Scotland in the half-year ended the 5th of July 1812, and in the corresponding part of the year 1811 :—

Official value of the imports into Scotland in the half-year ended			
5th July 1811, - -	L.1,168,331	11	5
Ditto in the half-year ended			
5th July 1812, -	1,283,524	14	7
Excess in 1812, -	L.115,203	3	2
Official value of the exports from Scotland in the half-year ended			
5th July 1811, -	L.1,821,495	7	1
Ditto in the half-year ended			
5th July 1812, -	2,695,671	9	3
	L.874,176	2	0

9th.—COURT OF KING’S BENCH, —THE EXAMINER.—This morning, at a very early hour, all the avenues leading to the court were crowded beyond example, and all the exertions of the officers and constables could not prevent the crowd of persons rushing forward to witness this long-expected and interesting trial. It was

with the greatest difficulty, and after much delay, a passage could be made for the admission of Lord Ellenborough and the king's counsel; at length the cause of "The King v. John and Leigh Hunt" was called on, and a special jury sworn. The pleadings being opened by Mr Richardson, as junior counsel, for the prosecution, the Solicitor-General stated this to be an information against the defendants as the printers and publishers of a Sunday newspaper, called *The Examiner*, for a gross, scandalous, and malicious libel on his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, published on the 22d March last. The libel was conveyed in these terms—after some prefatory observations, "In short, that this *delightful, blissful, wise, pleasurable, honourable, virtuous, true, and immortal Prince*, was a violater of his word, a libertine over head and ears in debt and disgrace, a despiser of domestic ties, the companion of gamblers and demireps, a man who had just closed half a century without one single claim on the gratitude of his country or the respect of posterity."—The learned Solicitor-General's address was short, leaving it to the good sense and understanding of the jury to say, whether this was not a most infamous and malignant libel.

The publication being proved, and the libel read,

Mr Brougham, as counsel for the defendants, made an energetic address to the jury, full of sound and signifying nothing.

The Solicitor-General spoke at some length in reply; and the learned judge having summed up in very strong and forceable terms, the jury retired for about a quarter of an hour, and then brought in a verdict of *Guilt* against both defendants.

CRIM. CON.—DUNBAS, Esq. v. LORD SEMPILL.—The Solicitor-General said, the plaintiff in this case was a gentleman of Edinburgh, who resided occasionally in Sweden, where he had purchased some property. The defendant was a nobleman, considerably advanced in life, the representative of an ancient and respectable family, also of Scotland, who by deep intrigue had succeeded in alienating from the plaintiff the affections of a beautiful and accomplished wife, who, till seduced by the arts of the defendant, had been esteemed a pattern for other wives in her rank in society. That he was actually at this moment living with her in a state of adultery. There would, this day, be no defence set up on the part of the defendant; but the jury, after hearing the evidence that would be laid before them, would not fail in giving to the plaintiff such a compensation in damages as should shew that the plaintiff had been a kind and affectionate husband, and that his wife had not, till the moment the learned counsel had been talking of, forfeited the character of a kind and affectionate wife.

It was stated, that the plaintiff possessed property in Sweden, of which country he was a nobleman; that his wife and he had been in the use of visiting that country every year, for the sake of looking after their affairs there; that, for the last two years, the plaintiff had gone by himself, leaving his wife behind him, on account of the hostilities between the two countries; that the plaintiff went to Sweden, as usual, in June last, leaving his wife at Wickham, under the protection of her sister; but on the plaintiff returning to this country, unexpectedly, in September, on his going to Mordaunt's hotel, in Dean-street, Soho, where he had for,

merly put up, he found his wife there, where it appeared that the defendant had also taken a room.

No proof was offered on any familiarity having taken place at this hotel, but

Mrs Sarah Walker, No. 14, Cumberland-street, New Road, proved, that the defendant and the plaintiff's wife, who originally passed themselves with her as husband and wife, had lived in her house, and had constantly slept together, from the 21st of September last, (being the very day of the plaintiff's arrival at Mordaunt's hotel) to the present moment.

Lord Ellenborough, after pointing out to the jury the unblemished nature of the plaintiff's conduct, and the provident attention he had paid to the protection of his wife, in leaving her with her sister, Lady Douglas, left it to them to give such compensation for the injury the plaintiff had sustained, as, in the circumstances of the case, he seemed to merit.

The jury, after a few minutes consultation, found for the plaintiff—Damages 400*l*.

15th.—There is now at Mr Sheriff Blades's, (a glassman) on Ludgate Hill, a set of chandeliers, which has been ordered for his highness the nabob, Secunder Tale Behauder, Subahdar of the Dekan; and nothing that was ever seen from Germany, Venice, or France, can bear a comparison with it for richness, elegance, or magnitude. The principal chandelier is eleven feet long, and four feet and a half in diameter, with thirty lamps in three circles; it weighs five cwt. and is valued at 1000 guineas. This is considered as the finest piece of workmanship hitherto produced in England, and decidedly superior to the celebrated one, sent as

a present some years since, to the Grand Seigneur by his majesty. Two others, of sixteen lamps each, and of equal taste, with sixteen smaller, complete the set. They are to be the ornaments of the palace at Hyderabad. The great chandelier is to be suspended at the head of a state stair-case, 50 feet high, the two smaller, crowned with golden circlets, and wreathed at the foot with ornaments of grapes and vine leaves, to be in the centre of the banqueting room, the sixteen others range along the wall. The whole are designed by a Mr F. Jones.

16th.—INHUMAN MURDERS.—On Wednesday morning last, as the coachman of Mr Alderman Wait was breaking the ice in a pond in a field near Stuke's Croft turnpike, Bristol, to water his master's horses, he observed several crows hovering over an adjoining hedge; his efforts to frighten them away proving ineffectual, he was induced more minutely to examine what it was which so particularly attracted their attention; when, shocking to relate, he discovered the bodies of two new-born infant children, a boy and a girl, both much bruised, and one of them with a tape tied twice round its neck, and also the head and bones of a third infant, which had apparently been devoured by the birds, but so mangled that its sex could not be discovered. They appear to be all the children of one unnatural parent, who has hitherto remained undiscovered. The bodies were removed to the Swan public house, and a coroner's inquest sat on them on Thursday evening, and returned a verdict of wilful murder against some person or persons unknown.

ADMIRALTY SESSIONS.—We give the following trial at nearly full length,

on account of the novelty of the circumstances attending it, and the rank of the defendant.

TRIAL OF THE MARQUIS OF SLIGO.—The court was crowded at an early hour, by noblemen and gentlemen. On the bench were the Duke of Clarence, Lord Dysart, Mr D. Brown, Colonel Dillon, &c. The noble defendant sat among the counsel, immediately under the bench. Before the indictment was read, an application was made to permit the defendant to plead guilty to certain of the counts, and not to proceed to the others.

Lord Ellenborough said, it was the duty of the court to go on with those parts of the indictment to which the defendant pleaded not guilty. If the attorney-general chose to enter a *non pros.* the business was disposed of; otherwise the court must go on.

The indictment, which comprised 28 counts, was then read. The first count charged the Marquis of Sligo with a misdemeanour, in having received on board his ship, the *Pylades*, lying at Malta, on the 13th of May, 1810, one W. Eldon, a seaman belonging to his majesty's ship *Montague*, while in a state of intoxication, whom he harboured and concealed. The second count charged the defendant with enticing the said W. Eldon to desert. The other counts alleged similar facts, in reference to other seamen; and the last charged the defendant with the commission of assault and false imprisonment on all the mariners who had been enticed from his majesty's service on board the *Pylades*.

Dr Robinson shortly stated the circumstances under which those persons had been enticed by the defendant, a nobleman of high rank and fortune, who, while on his travels, ar-

rived at Malta, and was there introduced to Captain Spranger, of the *Warrior*, commanding officer in that port. As he wished to make a voyage through the Mediterranean, he there purchased a vessel, the *Pylades*, in fitting up which he was assisted by Capt. S. and, for two or three weeks, he was conveyed to and from the vessel in the *Warrior's* gig, which was manned by picked sailors, whose smartness the defendant particularly noticed, and, therefore, he could not plead ignorance of their persons when they were brought aboard his vessel. It happened, during the time the repairs were making, that two of these men were missing. Captain Spranger applied for them; but, as all knowledge of them was denied, he contented himself with cautioning the defendant to beware of harbouring any of his majesty's seamen. It would, however, be seen, that notwithstanding this caution, these two persons, and 13 others, who had deserted from different vessels, were on board the *Pylades*. With respect to the first count, it appeared, that on the 12th of May, certain seamen belonging to the *Montague*, obtained leave of absence for 24 hours, at Malta—that, while on shore, they were plied with liquor by the defendant's servants, and put on board his vessel in a state of intoxication—and, when they afterwards requested to be sent to their ship, it was refused. On the 15th of May, the *Pylades* sailed to Palermo, and from thence to Messina, at both which places a sort of restraint was imposed on the English seamen, Italian centinels being placed over them. In proceeding up the Mediterranean, two officers of the *Active*, who had received intelligence of the deserters, boarded and searched the defendant's vessel, but

ineffectually, as the men were concealed in a place under the defendant's cabin, who stated, on his word, that there were no such persons on board. The defendant then sailed to Patmos, where a number of the seamen went on shore, having been informed that the vessel would remain some days, but she sailed the same evening, leaving them behind. Three of them were afterwards taken on board by the defendant at Cerico; the remainder were sent by the British consul to Smyrna—had been tried by a court-martial—and from them some of the witnesses were selected.

Captain Spranger stated, that the defendant was introduced to him by letters from Admiral Martin, and he lent him every aid, by artificers, gunners, &c. to equip his brig, which was a letter of marque, for sea. About a week before sailing, Captain S. missed several of his crew; and on the 13th, the day on which he did sail, he went on board the marquis's brig, and expressed his regret at having lost some of his men, hands being very scarce. He expressed his opinion that some men were on board the vessel, but the defendant pledged his honour he had no such men; and said, he should have conceived himself truly ungrateful, after the kind services Captain S. had rendered him, if he could have been capable of such an act. Captain Spranger sailed, and left a particular written description of his men who had deserted with the defendant, who, in return, professed his anxiety to apprehend them. The defendant also wrote a letter to Captain Spranger, after the former had sailed, informing him of his having some of his men on board from the Warrior, and regretting he should have so treated him (the captain).

He added, that he was determined to get rid of them at the first port, with all the other men-of-war's men he had on board.

Four witnesses were then called, who swore positively that they were made drunk at Malta, and that they were hurried, with several others, on board the defendant's brig, without knowing what they were doing. On the subsequent morning, these witnesses proved that the Marquis of Sligo addressed them personally, and advised them to change their names to prevent detection. The letter of the marquis concluded with his determination to send the men on shore, as an act of humanity, rather than to inform against them as deserters. It happened that the brig was boarded by the boats of the Active frigate, and the men-of-war's men stowed themselves away to avoid detection, under the privy of the captain. A multiplicity of other evidence was adduced in support of the prosecution, which, from want of room, we cannot enter into.

Mr Dauncey addressed the jury on behalf of the defendant with much force and ability. He admitted, as the organ of his client, that the latter had offended the laws; and having so erred, he made no hesitation in making a full confession of that error. The learned counsel observed, that the offence with which the noble lord stood charged, and which he had openly avowed, arose from erroneous judgment, aided by the inconsiderate heat and folly of youth, the noble lord being at that time scarcely of age, and in eager pursuit of a favourite and laudable object. The noble marquis had offered, before the commencement of the trial, to plead guilty to certain counts, which charged him with having concealed sea-

men in the service of his majesty's navy; but he never could acknowledge having seduced the seamen from their allegiance and duty to their sovereign; it was an act at which the noble marquis would spurn. As the grandson of the noble Earl Howe, it were a burlesque to suppose he would disloyally seduce, by any methods, his majesty's seamen. He was at that time carrying 18 guns on board his own brig, and was at the same time ready to give battle to the enemy.

After the speech of the learned counsel, which lasted two hours, seven witnesses were called to prove the defendant's innocence of having seduced the seamen from their duty.

J. Needen, servant to the marquis, deposed, that he was employed to procure hands to man his master's brig, at Malta, in May, 1810. He had engaged a party of seamen at a wine-house, at Malta, on the 13th of May, at the rate of 18 dollars per month. The defendant particularly cautioned the witness not to engage any men from a king's ship, and every precaution was taken not to do so. Witness denied that the men were drunk when he took them on board, and swore positively that neither he nor his master had any knowledge of their belonging to the navy. Witness, in contradiction to what was stated on the part of the prosecution, denied that the seamen were ever confined in the vessel, but that they had liberty, and did go on shore when they chose. He also swore that, instead of the men having been left on shore at Cerico, they would not return, when the necessary signals were made for sailing, viz.—hoisting the Blue Peter, firing guns, &c. and the vessel hove about

in sight the greater part of the next day.

This testimony was corroborated by the other witnesses, who all concurred in earnest belief that the defendant never knew the seamen had deserted from men-of-war, nor did any of the crew, until they were concealed, when overhauled by the boats from the Active frigate.

At twelve o'clock Lord Ellenborough began to sum up the evidence; and at a quarter before two, after a short consultation in the box, the jury found his Lordship guilty of all the counts in the indictment, except one, for false imprisonment.

The judge (Sir William Scott) then ordered, that his lordship, who was in court, should enter into recognizance to appear to-morrow to receive judgment.

17th.—SECOND DAY.—An affidavit was put in by his lordship, expressive of his regret that he should have offended the laws. The affidavit regretted that his lordship should have been misled by his own indiscretion. He denied having the slightest knowledge of the seamen being men-of-war's men, until after he had them on board. He had refused to keep two men whom he understood from his servant were such; and he had no excuse to offer for his rashness in not restoring the other men to their ships, instead of concealing them.

Sir William Scott passed sentence on the noble lord in a most impressive manner. He dwelt with much force on the mischievous tendency of the crime with which the noble lord had been convicted, and said the circumstances were aggravated when the rank and fortune of the defendant were considered. The learned judge concluded with observing, that the court

try expected justice to be done in the sentence he was about to pronounce, as an admonition to others. He then sentenced the noble defendant to pay a fine of 5000*l.* to the king, and to be imprisoned four months in his majesty's gaol of Newgate; and that he should be further imprisoned until such fine be paid.

The marquis was immediately conducted through the court to Newgate by the sheriff and Mr Newman.

MURDER.—J. Bruce was indicted at these sessions for the wilful murder of J. Dean, a youth 17 years old, on the 14th of September, in the county of Pembroke, South Wales.

The evidence attending the case exhibited much barbarity. It appeared that the prisoner called at the house of Waters, a ferryman, at Milford Haven, on the evening of the day stated, and asked to be ferried over to Aichen. Waters, who keeps a public-house, was gone to bed, and the ferry was locked. The prisoner requested to have a bed, but there was not one disengaged, and the landlord permitted him to sleep on the settle in the tap-room. In the morning the prisoner said he should not go over the water, but would go angling. Some time after, Waters found it necessary to send his boy (the deceased) over the water for a cask of ale, &c. and he gave him a 1*l.* note, and 3*s.* The prisoner saw the money given to the deceased, and he agreed to go across with him. Waters afterwards saw the body, when dead.

The next witness was T. Blessborough, a quarryman, who stated, that he was at work on the side of the water opposite to Milford Haven, on the day of the murder, with some soldiers, when he heard the cry of murder from off the water, and he knew the voice

of the boy, but suspected that he had got some workmen on board who were thrashing him, and no further notice was taken of it at the time. In a few minutes after the cry of murder was repeated, but more faint, although nearer; and in a short time after there was another faint cry of murder. It was a foggy and hazy morning, and witness could just perceive a boat on the water, with a man standing upright in it, and a boy was in the water endeavouring to save himself by catching hold of the boat, which the man prevented by loosing his hands with an oar. The body of the boy was found at some distance below the spot. The boat was also picked up, and the bottom was covered with blood, and a 1*l.* note, which Waters had given to the deceased boy, was found there.

J. H. Gregory, a surgeon, proved that the boy's throat had been cut in a shocking manner, and the head was otherwise much bruised. There were two or three incisions, and such had, no doubt, occasioned death.

On the prisoner being called on for his defence, he observed—"The charge is true."

The jury, without hesitation, found the prisoner guilty.—He begged for time to make his peace with God.

Sir W. Scott passed sentence of death on the prisoner, and ordered him for execution on the spot on Saturday next; and that his body should afterwards be delivered to the surgeons for dissection. The execution was subsequently ordered to be postponed till Monday next, on account of the tide serving more particularly on that day.

18th.—The Alban cutter, Lieutenant Key, was driven in from her station on the coast of Holland, and

being forced on shore at Aldborough, in Suffolk, became a complete wreck. Out of a crew of 56 men, only one seaman was saved. The surgeon, Mr Thompson, came on shore with some life in him, but died immediately after. There were also three women and two children on board, of whom one woman, the servant of Mrs Key, was saved.

The following particulars of the loss of this vessel are stated by a gentleman who was a spectator of this deplorable catastrophe. He says, that the cutter had been cruising, or was going to cruise, on the coast of Holland; that, owing, it is supposed, to the ignorance of the pilot, she had struck on a sand-bank, when they were obliged to throw the guns overboard, and cut away their mast, after which they drifted at the mercy of most tremendous weather for three days, when they were driven, on Friday morning, at eight o'clock, on the beach in front of the town of Aldborough. The surf was so high that no boat could be put off; but the beach being steep, the vessel was thrown up very high, and the tide retreating, the people of the town were soon able to reach the vessel. Though all the crew seemed to be safe at eight, by nine there were only three remaining alive—a young man, a woman, (servant to the captain's wife) and the surgeon. The crew consisted of 56, Mrs Key, wife of Lieutenant Key, who commanded the vessel, and two children. The surgeon unaccountably jumped overboard at the time that relief was giving to them, and was lost. The great loss of lives seems to have been occasioned by the state of intoxication of the men, some of whom were found drowned in the vessel. As the cutter did not go to

pieces, it is difficult otherwise to account for such a melancholy catastrophe.

20th.—When the Emperor Alexander received the reports of the last Russian victories, he gave to the illustrious Kutusoff the appropriate title of Prince of Smolensko, and made him a Knight of the Order of St George of the first class—an honour seldom conferred, and only upon Field-Marschals who have defeated Field-Marschals. Admiral Tschichagoff's father was the last officer who received this honour.

24th.—MELANCHOLY CATASTROPHE.—At Mill of Elrick, on Tuesday morning last, the miller, of the name of Walker, his wife, and a child, were all found dead in their sleeping apartment, as it would appear from the following cause:—The preceding evening, in the small bed-room in which they slept, a quantity of wet shellings of corn, commonly called "shelling sids," had been put on the fire, as is termed for the purpose of resting it during the night; and the fire being opened partly, so as to allow it to burn, the smoke thereby occasioned spreading through the room, proved fatal to this unfortunate part of the family. The woman was dead in her bed, with her child on her arm: but the man was found sitting on a chair near the bed, and leaning forward, having vomited a little; but neither from this, nor any exertion he had been able to make, could he, as it appears, gain the door, in his then weak, and probably in part, insensible state, so as to escape the deleterious effects of the vitiated air, in which these unwary sufferers had been involved, and to which they fell victims.

26th.—His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, acting in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty, has been pleased to cause it to be signified, by Lord Castlereagh, his Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to the Ministers of the friendly powers residing at this court, that the necessary measures have been taken, by the command of his Royal Highness, for the blockade of the ports and harbours of the Bay of the Chesapeake, and of the River Delaware, in the United States of America; and that from this time all the measures authorised by the law of nations will be adopted and executed, with respect to all vessels which may attempt to violate the said blockade.

29th.—We are sorry to announce that official accounts of the capture of the Macedonian, of 38 guns and 390 men, by the United States, of 44 guns and 450 men, have arrived. The Macedonian was gloriously fought; no officer but the boatswain was killed, it appears, although 104 persons were killed and wounded. The particulars were brought by the Wolverine.

31st.—**BANK-NOTES.**—An account of the amount of Bank-Notes and Bank Post Bills has been presented to the House of Commons, whence it appears, that on the 5th instant there were in circulation—

Bank-notes of 5l. and upwards, - - - - -	L.14,337,950
Ditto under 5l. - - - - -	7,604,790
Post-bills, - - - - -	1,004,860

Total Bank-paper in circulation, - - - - - L.22,947,600

BANK TOKENS.—An account of all the Silver Tokens issued by the Bank of England, from the 14th of

April, 1812, inclusive, to the 10th of December, 1812—

2,326,244 Silver Tokens, of	
3s. each, - - - - -	L.348,936 12
1,347,766 ditto, of 1s. 6d. each, 101,082 9	
	<hr/>
	L.450,019 1

Silver Tokens issued by the Bank of England, from the 9th of July, 1811, to the 10th of December, 1812—

9,548,600 Silver Tokens,	
3s. each, - - - - -	L.1,432,803 10 0
4,708,937 ditto, of 1s. 6d.	
each, - - - - -	353,170 5 6
	<hr/>
	L.1,785,473 15 6

N. B.—The Tokens are of the Dollar standard.—The weight of the 3s. Token is 9 dwts. 11 grs.; the weight of the 1s. 6d. Token is 4 dwts. 17½ grs.

BOW-STREET.—ROBBERY AT THE POST-OFFICE.—Yesterday Mr Nares, the sitting magistrate, was occupied nearly the whole of the day in investigating several charges of a complicated nature of robberies at the General Post-Office. The substance of the circumstances is as follows:—

For some time complaints have been made at the Post-office, of letters, containing bills of exchange, country notes, and Bank of England notes, being lost, and also that notes had been taken out. Every assistance was given to the parties complaining by the agents for the Post-office, but no trace could be made of the stolen property. Several persons in the Post-office were suspected, but the ground of suspicion was not sufficiently strong to take them into custody. At length some Bank of England notes that had been paid for some country bank-notes which had been stolen were traced to William Griffiths, the beadle and chapel-clerk of Bridewell hospital; and although he was considered a respectable man, yet

not giving a satisfactory account as to how he became possessed of them, he was taken into custody on the 21st instant. The account he gave of the notes was, that he received them from his wife, whom he did not cohabit with. It being learnt that she resided in Park-place, Kennington, early the following morning Vickery went to the house described; he was answered by a female servant, who said her mistress was at home, but not up. Vickery went to her bed-room, and found her and a man asleep in bed together, a dog in bed with them, and two dogs on the pillows asleep also; the officer soon awoke the whole tribe, when a very uncommon scene was presented: the dogs barked violently and flew at Vickery, Mrs Griffiths went into fits, but the officer having some of the patrol at hand, soon secured her and her gallant.—He afterwards proceeded to search the premises, and in the bed-room where they were, he found a number of Bank of England notes. He secured his prisoners, and yesterday was the day appointed for a full investigation. The mystery was in a great measure explained by the man found in bed with Mrs Griffiths, who proved to belong to the General Post-office.

William Griffiths, the husband, being admitted an evidence for the crown, his deposition was read over, from which it appeared, that he and his wife had separated in October 1811, by mutual consent. For some time past she had applied to him to get bills and notes changed for her. On the morning of Saturday the 28th of November last, she called on him, and asked him to get her some country notes changed; he replied, that he wished all the notes were at the 4—1. However, on her pressing him,

and his examining them, and finding they were Worcester and Evesham bank notes, and as he had got a Newbury note to get changed, and had to go into the city, he agreed to get them changed, which he did, but not all on the same day. He took the Bank of England notes he had received for the country notes to his wife, at her house in Park-place; but was not positive that they were the identical notes he had received for the country notes, as he had mixed them with the notes he had got in exchange for the Newbury note. He denied receiving any part of the notes, or in any way participating in the amount for his trouble, except that he did not pay his wife so much as a separate maintenance, since he had been in the habit of getting notes changed for her, she telling him she received them from a friend. The way his wife got money, besides what he allowed her, was by letting lodgings: the other prisoner, Henry Johns, lodged with her.

Mrs Griffiths was asked what she had to say to her husband's statement. She replied, a great deal of it was true, and a great deal of it was false. She refused to tell who she received the notes from; and denied most solemnly that she received them from Henry Johns.

Johns was then brought into the office, and the evidence of William Griffiths read over to him; he denied the statement relative to himself.

Mr Hope, of Pershore, in Worcestershire, said, that on the 27th of November last, he put into a letter different bank-notes to the amount of 155l. and put it into the Post-office, directed to Messrs Robarts and Co Lombard-street, on account of the Tewksbury Bank.

Miss Hope, his daughter, corro-

borated this testimony, and proved the numbers and full description of the notes.

The corresponding clerk belonging to Robarts's bank stated, that all letters relative to the business of the house passed through his hands, and no such letter came to him on the 28th of November, which would have been the regular course of the post, nor had it since.

Several of the notes in this letter were proved to have been exchanged for Bank of England notes, by William Griffiths. The Inspectors of General Post Letter Deliverers proved, that the prisoner Johns had belonged to the General Post-office about ten years; that it was customary to promote some of them to be sub-sorters, and he being considered a very steady and respectable young man, was made one of them. He was on duty as a sorter on Saturday morning, the 28th of November, when all the letters directed to Robarts's house must have passed through his hands, and at which time, in due course, Mr Hope's letter would have passed through the Post-office. Vickery, the officer, produced a number of bank-notes, which he found in the bed-room where Mrs Griffiths and Henry Johns were in bed together; and they were proved to have been got in exchange for the notes that had been stolen from letters.

The prisoners were committed for further examination.

FASHIONS.—Notwithstanding the severity of the season, morning dresses continue to be made in muslin, which is more general than any thing else; there are, however, some in twilled stuffs, which are exceedingly neat, and certainly very appropriate to the time of the year.

The Russian wrap, in twilled

stuff, is a very neat morning dress, and begins to be a favourite.

For dinner dresses velvets are considered as the most elegant; next to this in estimation is satin cloth; but sarsonets, both plain and twilled, satins (white particularly,) Merino cloth, and rich worked muslins, are likewise worn.

Coloured velvet bodies, over white satin and muslin dresses, are much worn, and have a very elegant effect.

For full dresses we have nothing new to announce, except that the bosoms and shoulders of our fair countrywomen are more than ever exposed.—*La Belle Assemblée.*

Evening Dress.—A round robe of fine Georgian cloth, a pale olive colour, with full puckered sleeves of white satin. The waist ornamented in horizontal waves of crimson and gold trimming; bows of the same at the pockets and on the shoulders, and bordering at the feet to correspond.

Morning or Carriage Costume.—A Russian mantle, of pale fawn-coloured cloth or velvet, with capes of the same; trimmed entirely round with Angola fur or full feathered border, and lined with rose-coloured sarsonet, tied in front of the throat with a ribbon of a corresponding colour. A traveller's hat, composed of fawn-colour and rose velvet, with curled ostrich feathers on one side.—*Akermann's Repository.*

AGRICULTURAL REPORTS.

The severe weather in the early part of last month has had varied effects on the pursuits of agriculture, the most conspicuous of which consisted in the change of employment among the working cattle upon the farm, by directing their labour from the plough to the cart; as the atten-

tive farmer will not lose the opportunity of conveying the manure upon his tender soils at the moment it can be done without injury from the trampling of the animals and the track of the wheels; but the early frost that is so propitious to this labour, makes great inroad into the winter stock of provisions. The late fall of snow, and sudden thaw, has greatly revived the flag of the wheat plant, which had apparently suffered in point of colour from the preceding frosty nights.

The late severe weather has increased the barn labour, to furnish straw for the cattle; but the deficiency of corn produce in the year 1811, with the great demand for seed last autumn, has run so far into the last year's produce, as to prevent the price of corn from being reduced so much as was expected from the late apparently favourable season and productive harvest.

Barley has come more freely to market since the great demand for straw.—The quality is strong, and the yield abundant.

The soiling crops for next spring had, before the frost set in, formed a strong flag and good covering to the soil; which, consequently, will protect the root through the winter.

We conclude our Chronicle for the present year with a summary of Buonaparte's disastrous campaign; a campaign, the ruinous effects of which his armies never recovered, and which tended not a little to accelerate his final ruin.

We have appended also a few extracts from his 29th and last bulletin relative to this campaign, that our readers may be readily enabled to compare the tone of despondence,

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ruin, and misery throughout this production, with the presumptuous language of the manifesto which he issued on entering the Russian territory.

Buonaparte carried with him into Russia twelve corps d'armee, or divisions, each 25,000 strong, making a total force of 300,000 men. They were under the command of Murat, Beauharnois, Oudinot, Ney, Davoust, Mortier, Victor, Macdonald, Bessieres, and Poniatowski. Besides these twelve divisions, there was the Austrian army under Schwartzenberg, which did not accompany the grand army, but remained in Volhynia—Augereau remained in Pomerania with the reserve—Victor was stationed in the rear, and did not accompany Buonaparte to Moscow. He was afterwards ordered up to reinforce Murat, but never, we believe, proceeded farther than Smolensk, circumstances rendering it necessary for him to reinforce Oudinot's division. Macdonald, as our readers know, was to besiege Riga with his division, composed of French and Prussian troops, Oudinot was stationed on the Dwina, to act against Wittgenstein. If we deduct from the total force of the enemy, the amount of these three divisions, Macdonald's, Oudinot's, and Victor's, which did not accompany the grand army to Moscow, we shall find that Buonaparte set out from Wilna with 225,000 men. When he left Moscow he had not 85,000 effective men, so that he had lost in the battles with the Russians at Smolensk, Borodino, at and near Moscow, and by sickness and the climate, 140,000 men. Of the 85,000 men that set out from Moscow, full 40,000 were killed, wounded, taken, or died of hunger and cold in the march from Mos-

o

cow to Smolensk. So that there could not be collected at Smolensk, supposing the shattered remains of all these nine corps to reach it, more than between 40 and 50,000 men. Macdonald's corps, which was at Mittau, though it was defeated in a joint attempt with Oudinot to beat Wittgenstein, has suffered less loss than any of the twelve corps. Oudinot's corps lost in the action of Polotsk, and subsequent retreat to Lepel, 6000 men. The Batavian division, which formed part of it, was then cut off and nearly annihilated. The remainder was joined by Victor, and completely defeated at Tcharniki, on the Oula; so that both Oudinot's and Victor's divisions must have suffered nearly, if not quite as much, as any of the divisions that advanced to Moscow.

Extract from the twenty-ninth Bulletin.

Molodetschno, Dec. 3, 1812.

"To the 6th of November the weather was fine, and the movement of the army was executed with the greatest success. The cold weather began on the 7th; from that moment we every night lost several hundred horses, which died in consequence of bivouacking. Arrived at Smolensk, we had already lost many cavalry and artillery horses.

The Russian army from Volhynia was opposed to our right. Their right left the Minsk line of operations, and took for the pivot of its operations the Warsaw line.

On the 9th the emperor was informed at Smolensk of this change in the line of operations, and conceived what the enemy would do. However hard it appeared to him to put himself in movement during so cruel a season, the new state of things demanded it. He expected to arrive at Minsk, or at least upon the Beresina,

before the enemy; on the 13th he quitted Smolensk; on the 16th he slept at Krasnoi.

The cold which began on the 7th, suddenly increased, and on the 14th, 15th, and 16th, the thermometer was 16 and 18 degrees below the freezing point. The roads were covered with ice, the cavalry, artillery, and baggage horses perished every night, not only by *hundreds*, but by *thousands*.

In a few days more than 30,000 horses perished; our cavalry were on foot, our artillery and our baggage were without conveyance. It was necessary to abandon and destroy a good part of our cannon, ammunition, and provisions.

This army, so fine on the 6th, was very different on the 14th; almost without cavalry, without artillery, without transports; without cavalry, we could not reconnoitre a quarter of a league's distance; without artillery, we could not risk a battle, and firmly await it; it was requisite to march, in order not to be constrained to a battle, which the want of ammunition prevented us from doing, it was requisite to occupy a certain space not to be turned, and that too without cavalry, which led and connected the columns. This difficulty, joined to the cold which suddenly came on, rendered our situation miserable. Those men whom nature had not sufficiently steeled to be above all the chances of fate and fortune, appeared shook, lost their gaiety, their good-humour, and dreamed but of misfortunes and catastrophes.

The enemy, who saw upon the road traces of that frightful calamity which had overtaken the French army, endeavoured to take advantage of it. He surrounded all the columns with his Cossacks, who carried off, like the Arabs in the desert, the trains and carriages which separated.

This contemptible cavalry, which only makes noise, and is not capable of penetrating through a company of voltigeurs, rendered themselves formidable, by favour of circumstances."

In this state of affairs Buonaparté deserted his army and fled to Paris: the following account of his journey and arrival is given by the French journalists.

Paris, Dec. 18.

On the 5th of December, the emperor having called together at his head-quarters at Smorgony, the Viceroy, the Prince of Neufchatel, and Marshals Dukes of Elchingen, Dantzic, Treviso, the Prince of Eckmuhl, the Duke of Istria, acquainted them, that he had nominated the King of Naples his lieutenant-general, to command the army during the rigorous season. His majesty, in passing through Wilna, was employed several hours with the Duke of Bassano.

His majesty travelled *incognito*, in a single sledge, under the name of the Duke of Vicenza.

His majesty arrived on the 14th, at one o'clock in the morning, at Dresden, and alighted at the house of his minister, Count Serra.

He had a long conference with the King of Saxony, and immediately afterwards pursued his journey, taking the road of Leipsic and Mentz.

M. de Montesquion, aid-de-camp of the Prince of Neufchatel, dispatched by the emperor from his head-quarters at Seliche, on the 2d of December, with dispatches for the emperor, arrived at Paris last night.

Paris, Dec. 19.

His majesty the emperor arrived here yesterday at half past eleven in the evening; he received the princes, grand dignitaries, the ministers, and great officers.

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APPENDIX.

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APPENDIX.

STATE PAPERS.—BRITISH.

No. I.

The Prince Regent's Speech on opening Parliament. Jan. 7.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

WE are commanded by his Royal Highness the Prince Regent to express to you the deep sorrow which he feels in announcing to you the continuance of his majesty's lamented indisposition, and the unhappy disappointment of those hopes of his majesty's early recovery which had been cherished by the dutiful affection of his family and the loyal attachment of his people.

The prince regent has directed copies of the last reports of her majesty the queen's council to be laid before you, and he is satisfied that you will adopt such measures as the present melancholy exigency may appear to require.

In securing a suitable and ample provision for the support of his majesty's royal dignity, and for the attendance upon his majesty's sacred person during his illness, the prince regent rests assured, that you will also bear in mind the indispensable duty of continuing to preserve for his

majesty the facility of resuming the personal exercise of his royal authority in the happy event of his recovery, so earnestly desired by the wishes and the prayers of his family and subjects.

The prince regent directs us to signify to you the satisfaction with which his royal highness has observed, that the measures which have been pursued for the defence and security of the kingdom of Portugal have proved completely effectual; and that on the several occasions in which the British or Portuguese troops had been engaged with the enemy, the reputation already acquired by them has been fully maintained.

The successful and brilliant enterprise, which terminated with the surprise, in Spanish Estremadura, of a French corps by a detachment of the allied army under Lieutenant-General Hill, is highly creditable to that distinguished officer, and to the troops under his command, and has contributed materially to obstruct the designs of the enemy in that part of the peninsula.

The prince regent is assured, that while you reflect with pride and satisfaction on the conduct of his ma-

jesty's troops, and of the allies, in these various and important services, you will render justice to the consummate judgment and skill displayed by General Lord Viscount Wellington in the direction of the campaign. In Spain, the spirit of the people remains unsubdued; and the system of war, so peculiarly adapted to the actual condition of the Spanish nation, has been recently extended and improved, under the advantages which result from the operations of the allied armies on the frontier, and from the countenance and assistance of his majesty's navy on the coast. Although the great exertions of the enemy have in some quarters been attended with success, his royal highness is persuaded, that you will admire the perseverance and gallantry manifested by the Spanish armies. Even in those provinces principally occupied by the French forces, new energy has arisen among the people; and the increase of difficulty and danger has produced more connected efforts of general resistance.

The prince regent, in the name and on the behalf of his majesty, commands us to express his confident hope that you will enable him to continue to afford the most effectual aid and assistance in the support of the contest, which the brave nations of the peninsula still maintain with such unabated zeal and resolution.

His royal highness commands us to express his congratulations on the success of the British arms in the island of Java.

The prince regent trusts that you will concur with his royal highness in approving the wisdom and ability with which this enterprize, as well as the capture of the islands of Bourbon and Mauritius, has been conducted under the immediate direction of the

governor general of India, and that you will applaud the decision, gallantry and spirit, conspicuously displayed in the late operations of the brave army under the command of that distinguished officer Lieutenant-General Sir Samuel Auchmuty, so powerfully and ably supported by his majesty's naval forces.

By the completion of this system of operations, great additional security will have been given to the British commerce and possessions in the East Indies, and the colonial power of France will have been entirely extinguished.

His royal highness thinks it expedient to recommend to your attention the propriety of providing such measures for the future government of the British possessions in India as shall appear from experience, and upon mature deliberation, to be calculated to secure their internal prosperity, and to derive from those flourishing dominions the utmost degree of advantage to the commerce and revenue of the united kingdom.

We are commanded by the prince regent to acquaint you, that while his royal highness regrets that various important subjects of difference with the government of the United States of America still remain unadjusted, the difficulties which the affair of the Chesapeake frigate had occasioned have been finally removed; and we are directed to assure you, that in the further progress of the discussions with the United States, the prince regent will continue to employ such means of conciliation as may be consistent with the honour and dignity of his majesty's crown, and with the due maintenance of the maritime and commercial rights and interests of the British empire.

Gentlemen of the House of Com-

mons,—His royal highness has directed the estimates for the service of the current year to be laid before you. He trusts that you will furnish him with such supplies as may be necessary to enable him to continue the contest in which his majesty is engaged, with that spirit and exertion which will afford the best prospect of its successful termination.

His royal highness commands us to recommend that you should resume the consideration of the state of the finances of Ireland, which you had commenced in the last session of parliament. He has the satisfaction to inform you, that the improved receipt of the revenue of Ireland in the last, as compared with the preceding year, confirms the belief, that the depression which that revenue had experienced is to be attributed to accidental and temporary causes.

My Lords and Gentlemen,—The prince regent is satisfied that you entertain a just sense of the arduous duties which his royal highness has been called upon to fulfil, in consequence of his majesty's continued indisposition.

Under this severe calamity, his royal highness derives the greatest consolation from his reliance on your experienced wisdom, loyalty, and public spirit; to which, in every difficulty, he will resort, with a firm confidence, that, through your assistance and support, he shall be enabled, under the blessings of Divine Providence, successfully to discharge the important functions of the high trust reposed in him; and in the name and on the behalf of his beloved father and revered sovereign, to maintain, unimpaired, the prosperity and honour of the nation.

Declaration of the Members of the Queen's Council respecting the State of his Majesty's Health, 5th of Jan. 1812.

We, the under-written members of the council, &c. having duly met together, on this 4th day of Jan. 1812, at the Queen's Lodge, near Windsor Castle, and having called before us, and examined upon oath, the physicians and other persons attendant upon his majesty, and having ascertained the state of his majesty's health by all such ways and means as appear to us to be necessary for that purpose, do hereby declare and certify, that the state of his majesty's health, at the time of this our meeting, is not such as to enable his majesty to resume the personal exercise of his royal authority.

That his majesty's bodily health appears to us to be as good as at any of the periods of our former reports :

That his majesty's mental health appears to us not to be worse than at the period of our last report :

That all the physicians attending his majesty agree in stating, that they think his majesty's complete and final recovery improbable; differing, however, as to the degree of such improbability; some of them expressing themselves as not despairing,—others as not entirely despairing,—and one of them representing that he cannot help despairing of such recovery.

(Signed)

C. CANTUAR,	AYLESFORD,
E. EBOR,	ELDON,
MONTROSE,	ELLENBOROUGH,
WINCHILSEA,	W. GRANT.

Shortly after the above report had been read in the presence of all the physicians, and one of the members

of the council had left Windsor, the physician alluded to in the last clause of the report, stated, in writing, to the other members of the council then remaining at Windsor, "that he had, unquestionably, made use of an expression, which he was apprehensive might carry a meaning far beyond what he intended to express, and assured the council, that whilst he thought the final recovery of his majesty very improbable, he by no means despaired of it."

The members of the council to whom the above statement was made, (having sworn the physician alluded to, to the truth thereof) afterwards communicated the same to the whole council, assembled this 5th day of January, who have deemed it right to subjoin this fact to the above declaration.

(Signed)

C. CANTUAR,	AYLESFORD,
E. EBOR,	ELDON,
MONTROSE,	ELLENBOROUGH,
WINCHILSEA,	W. GRANT.

Declaration made on the 4th of April, 1812.

"We, the underwritten, do hereby declare and certify, that the state of his majesty's health, at the time of this our meeting, is not such as to enable him to resume the personal exercise of his royal authority.

"That his majesty's bodily health is as good as at any of the periods of our former reports.

"That his majesty's mental health is as much disordered as it has been during any part of his majesty's indisposition.

"That all the physicians in attendance concur in thinking, that his majesty's final and complete recovery is

extremely improbable, and they do not expect it; but they also concur in stating, that they do not entirely despair of it."

Signed as above.

Declaration made on the 4th of July, 1812.

"We, the underwritten, do hereby declare and certify, that the state of his majesty's health, at the time of this our meeting, is not such as to enable his majesty to resume the personal exercise of his royal functions.

"That his majesty's bodily health is as good as it was at the period of our last report.

"That his majesty's mental health is as much disordered as during any period of his majesty's indisposition.

"That the hope of his majesty's ultimate and complete recovery is diminished since the period of our last report; but that such recovery is not absolutely despaired of."

Signed as above.

Letter from his Royal Highness the Prince Regent to the Duke of York.

Feb. 13.—My carest brother,—As the restrictions on the exercise of the royal authority will shortly expire, when I must make my arrangements for the future administration of the powers with which I am invested, I think it right to communicate to you those sentiments which I was withheld from expressing at an earlier period of the session, by my earnest desire, that the expected motion on the affairs of Ireland might under-

go the deliberate discussion of parliament, unmixed with any other consideration.

I think it hardly necessary to call your recollection to the recent circumstances under which I assumed the authority delegated to me by parliament. At a moment of unexampled difficulty and danger, I was called upon to make a selection of persons to whom I should entrust the functions of the executive government.

My sense of duty to our royal father solely decided that choice; and every private feeling gave way to considerations which admitted of no doubt or hesitation. I trust I acted in that respect as the genuine representative of the august person whose functions I was appointed to discharge; and I have the satisfaction of knowing, that such was the opinion of persons, for whose judgment and honourable principles I entertain the highest respect.

In various instances, as you well know, where the law of the last session left me at full liberty, I waved any personal gratification, in order that his majesty might resume, on his restoration to health, every power and prerogative belonging to his crown. I certainly am the last person in the kingdom to whom it can be permitted to despair of our royal father's recovery.

A new æra is now arrived, and I cannot but reflect with satisfaction, on the events which have distinguished the short period of my restricted regency. Instead of suffering in the loss of any of her possessions, by the gigantic force which has been employed against them, Great Britain has added most important acquisitions to her empire. The national faith has been preserved inviolate towards our allies; and if character is strength, as

applied to a nation, the increased and increasing reputation of his majesty's arms will shew to the nations of the continent how much they may still achieve when animated by a glorious spirit of resistance to a foreign yoke. In the critical situation of the war in the peninsula, I shall be most anxious to avoid any measure which can lead my allies to suppose that I mean to depart from the present system. Perseverance alone can achieve the great object in question; and I cannot withhold my approbation from those who have honourably distinguished themselves in the support of it. I have no predilections to indulge—no resentments to gratify—no objects to attain, but such as are common to the whole empire. If such is the leading principle of my conduct—and I can appeal to the past in evidence of what the future will be—I flatter myself I shall meet with the support of parliament, and of a candid and enlightened nation.

Having made this communication of my sentiments in this new and extraordinary crisis of our affairs, I cannot conclude without expressing the gratification I should feel, if some of those persons with whom the early habits of my public life were formed, would strengthen my hands, and constitute a part of my government. With such support, and aided by a vigorous and united administration, formed on the most liberal basis, I shall look with additional confidence to a prosperous issue of the most arduous contest in which Great Britain was ever engaged. You are authorised to communicate these sentiments to Lord Grey, who, I have no doubt, will make them known to Lord Grenville.

I am always, dearest Frederick,
your affectionate brother,
(Signed) GEORGE P. R.

P. S: I shall send a copy of this letter immediately to Mr Perceval.

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Letter from Lords Grey and Grenville.

February 15, 1812.

Sir,—We beg leave most humbly to express to your royal highness our dutiful acknowledgements for the gracious and condescending manner in which you have had the goodness to communicate to us the letter of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, on the subject of the arrangements to be now made for the future administration of the public affairs; and we take the liberty of availing ourselves of your gracious permission to address to your royal highness in this form, what has occurred to us in consequence of that communication.

The prince regent, after expressing to your royal highness in that letter his sentiments on various public matters, has, in the concluding paragraph, condescended to intimate his wish that “some of those persons with whom the early habits of his public life were formed, would strengthen his royal highness’s hands, and constitute a part of his government;” and his royal highness is pleased to add, “that with such support, aided by a vigorous and united administration, formed on the most liberal basis, he would look with additional confidence to a prosperous issue of the most arduous contest in which Great Britain has ever been engaged.”

On the other parts of his royal highness’s letter we do not presume to offer any observations; but on the concluding paragraph, in so far as we may venture to suppose ourselves included in the gracious wish which

it expresses, we owe it, in obedience and duty to his royal highness, to explain ourselves with frankness and sincerity.

We beg leave most earnestly to assure his royal highness, that no sacrifices, except those of honour and duty, could appear to us too great to be made, for the purpose of healing the divisions of our country, and uniting both its government and its people. All personal exclusion we entirely disclaim: we rest on public measures; and it is on this ground alone that we must express, without reserve, the impossibility, of our uniting with the present government. Our differences of opinion are too many and too important to admit of such an union. His royal highness will, we are confident, do us the justice to remember, that we have twice already acted on this impression; in 1809, on the proposition then made to us under his majesty’s authority; and last year, when his royal highness was pleased to require our advice respecting the formation of a new government. The reasons which we then humbly submitted to him are strengthened by the increasing dangers of the times; nor has there, down to this moment, appeared even any approximation towards such an agreement of opinion on the public interests, as can alone form a basis for the honourable union of parties previously opposed to each other.

Into the detail of these differences we are unwilling to enter; they embrace almost all the leading features of the present policy of the empire; but his royal highness has, himself, been pleased to advert to the late deliberations of parliament on the affairs of Ireland. This is a subject, above all others, important in itself, and connected with the most pressing

angers. Far from concurring in the sentiments which his majesty's ministers have, on that occasion, so recently expressed, we entertain opinions directly opposite; we are firmly persuaded of the necessity of a total change in the present system of government in that country, and of the immediate repeal of those civil disabilities under which so large a portion of his majesty's subjects still labour on account of their religious opinions. To recommend to parliament this repeal, is the first advice which it would be our duty to offer to his royal highness; nor could we, even for the shortest time, make ourselves responsible for any further delay in the proposal of a measure, without which we could entertain no hope of rendering ourselves useful to his royal highness, or to our country.

We have only therefore further to beg your royal highness to lay before his royal highness the prince regent, the expression of our humble duty, and the sincere and respectful assurance of our earnest wishes for whatever may best promote the ease, honour, and advantage of his royal highness's government, and the success of his endeavours for the public welfare. We have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) GREY,
 GRENVILLE.

To his Royal Highness the
Duke of York.

*Declaration on the Orders of
Council, April 21.*

The government of France having by an official report, communicated by its minister for foreign affairs to the conservative senate on the 10th day of March last, removed all doubts

as to the perseverance of that government in the assertion of principles, and in the maintenance of a system, not more hostile to the maritime rights and commercial interests of the British empire, than inconsistent with the rights and independence of neutral nations; and having thereby plainly developed the inordinate pretensions which that system, as promulgated in the decrees of Berlin and Milan, was from the first designed to enforce; his royal highness the prince regent, acting in the name and on the behalf of his majesty, deems it proper upon this formal and authentic republication of the principles of those decrees, thus publicly to declare his royal highness's determination still firmly to resist the introduction and establishment of this arbitrary code, which the government of France openly avows its purpose to force upon the world, as the law of nations.

From the time that the progressive injustice and violence of the French government made it impossible for his majesty any longer to restrain the exercise of the rights of war within their ordinary limits, without submitting to consequences not less ruinous to the commerce of his dominions, than derogatory to the rights of his crown, his majesty has endeavoured by a restricted and moderate use of those rights of retaliation, which the Berlin and Milan decrees necessarily called into action, to reconcile neutral states to those measures, which the conduct of the enemy had rendered unavoidable; and which his majesty has at all times professed his readiness to revoke, so soon as the decrees of the enemy, which gave occasion to them, should be formally and unconditionally repealed, and the commerce of neutral nations restored to its accustomed course.

At a subsequent period of the war, his majesty, availing himself of the then situation of Europe, without abandoning the principle and object of the orders in council of November, 1807, was induced to limit their operation, as materially to alleviate the restrictions thereby imposed upon neutral commerce. The order in council of April, 1809, was substituted in the room of those of November, 1807, and the retaliatory system of Great Britain acted no longer on every country in which the aggressive measures of the enemy were in force, but was confined in its operation to France, and to the countries upon which the French yoke was most strictly imposed; and which had become virtually a part of the dominions of France.

The United States of America remained nevertheless dissatisfied; and their dissatisfaction has been greatly increased by an artifice too successfully employed on the part of the enemy, who has pretended that the decrees of Berlin and Milan were repealed, although the decree affecting such repeal has never been promulgated; although the notification of such pretended repeal distinctly described it to be dependent on conditions, in which the enemy knew Great Britain could never acquiesce; and although abundant evidence has since appeared of their subsequent execution.

But the enemy has at length laid aside all dissimulation; he now publicly and solemnly declares, not only that those decrees still continue in force, but that they shall be rigidly executed until Great Britain shall comply with additional conditions equally extravagant; and he further announces the penalties of those decrees to be in force against all nations, which shall suffer their flag to be, as

it is termed in this new code, "denationalized."

In addition to the disavowal of the blockade of May, 1806, and of the principles on which that blockade was established, and in addition to the repeal of the British orders in council, he demands an admission of the principles, that the goods of an enemy, carried under a neutral flag, shall be treated as neutral;—that neutral property under the flag of an enemy shall be treated as hostile;—that arms and warlike stores alone (to the exclusion of ship-timber and other articles of naval equipment) shall be regarded as contraband of war;—and that no ports shall be considered as lawfully blockaded, except such as are invested and besieged, in the presumption of their being taken [*en prevention d'être pris*], and into which a merchant-ship cannot enter without danger.

By these and other demands, the enemy in fact requires, that Great Britain and all civilised nations shall renounce, at his arbitrary pleasure, the ordinary and indisputable rights of maritime war; that Great Britain, in particular, shall forego the advantages of her naval superiority, and allow the commercial property, as well as the produce and manufactures, of France and her confederates, to pass the ocean in security, whilst the subjects of Great Britain are to be in effect proscribed from all commercial intercourse with other nations; and the produce and manufactures of these realms are to be excluded from every country in the world to which the arms or the influence of the enemy can extend.

Such are the demands to which the British government is summoned to submit—to the abandonment of its

most ancient, essential, and undoubted maritime rights. Such is the code by which France hopes, under cover of a neutral flag, to render her commerce unassailable by sea; whilst she proceeds to invade or to incorporate with her own dominions all states that hesitate to sacrifice their national interests at her command, and in abdication of their just rights, to adopt a code, by which they are required to exclude, under the mask of municipal regulation, whatever is British from their dominions.

The pretext for these extravagant demands is, that some of those principles were adopted by voluntary compact in the treaty of Utrecht; as if a treaty once existing between two particular countries, founded on special and reciprocal considerations, binding only on the contracting parties, and which, in the last treaty of peace between the same powers, had not been revived, were to be regarded as declaratory of the public law of nations.

It is needless for his royal highness to demonstrate the injustice of such pretensions. He might otherwise appeal to the practice of France herself, in this and in former wars, and to her own established codes of maritime law: it is sufficient that these new demands of the enemy form a wide departure from those conditions on which the alleged repeal of the French decrees was accepted by America, and upon which alone, erroneously assuming that repeal to be complete, America has claimed a revocation of the British orders in council.

His royal highness, upon a review of all these circumstances, feels persuaded, that so soon as this formal declaration, by the government of France, of its unabated adherence to the principles and provisions of the

Berlin and Milan decrees, shall be made known in America, the government of the United States, actuated not less by a sense of justice to Great Britain, than by what is due to its own dignity, will be disposed to recal those measures of hostile exclusion, which, under a misconception of the real views and conduct of the French government, America has exclusively applied to the commerce and ships of war of Great Britain.

To accelerate a result so advantageous to the true interests of both countries, and so conducive to the re-establishment of perfect friendship between them; and to give a decisive proof of his royal highness's disposition to perform the engagements of his majesty's government, by revoking the orders in council, whenever the French decrees shall be actually and unconditionally repealed; his royal highness the prince regent has been this day pleased, in the name and on the behalf of his majesty, and by and with the advice of his majesty's privy council, to order and declare;

“That if at any time hereafter the Berlin and Milan decrees shall, by some authentic act of the French government, publicly promulgated, be expressly and unconditionally repealed, then, and from thenceforth, the order in council of the 7th day of January, 1807, and the order in council of the 26th day of April, 1809, shall, without any further order, be, and the same hereby are declared from thenceforth, to be wholly and absolutely revoked; and further, that the full benefit of this order shall be extended to any ship or vessel captured subsequent to such authentic act of repeal of the French decrees, although antecedent to such repeal, such ship or vessel shall have com-

menced, and shall be in the prosecution of a voyage, which, under the said orders in council, or one of them, would have subjected her to capture and condemnation; and the claimant of any ship or cargo which shall be captured at any time subsequent to such authentic act of repeal by the French government, shall, without any further order or declaration on the part of his majesty's government on this subject, be at liberty to give in evidence in the High Court of Admiralty, or any court of Vice-Admiralty, before which such ship or vessel, or its cargo, shall be brought for adjudication, that such repeal by the French government had been by such authentic act promulgated prior to such capture; and upon proof thereof, the voyage shall be deemed and taken to have been as lawful as if the said orders in council had never been made; saving nevertheless to the captors such protection and indemnity as they may be equitably entitled to, in the judgment of the said court, by reason of their ignorance or uncertainty as to the repeal of the French decrees, or of the recognition of such repeal by his majesty's government, at the time of such capture.

“ His royal highness, however, deems it proper to declare, that, should the repeal of the French decrees, thus anticipated and provided for, afterwards prove to have been illusory on the part of the enemy; and should the restrictions thereof be still practically enforced, or revived by the enemy, Great Britain will be obliged, however reluctantly, after reasonable notice to neutral powers, to have recourse to such measures of retaliation as may then appear to be just and necessary.”

The Petition of the Catholics.—To his Royal Highness the Prince Regent.

The humble petition of his majesty's Roman Catholic subjects of Ireland, sheweth,

That we humbly approach your royal highness, as the guardian of the honour and interests of this great empire, and presume respectfully to submit to your royal consideration, our peculiar condition under the penal laws now in force against us.

The generous and elevated character which the people of Ireland have long been taught to attach to the name of your royal highness, has impressed us with the pleasing confidence, that the glorious work of effectually relieving the Roman Catholics of these realms from their numerous sufferings, has been reserved for your gracious and happy interposition in our favour.

We have publicly and solemnly taken every oath of fidelity and allegiance, which the jealous caution of the legislature has, from time to time, imposed as tests of our political and moral principles; and although we are still set apart (how wounding to every sentiment of honour!) as if unworthy of credit in these our sworn declarations, we can appeal confidently to the sacrifices which we and our forefathers have long made, and which we still make (rather than violate conscience by taking oaths of a spiritual import contrary to our belief) as decisive proofs of our profound reverence for the sacred obligation of an oath.

By those awful tests we have bound ourselves, in the presence of the All-seeing Deity, whom all classes of Christians adore, “ To be faithful,

and bear true allegiance to our most gracious sovereign Lord King George the Third, and him to defend to the utmost of our power against all conspiracies and attempts whatsoever against his person, crown, or dignity : to use our utmost endeavours to disclose and make known to his majesty, and his heirs, all treasons and traitorous conspiracies which may be formed against him or them ; and faithfully to maintain, support, and defend, to the utmost of our power, the succession to the crown in his majesty's family, against all persons whomsoever—That by those oaths, we have renounced and abjured obedience and allegiance unto any other person claiming or pretending a right to the crown of this realm—That we have rejected, as unchristian and impious to believe, the detestable doctrine, that it is lawful, in any ways, to injure any person or persons whomsoever, under pretence of their being heretics—And also that unchristian and impious principle, that no faith is to be kept with heretics—that it is no article of our faith ; and we renounce, reject, and abjure the opinion, that princes excommunicated by the pope and council, or by any authority whatsoever, may be deposed or murdered by their subjects, or by any person whatsoever—That we do not believe that the pope of Rome, or any other foreign prince, prelate, state, or potentate, hath, or ought to have, any temporal or civil jurisdiction, power, superiority, or pre-eminence, within this realm—That we firmly believe, that no act, in itself unjust, immoral, or wicked, can ever be justified or excused by, or under pretence or colour that it was done for the good of the church, or in obedience to any ecclesiastical power whatsoever—And that it is not an article of the catho-

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lic faith, neither are we thereby required to believe or profess, that the pope is infallible, or that we are bound to any order, in its own nature immoral, though the pope, or any ecclesiastical power, should issue or direct such order, but that on the contrary we hold, that it would be sinful in us to pay any respect or obedience thereto—That we do not believe that any sin whatsoever, committed by us, can be forgiven at the mere will of any pope, or of any priest, or of any person or persons whatsoever ; but that any person who receives absolution, without a sincere sorrow for such sin, and a firm and sincere resolution to avoid future guilt, and to atone to God, so far from obtaining thereby any remission of his sin, incurs the additional guilt of violating a sacrament—And, by the most solemn obligations, we are bound and firmly pledged to defend, to the utmost of our power, the settlement and arrangement of property in Ireland, as established by the laws now in being.—That we have declared, disavowed, and solemnly abjured, any intention to subvert the present church establishment, for the purpose of substituting a catholic establishment in its stead.

And we have solemnly sworn that we will not exercise any privilege, to which we are or may become entitled, to disturb and weaken the protestant religion or protestant government in Ireland.

We can with perfect truth assure your royal highness, that the political and moral principles, asserted by these solemn and special tests, are not merely in unison with our fixed principles, but expressly inculcated by the religion which we profess.

And we do most humbly trust, that, as professors of doctrines which

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permit such tests to be taken, we shall appear to your royal highness to be entitled to the full enjoyment of religious freedom, under the happy constitution of these realms.

Frequently has the legislature of Ireland borne testimony to the uniform peaceable demeanour of the Irish Roman catholics—to their acknowledged merits as good and loyal subjects—to the wisdom and sound policy of admitting them to all the blessings of a free constitution, and of thus binding together all classes of the people by mutual interest and mutual affection.

Yet may we humbly represent to your royal highness—and we do so at this perilous crisis with sincere regret and deep solicitude—that the Roman catholics of Ireland still remain subject to severe and humiliating laws, rigidly enforced, universally felt, and inflicting upon them divers injurious and vexatious disabilities, incapacities, privations, and penalties, by reason of their conscientious adherence to the religious doctrines of their forefathers.

For nearly the entire period of the last twenty years, the progress of religious freedom has been obstructed; and, whilst other Christian nations have hastened to unbind the fetters imposed upon religious dissent, the Roman catholics of Ireland have remained unrelieved.

The laws, which unequivocally attest our innocence and our merits, continue to load us with the pains of guilt; our own consciences—the voice of mankind—acquit us of crime and offence. Our protestant fellow-citizens press forward with generous ardour and enlightened benevolence, to testify their earnest wishes for our relief. Yet these penal laws, of which we humbly complain, cherish the spi-

rit of hostility, and impede the cordial union of the people, which is at all times so desirable, and now so necessary.

These penal laws operate for no useful or meritorious purpose. Affording no aid to the constitution in church or state—not attaching affection to either—they are efficient only for objects of disunion and disaffection.

They separate the protestant from the catholic, and withdraw both from the public good; they irritate man against his fellow-creature, alienate the subject from the state, and leave the Roman catholic community but a precarious and imperfect protection as the reward of fixed and unbroken allegiance.

We forbear to detail the numerous incapacities and inconveniences inflicted by those laws, directly or indirectly, upon the Roman catholic community—or to dwell upon the humiliating and ignominious system of exclusion, reproach, and suspicion, which they generate and keep alive. Perhaps no other age or nation has ever witnessed severities more vexatious, or inflictions more taunting, than those which we have long endured; and of which but too large a portion still remains.

Relief from these disabilities and penalties we have sought through every channel that has appeared to us to be legitimate and eligible.—We have never consciously violated, or sought to violate, the known laws of the land; nor have we pursued our object in any other manner, than such as has been usually adhered to, and apparently the best calculated to collect and communicate our united sentiments accurately, without tumult, and to obviate all pretext for asserting that the Roman catholic

community at large were indifferent to the pursuit of their freedom.

We can affirm, with perfect sincerity, that we have no latent views to realize—no secret or sinister objects to attain. Any such imputation must be effectually repelled, as we humbly conceive, by the consideration of our numbers, our property, our known principles and character.

Our object is avowed and direct—earnest, yet natural. It extends to an equal participation of the civil rights of the constitution of our country—equally with our fellow-subjects of all other religious persuasions: it extends no further.

We would cheerfully concede the enjoyment of civil and religious liberty to all mankind; we ask no more for ourselves.

We seek not the possession of offices, but mere eligibility to office, in common with our fellow citizens; not power or ascendancy over any class of people, but the bare permission to rise from our prostrate posture, and to stand erect in the empire.

We have been taught that, according to the pure and practical principles of the British constitution, property is justly entitled to a proportionate share of power; and we humbly trust, that no reasonable apprehension can arise from that power, which can only be obtained and exercised through the constitution.

We are sensible, and we do not regret, that this equality of civil rights (which alone we humbly sue for) will leave a fair practical ascendancy, wheresoever property shall predominate; but, whilst we recognise and acknowledge the wholesomeness of this great principle, we cannot admit the necessity of the unqualified disfranchisement of any part of the peo-

ple, in a constitution like that of these realms.

We are gratified by the reflection, that the attainment of this our constitutional object will prove as conducive to the welfare and security of this great empire, as to the complete relief of the Roman catholic community; that it will secure the quiet and concord of our country; animate all classes of the people in the common defence, and form the most stable protection against the dangers which heavily menace these islands.

For we most humbly presume to submit it to your royal highness, as our firm opinion, that an equal degree of enthusiasm cannot reasonably be expected from men, who feel themselves excluded from a fair participation of the blessings of a good constitution and government, as from those who fully partake of its advantages; that the enemies of this empire, who meditate its subjugation, found their best hopes of success upon the effects of those penal laws, which by depressing millions of the inhabitants of Ireland, may weaken their attachment to their country, and impair the means of its defence, and that the continued pressure of these laws, in times of unexpected danger, only spreads the general feeling of distrustful alarm, and augments the risk of common ruin.

To avert such evils, to preserve and promote the welfare and security of this empire, and to become thoroughly identified with our fellow subjects in interests and affection, are objects as precious in our eyes, upon every consideration of property, principle, and moral duty, as in those of any other description of the inhabitants of these realms.

If, in thus humbly submitting our

depressed condition and our earnest hopes to the consideration of your royal highness, we would dwell upon the great numbers and the property of the Roman catholics of Ireland, already so considerable and so rapidly increasing, and to their consequent most important contributions to the exigencies of the state ; we would do so, not with a view of exciting unworthy motives for concession, but in the honest hope of suggesting legitimate and rational grounds of constitutional relief.

And deeply indeed should we lament, if these very recommendations, should serve only to hold us out as the objects of harsh suspicion at home, or of daring attempts upon our allegiance from abroad.

May we, then, with hearts deeply interested in the fate of this our humble supplication, presume to appeal to the wisdom and benignity of your royal highness on behalf of a very numerous, industrious, affectionate, and faithful body of people, the Roman catholics of Ireland.

And to pray, that your royal highness may be pleased to take into your valuable consideration the whole of our condition ; our numbers, our services, our merits, and our sufferings.

And as we are conscious of the purity of our motives and the integrity of our principles, we therefore humbly pray to be restored to the rights and privileges of the constitution of our country ; to be freed from all penal and disabling laws in force against us on account of our religious faith ; and that we may thereby become more worthy, as well as more capable, of promoting the service of the crown, and the substantial interests of this great empire, now committed to the unrestricted wisdom of your royal highness.

DOCUMENTS RELATIVE TO THE FORMATION OF A NEW MINISTRY.

No. 1.

Minutes of a Conversation between Mr Canning and Lord Liverpool, dated 17th May, 1812.

*Gloucester Lodge, Sunday,
May 17, 1812.*

Lord Liverpool stated to me, that he was commanded by his royal highness the prince regent to make me the following communication :

That upon the melancholy event of Mr Perceval's death, his royal highness being desirous of continuing his administration upon its present basis, was desirous also of strengthening it as much as possible, by associating to it such persons in public life as agreed most nearly and generally in the principles upon which public affairs had been conducted.

That with this view his royal highness naturally looked to Lord Wellesley and to me.

That he (Lord Liverpool) was authorised to express the disposition of all his colleagues to act with Lord Wellesley and me, under an arrangement which might be at once consistent with their own honour and duty, and honourable and satisfactory to us.

That with respect to Lord Castle-reagh, it was fair that it should be distinctly understood, that the situation in which he stands both in this government, and in the House of Commons, was to be preserved to him.

That with respect to official arrangements, he (Lord L.) would not have been the bearer of any proposition to me, but one which was understood as comprising my friends. In answer to a question put by me, Lord L. stated, that his colleagues were desirous, that he should be ap-

pointed to the office of first lord of the Treasury; and that this desire was known to the prince regent, when his royal highness commanded Lord Liverpool to undertake this communication.

Lord Liverpool added, that he was ready to answer any other enquiry that I might wish to make; or to clear up any thing that he might have imperfectly explained. I said that I thought it better to receive his communication just as he gave it to me; and to defer making any remark, or giving any answer whatever, until I should have communicated it to my friends; Lord Liverpool himself undertaking to see Lord Wellesley.

I would only, therefore, ask—whether I was to consider the opinion and policy of the government as remaining altogether unchanged upon the question relating to the laws affecting the Roman catholics?

Lord Liverpool answered, that his own opinions upon this subject remained unchanged; and that he was not aware that those of his colleagues had undergone any change.

I then wrote this minute in Lord Liverpool's presence; which he read over, and suggested such corrections as appeared to him necessary for making it perfectly accurate.

(Signed) GEORGE CANNING.

No. 2.

Conversation between Lord Wellesley and Lord Liverpool.

*Apsley-House, 17th May, 1812,
¼ past 5 p. m.*

Lord Liverpool came to me immediately after his visit to Mr Canning, and remained with me for about half an hour. Soon after Lord Liver-

pool's departure, I received the annexed paper from Mr Canning,

Lord Liverpool's conversation with me was substantially the same as that which is described to have passed with Mr Canning. Any difference which appeared, arose necessarily from my questions and observations, which were made without knowledge of what passed between Lord Liverpool and Mr Canning. After receiving Lord Liverpool's verbal communication nearly in the terms stated by Mr Canning, I enquired, (1st.) what was to be policy of the government with relation to the Roman catholics? To this question Lord Liverpool returned the same answer stated in Mr Canning's paper to have been returned to a similar question.

2dly, I observed to Lord Liverpool, that he was apprised of my opinion, that our efforts in the peninsula had been conducted on an inadequate and imperfect scale, which could not be expected to accomplish the ultimate objects of the war in that quarter; that I had for a long time considered an extension of our system in the peninsula to be indispensably necessary, and easily practicable; that I was aware of the impropriety (in my present situation) of urging any detailed questions to Lord Liverpool on this point; but that I mentioned it now, because it must form a principal consideration in my answer to the proposition which he had brought to me.

Lord Liverpool said, that he did not agree in my opinion respecting the scale of the efforts which we had hitherto made in the peninsula, which he thought as great as it had been possible to make; that there never had been any limit to our exertions in that quarter, but what arose out

of the question of practicability (that is, the means of increasing and supplying our armies), and that he had never heard any specific plan by which those means might have been carried further, though the subject had been often most anxiously considered in my presence : that circumstances had occurred since my resignation, which did not then exist, and into the particulars of which it would not be proper for him to enter at this time, which might enable government to extend, to a certain degree, the military operations in the peninsula; and the system of himself and his colleagues would be, as he contended they always had been, to make the greatest efforts in the cause of the peninsula which the resources of the country rendered possible.

3dly, I enquired whether all the general constituent parts of the present cabinet were to remain? He informed me that they were in general to remain. He believed it was known to me, that some of the members of the cabinet had been long desirous of retiring, and would be ready, therefore, now to afford facilities to any new arrangement.

In answer to a question put by me respecting Lord Sidmouth and his friends, he said they were to remain.

4thly, I stated to Lord Liverpool, that I made no enquiry respecting the proposed distribution and allocation of offices; because that circumstance would not constitute the basis of my decision upon the proposition which he had brought to me.

Lord Liverpool observed, that the distribution of offices was a matter open to future adjustment, to be regulated for the honour of all parties.

5thly, When Lord Liverpool informed me that the leading in the

House of Commons was to be preserved to Lord Castlereagh, I remarked, that in any situation which I might ever hold in any administration, I should feel great obligation to any member of the government who would undertake that charge, which was called the leading in the house of parliament in which I sat; although I was fully aware of the great importance which that charge necessarily conveyed to the person who exercised it, and of the great influence which it must give to him in the general administration and patronage of the government.

6thly, I desired to know, whether all those persons now designated by the name of the "Opposition," were to be excluded from the proposed scheme of administration?

Lord Liverpool answered, that no principle of exclusion was intended; but that he was not authorised to make any proposal to any persons of the description which I had mentioned.

7thly, Considering the course which Lord Liverpool had observed in making this communication, I asked him, whether he applied to me by command of the prince regent, as a part of Mr Canning's suite?—I reminded Lord Liverpool of the constant and unabated exertions which I had made to open every avenue for the return of Mr Canning to the public service; remarking at the same time, that I never had attempted to press that point beyond the honour and feelings of Mr Perceval's administration. I stated, that I could not consider any administration to be constituted on a foundation of justice towards individual talents and services, or towards the interests of the country, in which Mr Canning should not

hold a high efficient station. But I added, that Mr Canning was under no engagement to me, which could preclude his acceptance of any office which might be offered to him; that, on the other hand, Mr Canning would certainly make the same declaration with regard to my perfect freedom. Lord Liverpool said, that he had pursued this course of communication, being convinced, that under the present circumstances, I would not accept office, unless a fair proposal was made to Mr Canning, I declared to Lord Liverpool, that he was correct in this view of my sentiments towards Mr Canning; repeating, however, that Mr Canning and I were perfectly free to act as each might think fit, and that our agreement in many great public principles could not affect questions of mere official arrangement.

8thly, I expressed my wish to receive this communication in writing; to answer it in writing; and also to submit my sentiments upon the whole transaction in an audience of the prince regent.

Lord Liverpool informed me, that Mr Canning would transmit to me a copy of the minute of Lord Liverpool's conversation taken in his presence, and Lord Liverpool desired me to consider that paper as the written communication which I wished to receive. I agreed to Lord Liverpool's proposal on this point. I then informed Lord Liverpool, that I would return my answer in writing to that paper. Whatever might be the tenour of my answer, with regard to the great public considerations on which it must be founded, I expressed my hope, that Lord Liverpool would be assured of my sincere personal respect and esteem. I now transmit this minute to Lord Liverpool, re-

questing him to insert any correction which he may think requisite.

(Signed) WELLESLEY.
May, 18, 1812.

Corrected by Lord Liverpool, and returned to me.

(Signed) WELLESLEY.

No. 3.

Note from Mr Canning to Lord Wellesley, enclosing a Letter to Mr Canning from Lord Liverpool, relative to Lord Castlereagh.

(COPY.)

*Gloucester Lodge, Sunday night,
May 17, 1812.*

My dear Wellesley,—I have just received from Lord Liverpool a letter, of which the enclosed is a copy. I transmit it to you to be added, according to his desire, to the copy of the minute of his verbal communication of this morning. Ever affectionately yours,
G. C.

Copy in No. 3.

Lord Liverpool to Mr Canning.

(Private.)

Five-house, May 17, 1812.

My dear Canning,—I think, upon reflection, it is due to Lord Castlereagh to state, in writing, what I mentioned to you, verbally, that from motives of delicacy, he absented himself from the cabinet, on the occasions on which the subject in your memorandum was determined.

I did not, however, make the communication to you without having reason to know that he would be no obstacle in the way of an arrangement, founded on the principles in the memorandum.

I will beg of you to communicate this letter to any persons to whom you may communicate the memorandum. (Signed) LIVERPOOL.

No. 4.

Copy of a Letter from Marquis Wellesley to the Earl of Liverpool, transmitting Lord W.'s Reply to Lord Liverpool's Proposal.

*Apsley-house, May 18, 1812,
half past three p. m.*

My dear Lord,—I enclose a paper, containing my reply to the communication which you were so kind as to make to me yesterday. Although I find myself compelled to decline the proposal which you conveyed, I request you to accept my grateful thanks for the amicable and satisfactory manner in which you communicated with me; and to be assured, that I shall always entertain the most sincere and cordial sentiments of personal respect and esteem for you.

Believe me, my dear lord, most sincerely yours,

(Signed) WELLESLEY.

In No. 4.

Lord Wellesley's reply to Lord Liverpool's proposition.

Apsley-house, May 18.

From the communication received through Lord Liverpool, I understand that his royal highness the prince regent has been graciously pleased to signify his desire of strengthening his administration upon its present basis, by associating me with it, as one of those persons who agree most nearly and generally in the principles upon which public affairs have been conducted.

From the same communication I also derive the gratifying intelligence, that all Lord Liverpool's colleagues have authorised him to express a disposition to act with me, under an arrangement, consistent with their own

honour and duty, and honourable and satisfactory to me.

I receive this notification of the prince regent's commands with every sentiment of duty and affection, while it affords me matter of just satisfaction, that, to the distinguished honour of such condescending notice from his royal highness, is added so high a testimony of the confidence and esteem of all the respectable persons composing his present administration.

With all humility towards the exalted authority from which this proposition proceeds, and with the most sincere regard for those through whom it is conveyed, I must, however, declare, that I should have declined it at the first instant of its approach, if motives of deference and submissive attachment had not imposed upon me the obligation of receiving it with respectful consideration.

The proposition necessarily rests upon a supposition, that I entertain no such difference of public sentiment with the present administration, as should preclude me from acting with them, under an arrangement compatible with our mutual and respective honour and duty.

But it appears from Lord Liverpool's candid and explicit statement, that, upon the important question, which regards the laws affecting the Roman catholics, Lord Liverpool's opinions remain unchanged; nor is he aware, that the sentiments of his colleagues, on that subject, have undergone any change.

I must therefore conclude, that the policy which has been pursued respecting the Roman catholics, during the present session of parliament, is to be continued without abatement; the general constituent parts of the

the present cabinet are to remain unchanged; the highest and most efficient offices in the state, therefore, are to be filled by persons who still conceive themselves to be bound by duty, honour, and conscience, not only to resist any mitigation of the present condition of the Roman catholics, but even to prevent the consideration of the laws which affect that large portion of the population of the empire.

I cannot concur in the principle on which the present administration has conducted this important branch of public affairs; on this point, I have recently expressed the strongest difference of opinion with the present administration.

The declaration of Lord Liverpool precludes the hope of any such change in the policy of the present administration towards the Roman catholics as could satisfy my judgment. This difference is of the utmost importance: without any other obstacle, therefore, this alone compels me to decline the proposition which Lord Liverpool has conveyed to me.

I entertain a confident expectation, that when the prince regent shall have considered the nature of this difficulty, he will extend his indulgence to my humble representation, and will relieve me from the pressure of commands, which I could not obey without sacrificing a public principle of the highest obligation.

These observations comprise a sufficient reply to the communication received through Lord Liverpool. But I deem it to be a duty towards the prince regent to declare, that the considerations which induced me, on the 19th of February, to resign the station which I had the honour to hold in his royal highness's service,

have acquired additional force since that time, and would constitute an insuperable obstacle to my acceptance of any station in the present administration.

I originally expressed my desire to withdraw from Mr Perceval's administration, because my general opinions, for a long time past, on various important questions, had not sufficient weight in that cabinet, to justify me towards the public, or towards my own character, in continuing in office.

My objections to remaining in that cabinet arose, in a great degree, from the imperfect scale on which the efforts in the peninsula were conducted. It was always stated to me, that it was impracticable to enlarge that system. I thought it was perfectly practicable to extend the plan in the peninsula, and that it was neither safe nor honest towards this country or the allies to continue the present inadequate scheme.

From Lord Liverpool's statement upon this point, it is evident, that since my resignation, it has been found practicable to make some extension of the system in the peninsula; but it is still intimated, that my views are more extensive than the resources of the country can enable the government to reduce to practice. I, however, still entertain the same views and opinions, without diminution or alteration; and I am convinced, that a considerable extension of the scale of our operations in the peninsula, and also an effectual correction of many branches of our system in that quarter, are objects of indispensable necessity, and of easy attainment.

With such a decided difference of opinion in relation to the conduct and management of the war, my re-

turn into a cabinet composed as the present is, would offer to me no better prospect than the renewal of discussions which have hitherto proved unavailing.

I learn from Lord Liverpool, that he has received no authority, in forming the intended administration, to make any proposal to any of those persons now designated by the name of "The Opposition."

My enquiry on this point originated in a sincere conviction, (founded upon an attentive observation of the general state of public opinion, and of the condition of the empire,) that no administration, which shall not comprise some of those persons, can prove advantageous to the prince regent, conciliatory towards Ireland, and equal to the conduct of the war on a scale of sufficient extent.

It has been stated erroneously, that the first act of the prince regent upon his approach to unrestricted authority, was to establish Mr Perceval's administration: but the fact is, that his royal highness's first act at that crisis was to dissolve Mr Perceval's administration; and to endeavour to form a cabinet upon a more extended and liberal basis. This endeavour was frustrated at that moment; and the formation of such a cabinet was represented to his royal highness to be impracticable. It has, however, since appeared evident to me, from the discussions and declarations which I have witnessed in parliament, that his royal highness's benevolent intentions on that subject are now perfectly practicable; and that their accomplishment would tend to promote internal peace and tranquillity, and to invigorate the whole system of our external operations.

Impressed with this sentiment I should be untrue to his royal high-

ness's interests and honour, as well as to the prosperity of the empire, if I concurred in any arrangement of an administration which did not include a fair and full consideration of this most important point.

After such a dispassionate consideration, my opinion is, that a cabinet might be formed, on an intermediary principle respecting the Roman catholic claims, equally exempt from the dangers of instant, unqualified concession, and from those of inconsiderate, peremptory exclusion; the entire resources of the empire might be applied to the great objects of the war with general consent, upon a full understanding of the real exigency of the present crisis; and concord and union at home might secure ultimate and permanent success abroad.

(Signed) WELLESLEY.

MR CANNING'S REPLY.

Gloucester Lodge, May 18, 1812.

My dear Liverpool,—I have communicated to such of my friends as I had an immediate opportunity of consulting, the minute, taken in your presence, of the proposition which you conveyed to me yesterday.

In a case in which I felt that my decision either way might be liable to misapprehension, I was desirous rather to collect the opinions of persons whose judgments I esteem, than to act on the impulse of my own first feelings.

The result of their opinions is, that, by entering into the administration upon the terms proposed to me, I should incur such a loss of personal and public character as would disappoint the object which his royal highness the prince regent has at heart; and must render my accession to his government a new source of weakness, rather than an addition of strength.

To become a part of your administration with the previous knowledge of your unaltered opinions as to the policy of resisting all consideration of the state of the laws affecting his majesty's Roman catholic subjects, would, it is felt, be to lend myself to the defeating of my own declared opinions on that most important question; opinions which are as far as those of any man from being favourable to precipitate and unqualified concession; but which rest on the conviction that it is the duty of the advisers of the crown, with a view to the peace, tranquillity, and strength of the empire, to take that whole question into their early and serious consideration; and earnestly to endeavour to bring it to a final and satisfactory settlement.

With this result of the opinions of those whom I have consulted, my own entirely concurs: and such being the ground of my decision, it is wholly unnecessary to advert to any topics of inferior importance.

After the expressions, however, with which you were charged on the part of all your colleagues, I should not be warranted in omitting to declare, that no objection of a personal sort should have prevented me from uniting with any, or all of them, in the public service, if I could have done so with honour; and if, in my judgment, a cabinet, so constituted in all its parts, could have afforded to the country, under its present great and various difficulties, an adequately efficient administration. I cannot deny myself the satisfaction of adding, that the manner of your communication with me has entirely corresponded with the habits and sentiments of a friendship of so many years; a friendship which our general concurrence on many great political princi-

ples has strengthened, and which our occasional differences have in no degree impaired.

On the public grounds which I have stated, I must entreat you to lay at the feet of the prince regent, together with the warmest expressions of my dutiful attachment to his royal highness, and of my acknowledgment for the favourable opinion which his royal highness has been graciously pleased to entertain of me, my humble but earnest prayer to be excused from accepting office on terms which, by a sacrifice of public character, must render me inefficient for the service of his royal highness's government.

I presume, at the same time, humbly to solicit an audience of the prince regent, for the purpose of explaining in person to his royal highness the grounds of my conduct, on an occasion on which I should be grieved to think, that his royal highness could, for a moment, consider me as wanting either in duty to his royal highness, or in zeal for the public service; and assuring his royal highness that my inability to assist in forwarding his highness's purpose of procuring strength to his administration, on the plan which has been suggested by his royal highness's confidential servants, does not arise from any disposition on my part, to shrink from the encounter of those difficulties which press, at this time, upon the country and upon the crown.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GEO. CANNING.

No. 5.

Explanatory Letter from Lord Liverpool to the Marquis Wellesley.

Five house, May 19, 1812.

My dear Lord,—After the receipt

of the paper which you sent to me in the afternoon of yesterday, I should certainly have felt it to be unnecessary and fruitless to trouble you with any further correspondence, if I were not desirous to correct the misapprehension into which you appear to have fallen respecting my opinions, and those of my colleagues, upon the Roman catholic question.

In the communication which passed between us on Sunday, as well as that which I previously had with Mr Canning, I certainly stated my opinions upon the Roman catholic question to remain unchanged, and that I was not aware that those of my colleagues had undergone any change.

With respect to myself individually, I must protest against its being inferred from any declaration of mine, that it is, or ever has been, my opinion, that under no circumstances it would be possible to make any alteration in the laws respecting the Roman catholics.

Upon the last occasion on which the subject was discussed in parliament, I expressly stated that circumstances might arise, in which, in my judgment, some alteration in those laws would be advisable. I have always been desirous of hearing the specific proposition which should explain distinctly, what part of the existing securities it was intended to repeal—what part it was intended to preserve—and what were the new securities which it has been so often declared must be substituted in the place of some of those which are at present in force.

I have never heard any satisfactory explanation on this point.

I will fairly own, that in the present state of the opinions and feelings of the Roman catholics, I do not be-

lieve such a project to be practicable, consistently with the attainment of the avowed objects of really satisfying the Roman catholics, and of affording an adequate security to the established church and constitution.

Entertaining this opinion, I have felt it to be my duty to continue to resist parliamentary enquiry on that subject, which, in my judgment, could be productive of no other effect than that of alarming the protestants on the one hand, and deluding and deceiving the Roman catholics on the other.

With respect to the opinions of my colleagues, there are some who entirely agree with me in the view which I have taken of this question; but I am sure it must be known to you from discussions at which you have been present, that there are others who have always entertained and avowed different opinions from those professed by me, upon some parts of this subject.

You must recollect that considerations of a very high importance, but which might be only temporary in their nature, induced us all, up to a very late period, to be decidedly of opinion that it was not proper, that under such circumstances the measure should be entertained.

You may be of opinion that since the month of February last these considerations have ceased to be in force; but they are still regarded by others as not having lost their weight. Besides the consideration to which I have referred, the conduct and temper which the Roman catholics have been induced to manifest,—the principle upon which the question has been brought forward,—the circumstances of Europe at this time, give rise to objections which are felt in a

greater or less degree by different persons.

I have thought this explanation due to my colleagues and to myself.

In one point we are all agreed, that this is not the moment at which the question ought to be entertained with a view to any immediate practical consequence. I am aware, that in this sense of our duty, our opinions may be at variance with your's; but it is material that these opinions should not be misunderstood, or subject to the interpretation to which my silence might render them liable, if I had not returned some answer to that part of your paper.

Upon the subject of the manner in which the war in the peninsula has been managed, I forbear entering into any particulars at present; but I think it material to observe, with respect to my declaration, that since your resignation it had been found practicable to make some extension of the military efforts in the peninsula, that this has not arisen from any means which were in existence at the time when you were in office, and which there had been then any indisposition or objection to direct to that object, but it has grown out of events which have subsequently occurred, and which may place at the disposal of government, means which were at that time unavoidably applied to another service.

As this letter is merely explanatory, I will not give you the trouble of returning any answer to it; but I am sure you will see the justice and propriety of considering it as a part of the correspondence which has passed between us on the subject to which it relates.

I am, &c.

(Signed) LIVERPOOL.
Marquis Wellesley, K. G.

No. 6.

Copy of Lord Wellesley's Reply to Lord Liverpool's Explanatory Letter of the 19th May, 1812.

Apsley House, May 21, 1812.

My dear Lord,—Although you have had the goodness to dispense with my returning any answer to your letter of the 19th inst. some further observations on my part may, perhaps, contribute to promote the professed object of that letter, by explaining and correcting whatever may appear doubtful or erroneous in the course of our recent correspondence.

When you informed me, that your opinion upon the claims of the Roman catholics remained unchanged, and that you were not aware of any change in the opinion of your colleagues on that subject, I certainly concluded, that the policy which has been pursued during the present session of parliament, would be continued by the new cabinet. Subsequent reflection satisfies me, that such a conclusion was just and reasonable; nor can I admit, that I have fallen into any misapprehension of that system of policy, when I have described it as consisting, not only in the denial of any present relief to the Roman catholics, but even a peremptory refusal to consider the state of the law which affects their civil condition.

Whatever may be the different character or complexion of the opinions of the several members of the present cabinet, the practical result has been to pursue the course which I have described, during the present session of parliament; and your explanation on this point closes with an admission that you are all agreed to continue the same policy in the present moment.

No suggestion is made of the time

r circumstances, in which any alteration of this system of policy can be expected; no prospect is afforded of any conciliatory proceeding, which might tend to open the way to an amicable settlement; and, while a desire of hearing specific propositions of security is professed, the very consideration of the question is denied to parliament, and is not pursued by any other authority.

This statement is no misapprehension of the tenor of your explanatory letter; and in such a state of the practical consequences of the united councils of the present cabinet, it may be deemed superfluous to analyze individual sentiments.

This task (however useless with regard to present practice) is required from me, by the strong protest which you have made against any inference to be drawn from any declaration of your's "that it is, or ever has been, your opinion, that under no circumstances it would be possible to make any alteration in the laws respecting the Roman catholics." To this protest, you have added an assurance, "That upon the last occasion, on which the subject was discussed in parliament, you expressly stated that circumstances might arise in which, in your judgment, some alteration in those laws would be advisable."

I confess freely to you, that I had always understood your recorded opinion on this subject in a very different sense: I had supposed, that you considered the disabilities imposed by statute upon the Roman catholics, not as temporal and occasional securities, against a temporal and occasional danger, but as an integral and permanent part of the constitution in church and state, established at the Revolution.

In this opinion, I had always un-

derstood, that several of the principal members of the present cabinet concurred with you; and that you felt, in common, an apprehension, that the removal of any important part of this system of restraint would endanger the foundations of the establishment of our laws, liberties, and religion.

Viewing in this light your sentiments, and those of the respectable persons to whom I refer, I am persuaded that I shall not be suspected of intending to cast any reflection upon the honour or honesty of those principles, or of the persons who maintain them.

I have ever considered those principles to be pure and honest in the minds in which I supposed them to reside; and, while I gave full credit to their sincerity, I lamented their erroneous foundation and dangerous tendency.

I must further declare, that from some accident, I did not hear the statement in parliament to which you refer, as having been made by you, on the last occasion in the House of Lords.

I now, however, understand your opinion to be, that circumstances may arise, in which, in your judgment, some alteration would be advisable in the laws affecting the Roman catholics.

I should be desirous of urging the same enquiry respecting circumstances, which you have made respecting securities; and I should be anxious to hear the specific statement of all, or any of those circumstances, under which you would advise any alteration in the laws respecting the Roman catholics.

The explanation which you require respecting securities, is attainable only by a full consideration and discus-

sion of the whole subject; and I therefore view the declared intention of resisting the first step towards such a discussion, as an effectual barrier against that explanation, which you consider to be the necessary preliminary to any alteration of the existing statutes.

The details of your reasoning on this part of the question render the prospect of any settlement utterly hopeless. You require a change in the state of the opinions, feelings, conduct and temper of the Roman catholics, as a preliminary, even to the consideration of the causes of their complaints. But is it possible to expect effectual change in the temper of the Roman catholic body, while you refuse even to enquire into the nature of their grievances?

The repeated rejection of their claim, without any other deliberation than that which has arisen on the mere question of taking the petition into consideration, is not a course of proceeding calculated to mitigate the severity of disappointment.

Reason and moderation must appear in our consideration of their prayer, if we hope to infuse those qualities into their proceedings.

You require, also, a change in the circumstances of Europe.—Ignorant of the events which may have furnished any hope of such a change, since I had the honour of a share in his royal highness's councils, I must consider the determination to delay this interesting question, until Europe shall have assumed a new aspect, as a virtual negative upon the substance of the claim; and I feel this point with a greater degree of pain because I am convinced, that the continuance of Ireland in her present condition, must protract, if not perpetuate, the

present unhappy condition of Europe.

But, until these preliminaries shall have been established, you declare, that it will be your duty to resist parliamentary enquiry, which, in your judgment, could be productive of no other effect, than "to alarm the protestants, and to delude the Roman catholics." At the same time, you offer no hope, that the means of relief will be opened by any other authority.

I cannot understand through what channel of reason or passion, the protestants should be alarmed, or the catholics deluded, by a full and fair consideration of the state of the laws affecting the latter body. Indeed, I cannot conceive any proceeding so likely to remove alarm, and prevent delusion, as that which appears to you likely to create both.

On the other hand, I apprehend much more danger, both of alarm and of delusion, from any system of measures to be founded on the general and indistinct terms, in which you state, that "circumstances may arise, in which some alteration in the laws would be advisable."

You refer to considerations of a "very high importance," which, until a very late period of time, have precluded the executive government and parliament from entertaining this measure; and you suggest, that in the opinion of some persons, these considerations have not lost their weight.

I presume, that you refer to the sentiments of the most exalted and venerable authority in these realms, on the claims of his majesty's Roman catholic subjects.

As your letter seems to bear some reference to the course of my

conduct in parliament, and in his majesty's councils on this subject, I avail myself of this opportunity to explain the motives, both of my former silence, and of the recent declaration of my sentiments.

At the remote period of the year 1797, upon the eve of my departure for India, I stated to the late Mr Pitt my solicitude, that he should direct his attention to the settlement of Ireland; and I expressed to him my conviction, that Ireland could neither be happily settled, nor firmly united to Great Britain, without a concurrent settlement of the claims of his majesty's Roman catholic subjects. The opinions which I declared to Mr Pitt, at that time, respecting the substance of those claims, were precisely similar to those which I have stated in the House of Lords during the present session of parliament.

It is not necessary to enter upon any review of the transactions which passed during my absence in India, with relation to Ireland, or to the claims of the Roman catholics.

I arrived from India in the month of January, 1806; and after one short interview with Mr Pitt, I assisted in performing the last sad office of following his remains to the grave.

You are aware, that long before that period of time, the "high considerations" to which you refer, had been fixed in full force; that no attempt to change those sentiments could have been made with any prospect of success; and that the result, even of a successful proceeding in parliament, would have tended only to produce the most dreadful extremity of confusion.

You must remember, that I have always lamented (as serious national calamities, menacing the constitution of the monarchy) the reference, which

has necessarily been made to the existence of those personal sentiments, and the causes which have occasioned that necessity.

With the warmest sentiments of personal veneration, attachment, and gratitude, my opinion has always been, that the duty of loyalty and affection towards a British sovereign does not consist in submissive obedience, even to the honest prejudices or errors of the royal mind, but rather in respectful endeavours to remove those prejudices and errors, by free advice in council, and by temperate remonstrance in parliament.

But the time for such endeavours had passed; and I submitted reluctantly, not to my sense of the genuine duty of a faithful counsellor towards his sovereign, but to the painful, and, by me, irreversible necessity of the case.

This is a subject of the utmost, of the most perilous delicacy:—your letter has opened it:—I will pursue it no farther than to assure you, that when, on the 31st of January, I declared in the House of Lords my sentiments respecting the Roman catholic claims, the necessity which had occasioned my silence appeared to me to have entirely ceased.

The second point of your explanatory letter refers to the management of the war in the peninsula.

Your suggestions are necessarily indistinct, with regard to the additional means (which have occurred since my resignation), of extending our military efforts in that quarter: I think I can collect even from your hints, that although those means are extraneous, the probability of their existence might have been foreseen, as the natural result of instructions which were in progress of execution previously to my resignation.

But my objection to the system pursued in the peninsula, at the time of my resignation, was applied to the whole frame and fabric of our permanent arrangements, both in Portugal and Spain, which, in my judgment, must be corrected and extended, not only with a view to the advantageous use of such means as we now possess in the peninsula, but even of such adventitious and extraneous means as events in other quarters may place at our disposal. Believe me, my dear lord, always your's most sincerely,
(Signed) WELLESLEY.
The Earl of Liverpool, &c.

Negotiations of the Marquis Wellesley and the Earl of Moira, for forming a New Administration.

No. 1.

Minute of Mr Canning's Communication to the Earl of Liverpool, May 23d.

Five House, May 23, 1812.

The Prince Regent having laid his commands on Lord Wellesley to form a plan of an administration, to be submitted for his royal highness's approbation, Mr Canning was requested by Lord Wellesley, (as the channel of communication thought likely to be most agreeable to Lord Liverpool,) to enquire of Lord Liverpool, whether there would be a disposition on the part of Lord Liverpool, and of his colleagues, or of any of them, to entertain any proposal which should be made to them for forming part of such an administration.

The principles upon which the administration was intended to be formed were stated to be,

1st. The taking into the early and serious consideration of the executive

government the state of the laws affecting the Roman catholics, with a sincere and earnest desire to bring that important question to a final and satisfactory settlement.

2dly. The prosecution of the war in the peninsula, with the best means of the country.

It was stated that there would be the strongest wish to comprehend in the arrangement, without any individual or party exclusion whatever, as many as possible of such persons as might be able to agree in giving their public service to the country on these two principles.

With respect to the distribution of offices, it was stated that nothing of any sort was decided, or stipulated; but that every thing would be open to be arranged to the honour and satisfaction of all parts.

No. 2.

Lord Liverpool's Letter to Mr Canning, May 23d.

Five House, May 23, 1812.

My dear Canning,—I have communicated to my colleagues the memorandum which I received from you this afternoon.

They do not think it necessary to enter into any discussion of the principles stated in that memorandum, because they all feel themselves bound, particularly after what has recently passed, to decline the proposal of becoming members of an administration to be formed by Lord Wellesley.

Believe me, &c. &c.

LIVERPOOL.

No. 3.

Lord Melville's Letter to Mr Canning, May 23d.

Park Lane, May 23, 1812.

Dear Canning,—You will proba-

bly have received to-night from Lord Liverpool, the answer to the proposal which you left with him and communicated to me this afternoon. Having stated to you my strong repugnance, or rather my decided objection, under present circumstances, to join an administration of which Lord Wellesley was to be the head, it might be sufficient for me to refer to Lord Liverpool's reply, more especially as I do not wish to enter into any detailed reasoning on a question relating to a matter of personal feeling. I think it due, however, to you, as well as to myself, to state distinctly, that I have no objection to act with an administration formed on the two principles mentioned in your memorandum; though I think it improbable that any consideration, which the government can give to the subject of the restrictions on the Roman Catholics, will enable it to propose such a system as will wholly satisfy their claims, and at the same time afford that degree of security to the protestant establishment, which is generally felt to be necessary.—I remain, &c.

MELVILLE.

No. 4.

Minute of a Communication made by Lord Wellesley to Lords Grey and Grenville, at Lord Grey's house, May 23d.

Lord Wellesley stated that he had received the commands of his royal highness the Prince Regent, to lay before his royal highness the plan of such an administration as he (Lord Wellesley) might deem adapted to the present crisis of affairs.

That he had apprised his royal highness of the necessity of ascertaining the views and dispositions of all parties with regard to certain ge-

neral principles previously to the formation of any such plan.

That he considered himself merely as the instrument of executing his royal highness's commands on this occasion, and that he neither claimed nor desired for himself any station in the administration which it was in his royal highness's contemplation to form.

Under these circumstances, he requested to know whether any obstacle existed to the concurrence of Lords Grey and Grenville, or their friends, in the following general principles, as the basis upon which an administration might be formed.

First, That the state of the laws affecting the Roman Catholics, and the claims of that body of his majesty's subjects, should be taken into immediate consideration, with a view to a conciliatory adjustment of those claims.

Secondly, That the war in the peninsula should be prosecuted on a scale of adequate vigour.

Lord Wellesley stated, that, as Mr Canning and he agreed in these principles, he had requested Mr Canning to communicate them to Lord Liverpool.

Lord Wellesley has reduced the substance of this communication to writing, and now submits it to Lord Grey and Lord Grenville.

WELLESLEY.

No. 5.

Lord Moira's Letter to Lord Wellesley, dated May 23d, relative to No. 4.

St James's Place, May 23d, 1812.

My Lord,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a copy of the minutes of the conversation which your lordship held with Lords

Grey and Grenville; and I feel much indebted for the communication accompanying them.

The proposed consideration of the catholic claims, and the adoption of a system of support to the Spaniards, such as may be really capable of producing a decisive result, are the two points of policy which I have long thought the most urgent for the benefit of the country. The question relative to the orders in council may be deemed as in effect settled by the evidence adduced before the two houses; and the active correction of internal abuses must be confidently assumed as the object of such a ministry as is likely to be formed through your instrumentality. A plan of government, therefore, on the basis proposed by your lordship, would have my most cordial wishes. Allow me to say, that this is not to convey any implication of engagement to accept office. This is not mentioned from the remotest regard to the possible distribution of situations; nor does it involve objections to any individual, as there is nothing I should so much deprecate in the present state of public affairs, as a spirit of exclusion. Indeed, the candour and delicacy manifested by your lordship in these communications, are a perfect pledge that the details of arrangements could not but be entirely satisfactory.

I have the honour, my lord, to be with high esteem, your lordship's very obedient and humble servant,

MOIA .

No. 6.

Lord Lansdowne's Letter to Lord Wellesley, dated May 23d, relative to No. 4.

*Berkeley-square, Saturday
night, May 23d.*

My Lord,—I am exceedingly sorry

not to have been at home when your lordship did me the honour of calling at my house this morning, and am much obliged by the trouble you have taken in sending for my consideration, a copy of the minute of the communication made by your lordship to Lord Grey and Lord Grenville.

As Lord Grey and Lord Grenville thought proper to acquaint me confidentially with that communication, as well as the minute of the answer they proposed to return to it; and as I generally concur in the sentiments they have there stated, I shall take the liberty of referring your lordship to that paper, and shall only add, there is no part of it in which I more cordially coincide with them; than in the expression of the gratification they have derived from your powerful exertions in support of the claims of the Roman catholics, and from the manner in which that subject is adverted to in your minute.

I have the honour to remain with great respect, your lordship's very faithful, and most obedient servant,

LANSDOWNE.

No. 7.

Lord Holland's Letter to Lord Wellesley, dated May 29d, relative to No. 4.

My Lord,—I had the honour of receiving your note and enclosure, and beg leave to return my sincere thanks for your attention in sending me so interesting and so early a communication.

Lord Grenville and Lord Grey have been so good as to talk the matter over with me confidentially, and I have the satisfaction of finding that I concur generally in their views of the subject, and indeed, know no better way of expressing my opinion,

than by referring you to a memorandum, which, I believe, it is their intention to deliver to you to-morrow morning.

I am, my lord, your obliged and obedient humble servant,

VASSAL HOLLAND.

Camelford House,

May 23d.

No. 8.

Memorandum from Lords Grey and Grenville, May 24th, in reply to Lord Wellesley's Minute, No. 4.

May 24th, 1812

In such a moment as the present we feel it to be the duty of all public men, both by frank and conciliatory explanations of principle, and by the total abandonment of every personal object, to facilitate, as far as may lie in their power, the means of giving effect to the late vote of the House of Commons, and of averting the imminent and unparalleled dangers of the country.

Lord Wellesley has selected two among the many important subjects which must engage the attention of any men, who could, in such circumstances, be called upon to consider of the acceptance of stations in public trust. On those two points, our explanation shall be as distinct as it is in our power to make it.

On the first, indeed, our opinion is too well known, and has been too recently expressed, to need repetition.

We have derived a very high gratification from Lord Wellesley's powerful exertions in support of the claims of the Roman catholics, as well as from the manner in which that subject is adverted to in his minute, and we do not hesitate to assure him, that we will warmly support any proposal made by any ministers for the immediate consideration of those claims, with a view to their conciliatory ad-

justment; a measure without which we have already declared that we can entertain no hope, in any case, of rendering our own services useful.

As to the second point, no person feels more strongly than we do, the advantages which would result from a successful termination of the present contest in Spain. But we are of opinion that the direction of military operations in an extensive war, and the more or less vigorous prosecution of those operations, are questions, not of principle, but of policy; to be regulated by circumstances, in their nature temporary and fluctuating, and in many cases known only to persons in official stations, by the engagements of the country, the prospect of ultimate success, the extent of the exertions necessary for its attainment, and the means of supporting those efforts without too great a pressure on the finances and internal prosperity of the country.

On such questions, therefore, no public men, either in or out of office, can undertake for more than a deliberate and dispassionate consideration, according to the circumstances of the case as it may appear, and to such means of information as may then be within their reach.

But we cannot in sincerity conceal from Lord Wellesley, that in the present state of the finances we entertain the strongest doubts of the practicability of an increase in any branch of the public expenditure.

No. 9.

Lord Wellesley to Lord Grey, dated May 27th, communicating the termination of Lord Wellesley's Commission.

Apsley House, May 27th, 1812,

1 o'Clock, p. m.

My Lord,—I take the earliest op-

portunity of communicating the enclosed papers to your lordship. The paper enclosed (No. 11) has not reached me until within this hour. It appeared to me to be important, that the intelligence which it contains should be conveyed to your lordship, to Lord Grenville, and to your respective friends, as soon as may be practicable.

I shall be happy to have an opportunity of stating to your lordship, and to Lord Grenville, at any time that you may appoint, the whole course of my conduct, since I had the honour of seeing you.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, my lord, your lordship's most obedient and faithful servant,

WELLESLEY.

I shall remain at home for some time, and shall be happy to see your lordship and Lord Grenville, if it should be convenient.

No. 10.

Mr Canning's Statement to Lord Melville, enclosed in No. 9.

Park Lane, May 26th, 1812.

Lord Melville having stated to Mr Canning that the ministers, his colleagues, were considering, under the special command of his royal highness the prince regent, how far they could advance to meet the first of the two propositions laid down as the basis of the administration, proposed to be formed by Lord Wellesley; Mr Canning feels it necessary before he offers any observation on that statement, to enquire in what situation Lord Melville's colleagues consider themselves as standing at the present moment.

1st. Do they consider Lord Wellesley's commission at an end, and the

former administration as re-established?

2d. Are the discussions, which are now going on among them, directed to the ascertaining the possibility of the individual members of that administration, or any of them, acceding to an administration to be formed by Lord Wellesley; or to some proposal to be made by them as a government to Lord Wellesley and Mr Canning?

If Lord Wellesley's commission is considered as at an end, it is essential to Lord Wellesley's honour that the fact should be publicly known. He has entered upon communications which he could not terminate at the point to which they were brought, without distinctly stating his commission to be at an end.

If what is now in contemplation is, some new proposal to be made to Lord Wellesley and Mr Canning, from the former administration revived, then the revival of that administration ought to be made matter of notoriety; and the proposal itself must be distinctly stated, before Lord Wellesley and Mr Canning can form any judgment upon it.

No. 11.

Lord Melville's Communication to Mr Canning, enclosed in No. 9.

*Glocester Lodge, May 27, 1812,
10 a. m.*

Lord Melville called upon Mr Canning, and informed him, in answer to the questions which Mr Canning put to Lord Melville yesterday,

1st. That Lord Wellesley's commission is considered by the Prince Regent as at an end.

2d. That the persons now holding

offices, hold them only until their successors shall be appointed.

Lord Melville had understood Mr Canning yesterday to say, that Lord Wellesley was of opinion that his commission was at an end; but that he (Mr Canning) doubted it.

This was a mistake. What Mr Canning stated was, that Lord Wellesley was in doubt as to the prince regent's intention; and that he (Mr Canning) had no means of forming any opinion upon it.

No. 12.

Letter of Lord Grey to Lord Wellesley.

*Portman Square,
May 27, 1812.*

My Lord,—I have the honour of returning the papers which your lordship was so good as to put into my hands this morning.

I observe a material difference between the terms in which the two principles, proposed as the basis of a new administration, are stated in Mr Canning's minute, and in that sent to Lord Grenville and me by your lordship. I think it necessary to call your lordship's attention to this circumstance, because if these discussions should proceed further, it may become of the utmost importance.

I am, with the highest regard, my lord, your lordship's very faithful and humble servant,

(Signed) GREY.

The Marquis Wellesley.

No. 13.

Letter of Lord Wellesley to Lord Grey.

*Apsley House,
May 28, 1812.*

My Lord,—I should have return-

ed an earlier acknowledgment of the honour of your lordship's letter of yesterday, had I not thought it necessary to see Mr Canning, before I troubled your lordship with any answer to your observations on our respective minutes.

Having carefully examined those papers, and compared them with our view of the points to which they refer, we have drawn the enclosed paper for your lordship's information, and have authenticated it by our respective signatures.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, my lord, your lordship's faithful humble servant,

(Signed) WELLESLEY.

The Earl Grey.

No. 14.

Paper signed by Lord Wellesley and Mr Canning.

The variance in point of phrase in the two propositions as stated by Lord Wellesley and Mr Canning in their minutes of conference arises from this circumstance, that Lord Wellesley and Mr Canning went to their respective conferences without having thought it necessary previously to reduce into a written form the communications which they were to make, being in full possession of each other's sentiments upon the subject of them.

The two minutes were written by them as containing the substance of their respective communications; that of Mr Canning in Lord Liverpool's presence; that of Lord Wellesley immediately after his return from Lord Grey.

There does not appear to Lord Wellesley and Mr Canning to be any substantial variance in the first proposition.

The word "early" in Mr Canning's minute might be exchanged for the word "immediate," used by

Lord Wellesley, without in any degree altering the sense: as with a motion actually pending in the House of Commons, which, (but for the events that have recently taken place) would have come on this very day, the object of which was to compel the executive government to take the subject of the catholic question into consideration, it cannot be necessary to say that Mr Canning has no wish to defer that consideration. On the other hand, consideration by the executive government is the object which it is Lord Wellesley's intention to recommend: nor does he conceive any further parliamentary proceeding to be necessary or practicable this session than such as might be sufficient to insure, either by compulsion upon a hostile administration, or by pledge from a friendly one, the consideration of the question during the recess with a view to its being brought before parliament, by the recommendation of the crown, early in the ensuing session.

A committee to enquire into the state of the laws has been already negatived in both houses this session.

A "conciliatory adjustment" of the claims of the Irish catholics is the object which Lord Wellesley and Mr Canning have equally at heart: and it enters equally into both their views, that to be "conciliatory" that adjustment must be so framed as to embrace the interests and opinions of the English catholics,—also to obtain the enlightened and deliberate consent of the protestants of both countries. They would think any adjustment very imperfect which, instead of

extinguishing discontent, only transferred it from the catholic to the protestant.

But they concur in entertaining a confident belief, that the great purpose of securing the peace of the empire may be answered, not by giving a triumph to any one party, but by reconciling all.

In the substance of the second proposition, there is no variance as to any practical and prospective purpose, though undoubtedly there is, and it is natural there should be, some as to the past, arising from the difference of Mr Canning's and Lord Wellesley's respective situations.

When Mr Canning says, that the peninsular war is to be carried on "with the best means of the country," he intends the greatest scale of exertion which the means of the country may be found capable of sustaining.

If Lord Wellesley's expression, "a scale of adequate vigour," may be construed to imply the proposition, that the late exertions of this country have not been proportioned to the great object of the war, or have not been duly distributed or apportioned, this proposition Mr Canning certainly does not intend either to affirm, or to deny; simply because, not having been in the government during the last two years, he has not sufficient information to be able to pronounce an opinion, whether the exertions of those two years have or have not been below the proper scale, or have been well or ill administered; nor how far they may now admit of being extended or more judiciously applied.

He concurs, however, entirely with Lord Wellesley, in wishing to extend them to the utmost power of

the country ; and to apply them in the manner best calculated to answer their end.

(Signed) WELLESLEY.
GEORGE CANNING.

No. 15.

Letter from Lord Grey to Lord Wellesley.

*Portman Square,
May 29, 1812.*

My Lord,—I had last night the honour of receiving your lordship's letter, enclosing a paper explanatory of the difference which I had remarked between your lordship's minute and Mr Canning's, together with a copy of the latter.

I beg your lordship to be assured that in the observation to which I had thought it necessary to call your lordship's attention, I could have no object but that of preventing the possibility of any future misunderstanding. We had not entered into any explanation, which, under the circumstances of the moment, would perhaps have been premature, of the details of conduct necessary to give effect to the first of the propositions, offered by your lordship as the basis of a new administration. From the difference of the terms used by Mr Canning in stating that proposition, I was apprehensive that it might be his opinion, in concurrence with your lordship's, that no parliamentary proceeding with reference to the claims of the catholics, should take place during the present session. To such an opinion I could not have assented ; and I felt it to be due both to your lordship and Mr Canning, immediately to draw your attention to a point, on which it was so desirable that there should be a clear understanding between us.

I hope it is unnecessary for me to state, that I can look at the situations of the catholics (both Irish and English) with no other view than that of the public interest ; and that nothing can be further from my disposition, or my intention, in a matter of such pre-eminent importance, than to give to any one party a triumph at the expence of another. But I do not conceive, that the repeal of the disabilities of which the catholics complain, can give any just cause for discontent to their protestant fellow-subjects ; and I am strongly of opinion, that the efficacy of that measure must in a great degree depend on its being carried into effect with the least possible delay, and with the clearest demonstrations of a conciliatory and confiding spirit. Under this impression I should very reluctantly abandon the hope of passing a bill for such repeal, even during the present session ; but if this cannot be done, I hold it to be indispensable, that the most distinct and authentic pledge should be given of the intention, both of the executive government and of parliament, to take this matter up as one of the first measures of the next. To a proceeding of this nature, from the paper signed by your lordship and Mr Canning, I am led to hope, that you would not be adverse.

As to the second proposition, the difference which I had observed was much less important. It is impossible to reduce a question of this nature to any fixed principle. Whatever we can say with our present means of information, must necessarily be general and inconclusive, the whole subject being left open to future consideration and decision. I can have no hesitation in subscribing to the proposition, that, if it shall be

found expedient to continue the exertions we are now making in the peninsula, they should be conducted in the manner best calculated to answer their end.

I have, I fear, troubled your lordship much more than is necessary under the circumstances of our present situation; and I will only add, that if we should be called upon to pursue these considerations in their practical details, it will be my most anxious wish, that no difference of opinion may be found to exist between us, respecting the conduct to be adopted by a government equally solicitous for the internal peace and harmony of the empire, and for the prosecution of military operations in such a mode as may appear most conducive to our ultimate security. Lord Grenville, to whom I have communicated your lordship's letter, and its enclosures, desires me to express his cordial concurrence in this wish.

I have the honour to be, with the highest regard, my lord, your lordship's very faithful humble servant,
(Signed) GREY.

No. 16.

Lord Wellesley's Reply to Lord Grey, May 29th, 1812.

*Apsley House,
May 29, 1812.*

My Lord—I request your lordship to accept my sincere thanks for your letter of this day's date.

In the actual state of affairs, it might be deemed premature to enter into any more particular discussions, than those already submitted to your lordship on the points to which you have adverted with so much perspicuity, ability, and candour.

But I cannot omit this opportunity of assuring your lordship, that I

have derived from the sentiments, so justly expressed in your letter, a firm expectation, that if the advice which I have humbly offered to the prince regent, should be ultimately approved, a happy prospect will open to the country of recovering internal peace, and of prosecuting the war with success, under an administration worthy of the confidence of the prince, and of the people, and equal to the arduous charge of public affairs, amidst all the difficulties and dangers of the present crisis.

I have the honour to be, with the highest respect, my lord, your lordship's most faithful and obedient servant,
WELLESLEY.

No. 17.

Minute of a Communication made by Lord Wellesley to Lord Grey, at Lord Grey's House, June 1st, 1812.

Lord Wellesley stated that he had on that morning, received full authority from the prince regent to form an administration under his royal highness's commands; and that he was specially authorised to communicate with Lords Grey and Grenville on the subject.

That his royal highness entertained no wish to exclude from the proposed administration, any person, or description of persons, who could unite in the principles on which the administration was to be founded.

That the two positions stated in Lord Wellesley's minute of May 23d, and subsequently explained in the letters which had passed between Lord Wellesley and Lord Grey, of the dates of the 27th, 28th, and 29th of May, 1812, were intended by his royal highness to constitute the foundation of his administration.

That his royal highness had signified his pleasure, that Lord Wellesley should conduct the formation of the administration in all its branches, and should be first commissioner of the treasury; and that Lord Moira, Lord Erskine, and Mr Canning, should be members of the cabinet.

That it was probable, that a cabinet, formed on an enlarged basis, must be extended to the number of twelve or thirteen members: that the prince regent wished Lords Grey and Grenville, on the part of their friends, to recommend for his royal highness's approbation, the names of four persons, (if the cabinet should consist of twelve) and of five persons, (if the cabinet should consist of thirteen) to be appointed by his royal highness to fill such stations in his councils as might hereafter be arranged.

That his royal highness left the selection of the names to Lords Grey and Grenville without any exception or personal exclusion.

That in completing the new arrangement, the prince regent has granted to Lord Wellesley entire liberty to propose for his royal highness's approbation, the names of any persons now occupying stations in his royal highness's councils, or of any other persons.

That if the proposition made to Lords Grey and Grenville, should be accepted as the outline of an arrangement, all other matters would be discussed with the most anxious solicitude to promote harmony and general accommodation. WELLESLEY.

No. 18.

Lord Grey to Lord Wellesley, dated 2d June, on the subject of No. 17.

*Camelford House,
June 2d, 1812.*

My Lord,—I lost no time in send-

ing for Lord Grenville, and have communicated to him, since his arrival, the proposal made to me yesterday by your lordship.

We have felt the necessity of a further communication with our friends, and this, I fear, will make it impossible for us to send our final answer to the minute which I had the honour of receiving from your lordship yesterday evening, till a late hour to-night, or early to-morrow morning.

To obviate, however, as far as I can, any inconvenience which might arise from this delay, I think it right to state to your lordship, that the feeling which I yesterday expressed to you, as to the nature of the proposal which you were authorised by the prince regent to make to Lord Grenville and me, has been confirmed by subsequent reflection, as well as by the opinion of Lord Grenville, and, indeed, of every person with whom I have hitherto had an opportunity of consulting.

I have the honour to be, with the highest regard, my lord, your lordship's very faithful, humble servant,

GREY.

No. 19.

Letters from Lords Grey and Grenville to Lord Wellesley.

*Camelford House,
June 3d, 1812.*

My Lord,—We have considered with the most serious attention the minute which we have had the honour to receive from your lordship; and we have communicated it to such of our friends as we have had the opportunity of consulting.

On the occasion of a proposal made to us under the authority of his royal highness the prince regent, we wish to renew, in the most solemn manner, the declaration of our unfeigned de-

sire to have facilitated, as far as was in our power, the means of giving effect to the late vote of the House of Commons, and of averting the imminent and unparalleled dangers of the country. No sense of the public distress and difficulty—no personal feelings of whatever description, would have prevented us under such circumstances, from accepting, with dutiful submission, any situations in which we could have hoped to serve his royal highness usefully and honourably; but it appears to us, on the most dispassionate reflection, that the proposal stated by your lordship cannot justify any such expectation.

We are invited, not to discuss with your lordship, or with any other public men, according to the usual practice in such cases, the various and important considerations, both of measures and of arrangements, which belong to the formation of a new government, in all its branches, but to recommend to his royal highness a number limited by previous stipulation, of persons willing to be included in a cabinet, of which the outlines are already definitely arranged.

To this proposal we could not accede without the sacrifice of the very object which the House of Commons has recommended—the formation of a strong and efficient administration.

We enter not into the examination of the relative proportions, or of the particular arrangements which it has been judged necessary thus previously to establish. It is to the principle of disunion and jealousy that we object—to the supposed balance of contending interests, in a cabinet so measured out by preliminary stipulation. The times imperiously require an administration united in principle, and strong in mutual reliance: possessing also the confidence of the crown, and

assured of its support in those healing measures which the public safety requires; and which are necessary to secure to the government, the opinion and affections of the people.

No such hope is presented to us by this project, which appears to us equally new in practice, and objectionable in principle. It tends, as we think, to establish, within the cabinet itself, a system of counteraction inconsistent with the prosecution of any uniform and beneficial course of policy.

We must, therefore, request permission to decline all participation in a government constituted upon such principles: satisfied, as we are, that the certain loss of character which must arise from it to ourselves, could be productive only of disunion and weakness in the administration of the public interests.

We have the honour to be, with great respect, &c.

(Signed)

GREY.

(Signed)

GRENVILLE.

No. 20.

Explanatory Letter from Lord Moira to Lord Grey, June 3d, on the subject of Lord Wellesley's Minute, No: 17.

June 3, 1812.

My dear Lord,—The answer which you and Lord Grenville have returned to the proposal made by Lord Wellesley seems to throw an oblique imputation upon me; therefore I entreat your re-consideration of your statement as far as it may convey that impeachment of a procedure in which I was involved. You represent the proposition for an arrangement submitted to you as one calculated to found a cabinet upon a principle of counteraction. When

the most material of the public objects which were to be the immediate ground of that cabinet's exertion had been previously understood between the parties, I own it is difficult for me to comprehend what principle of counteraction could be introduced. If there be any ambiguity which does not strike me, in Lord Wellesley's last paper, surely the construction ought to be sought in the antecedent communication; and I think the basis on which that communication had announced the intended cabinet to stand was perfectly clear. With regard to the indication of certain individuals, I can assert that it was a measure adopted through the highest spirit of fairness to you and your friends.

Mr Canning's name was mentioned, because Lord Wellesley would have declined office without him; and it was a frankness to apprize you of it; and Lord Erskine's and mine were stated with a view of shewing, that Lord Wellesley, so far from having any jealousy to maintain a preponderance in the cabinet, actually left a majority to those who had been accustomed to concur upon most public questions; and he specified Lord Erskine and myself, that you might see the number submitted for your exclusive nomination was not narrowed by the necessity of advertence to us. The choice of an additional member of the cabinet left to you, must prove how undistinguishable we consider our interests and your's, when this was referred to your consideration as a mere matter of convenience, the embarrassment of a numerous cabinet being well known. The reference to members of the late cabinet, or other persons, was always to be coupled with the established point that they were such as could concur

in the principles laid down as the foundation for the projected ministry; and the statement was principally dictated by the wish to shew, that no system of exclusion could interfere with the arrangements which the public service might demand. On the selection of those persons, I aver the opinions of you, Lord Grenville, and the others whom you might bring forward as members of the cabinet, were to operate as fully as our own, and this was to be the case also with regard to subordinate offices. The expression that this was left to be proposed by Lord Wellesley, was intended to prove that his royal highness did not, even in the most indirect manner, suggest any one of those individuals.

It is really impossible that the spirit of fairness can have been carried further than has been the intention in this negotiation. I therefore lament most deeply that an arrangement so important for the interests of the country should go off upon points which I cannot but think wide of the substance of the case.

(Signed

MOIRA.

No. 21.

Lord Wellesley to Lord Moira, approving Lord Moira's Letter (No. 20.) to Lord Grey, of the 3d June.

Apsley-house, June 3d, 1812.

My dear Lord,—I return the copy of your lordship's letter to Lord Grey. This communication to Lord Grey is most useful, and the substance of it is admirably judicious, clear, and correct.

My declaration, this day, in the House of Lords, was indispensably necessary to my public and private honour; both of which would have been involved, if I had not, in full

parliament, announced, that I had resigned the commission, with which his royal highness had charged me.

Believe me, &c. WELLESLEY.

No. 22.

Lord Grey's Reply to Lord Moira's Letter (No. 20.) of the 3d of June.

Portman Square, 4th June, 1812.

My dear Lord,—Being obliged to go immediately from the House of Lords to a dinner party, and afterwards to a meeting at Lord Grenville's, which occupied me till a late hour, it was not in my power to answer your letter last night.

You must be too well aware of my personal feelings towards you, of my esteem for your character, and of my confidence in your honour, to entertain any opinion respecting your conduct inconsistent with those sentiments. Nothing, therefore, could be more remote from my intention—and I am desired by Lord Grenville, to whom I have shewn your letter, to give you the same assurance on his part—than to cast any imputation whatever on you, as to the part you have borne in the proceedings which have lately taken place for the formation of a new administration. We know with how sincere an anxiety for the honour of the prince, and for the public interest, you have laboured to effect that object.

Whatever objections we may feel, therefore, to the proposal which has been made to us, we beg they may be understood as having no reference whatever to any part of your conduct. That proposal was made to us in a formal and authorised communication from Lord Wellesley, both personally to me, and afterwards in a written minute. It appeared to

us to be founded on a principle to which we could not assent, consistently with our honour, and with a due sense of public duty. The grounds of this opinion have been distinctly stated in our joint letter to Lord Wellesley: nor can they be altered by a private explanation: which, though it might lessen some obvious objections to a part of the detail, still leaves the general character of the proceeding unchanged. Nothing could be more painful to me than to enter into any thing like a controversial discussion with you; in which I could only repeat more at large the same feelings and opinions which, in concurrence with Lord Grenville, I have already expressed in our formal answer. I beg only to assure you, before I conclude, that I have felt very sensibly, and shall always have a pleasure in acknowledging, your personal kindness to me in the course of this transaction. I am, with every sentiment of true respect and attention, my dear lord, your's most faithfully,

GREY.

No. 23.

Lord Wellesley's Reply to the Letter (No. 19,) from Lords Grey and Grenville, of the 3d of June.

Apsley-house, June 3d, 1812.

My Lords,—I received the letter, by which I was honoured from your lordships this morning, with the most sincere regret; and I have discharged the painful duty of submitting it to his royal highness the prince regent. It would have afforded me some consolation, if the continuance of the authority confided to me by his royal highness had enabled me, under his royal highness's commands, to offer to your lordships a full and candid explanation of those points in my

minute of the 1st of June, which your lordships appear to me to have entirely misapprehended. But as his royal highness has been pleased to intimate to me his pleasure, that the formation of a new administration should be entrusted to other hands, I have requested permission to decline all further concern in this transaction.

I remain, however, extremely anxious to submit to your lordships some explanatory observations respecting the communications which I have had the honour to make to you; and I trust that your lordships will indulge me with that advantage, although I can no longer address you under the sanction of the prince regent's authority.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, my lords, your most faithful and obedient servant,

(Signed) WELLESLEY.

No. 24.

Lord Wellesley to Lord Grey on the same Subject, dated 4th June.

Apsley-house, June 4th, 1812.

My Lord,—When I applied yesterday to your lordship and Lord Grenville, for permission to submit to you some explanatory observations respecting the communications which I have had the honour to make to you by the authority of the prince regent, I was not aware that Lord Moira had addressed a letter to your lordship of the same nature as that which I was desirous of conveying to you.

The form of such a letter, either from Lord Moira or me, must have been private, as neither of us possessed any authority from the prince regent, to open any further communication with your lordship, or with Lord Grenville; a circumstance

which I deeply lament, under a sanguine hope, that additional explanations, sanctioned by authority, might have removed the existing obstacles to an amicable arrangement.

Lord Moira has sent me a copy of his letter (No. 20.) to your lordship of yesterday's date; and as it contains an accurate, clear, and candid statement of the real objects of the proposal which I conveyed to you, it appears to me to have furnished you with as full an explanation as can be given in an unauthorised paper. Under these circumstances, it might be deemed superfluous trouble to your lordship and to Lord Grenville, to solicit your attention to a private letter from me; although I should be most happy if any opportunity were afforded of renewing a conciliatory intercourse, under the commands of the prince regent, with a view to attain the object of our recent communications.—I have the honour to be, with great respect, my lord, your lordship's most faithful and humble servant,
WELLESLEY.

No. 25.

Lord Grey's Reply to Lord Wellesley's Letter, No. 24.

Portman Square, June 4th, 1812.

My Lord,—I have had the honour of receiving your lordship's letter of this day's date.

As Lord Moira has communicated to your lordship the copy of his letter to me, I take it for granted that you have in the same manner been put in possession of my answer, which contains all that I can say with respect to the explanation of the proposal made by your lordship to Lord Grenville and myself.

I was perfectly aware, that Lord Moira's letter could in no degree be

considered as an authorised communication, but that it was simply a private explanation offered for the purpose of removing the objections which had been stated by Lord Grenville and me to the proposal contained in the written minute transmitted to us by your lordship, under the authority of the prince regent. But though it could not vary the effect of that minute in my opinion, I was happy to receive it as an expression of personal regard, and of that desire which we readily acknowledge both in your lordship and Lord Moira, and which is reciprocal on the part of Lord Grenville and myself, that no difference of opinion on the matter in question should produce on either side any personal impression, which might obstruct the renewal of a conciliatory intercourse, whenever a more favourable opportunity shall be afforded for it.

I have the honour to be, with the highest regard, my lord, your lordship's very faithful humble servant,
(Signed) GREY.

No. 26.

Lord Moira to Lords Grey and Grenville proposing an interview with them, 5th June.

Lord Moira presents his best compliments to Earl Grey and Lord Grenville. Since Lord Wellesley has declared his commission from the prince regent to be at an end, Lord Moira (as being honoured with his royal highness's confidence,) ventures to indulge the anxiety he feels, that an arrangement of the utmost importance for the interests of the country should not go off on any misunderstanding.

He therefore entreats Lord Grey and Lord Grenville to advert to the

explanatory letter (No. 20) of the 3d June, written by him to the former: and if the dispositions therein expressed shall appear to them likely to lead, upon conference, to any advantageous result towards co-operation in the prince's service, he will be happy to have an interview with them.

Should the issue of that conversation prove such as he would hope, his object would be to solicit the prince regent's permission to address them formally. He adopts this mode, to preclude all difficulties in the outset. Let him be permitted to remark, that the very urgent pressure of public affairs renders the most speedy determination infinitely desirable.

N. B. This was written in the presence of the Duke of Bedford, in consequence of conversation with his grace; and was by him carried to Lord Grey.

No. 27.

Note from Lords Grey and Grenville, declining unauthorized discussions, 5th June.

House of Lords, June 5, 1812.

We cannot but feel highly gratified by the kindness of the motive on which Lord Moira acts. Personal communication with him will always be acceptable and honourable to us, but we hope he will be sensible that no advantage is likely to result from pursuing this subject by unauthorised discussions, and in a course different from the usual practice.

Motives of obvious delicacy must prevent our taking any step towards determining the prince regent to authorise Lord Moira to address us personally. We shall always receive with dutiful submission his royal highness's commands, in whatever

manner, and through whatever channel, he may be pleased to signify them, and we trust we shall never be found wanting in zeal for his royal highness's service, and for the public interest : but we cannot venture to suggest to his royal highness, through any other person, our opinions on points in which his royal highness is not pleased to require our advice.

(Signed) GREY.
GRENVILLE.

No. 28.

Lord Moira to Lords Grey and Grenville, informing them, that he has the Prince Regent's authority to address them, and requesting to know when and where he can see them.

Lord Moira presents his best compliments to Lord Grey and Lord Grenville.

Discouraged, as he unavoidably must be, he yet cannot reconcile it to himself to leave any effort untried : and he adopts their principle for an interview, though he doubts if the desired conclusion is likely to be so well advanced by it, as would have been the case in the mode suggested by him.

He has now the prince regent's instructions to take steps towards the formation of a ministry ; and is authorised specially to address himself to Lords Grey and Grenville. It is, therefore, his request to know, when and where he can wait upon them. He would wish to bring Lord Erskine with him.

June 6, 1812. Eleven forenoon.

No. 29.

Minute of a conversation between Lord Moira and Lords Grey and

Grenville, at which Lord Erskine was present.

St James's Place, June 6, 1812.

Lord Moira stated to Lord Grey and Lord Grenville, that he was authorised by the prince regent, to consult with them on the formation of a new government. And satisfactory explanations having taken place between them, respecting such measures as appeared to be of the greatest urgency at the present moment, more especially with reference to the situation of his majesty's Roman catholic subjects, and the differences now unhappily subsisting with America ; and that Lord Moira had received this commission without any restriction or limitation whatever being laid by the prince, on their considering any points which they judged useful for his service ; they expressed their satisfaction with the fairness of this proposal, and their readiness to enter into such discussions as must precede the details of any new arrangement. As a preliminary question, which appeared to them of great importance, they thought it necessary immediately to bring forward to prevent the inconvenience and embarrassment of the further delay which might be produced, if this negotiation should break off in a more advanced state, they asked " Whether this full liberty extended to the consideration of new appointments to those great offices of the household, which have been usually included in the political arrangements made on a change of administration ; intimating their opinion, that it would be necessary to act on the same principle on the present occasion."

Lord Moira answered, " That the prince had laid no restriction upon

him in that respect, and had never pointed in the most distant manner at the protection of those officers from removal; that it would be impossible for him (Lord Moira) however, to concur in making the exercise of this power positive and indispensable, in the formation of the administration, because he should deem it on public grounds peculiarly objectionable."

To this Lord Grey and Lord Grenville replied, they also acted on public grounds alone, and with no other feeling whatever than that which arose from the necessity of giving to a new government that character of efficiency and stability, and those marks of the constitutional support of the crown, which were required to enable it to act usefully for the public service; and that on these grounds it appeared to them indispensable, that the connection of the great offices of the court with the political administration, should be clearly established in its first arrangements.

A decided difference of opinion as to this point having been thus expressed on both sides, the conversation ended here, with mutual declarations of regret.

Nothing was said on the subject of official arrangements, nor any persons proposed on either side to fill any particular situations.

B. and C. Two Letters (which passed between Lords Moira and Grey) subjoined for the purpose of throwing light on the ground of part of these Transactions.

(Copy) B.

May 31st, 1812.

My dear Lord,—A just anxiety not to leave any thing subject to misunderstanding, must excuse me if I am

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troublesome to you. Since I quitted you, the necessity of being precise in terms has occurred to me: and, although I think I cannot have mistaken you, I wish to know if I am accurate in what I apprehend you to have said. I understood the position, stated by you as having been what you advanced in the House of Lords, to be this, "That pledges had been given to the catholics, a departure from which rendered their present disappointment more galling; and that you said this in the hearing of persons who could contradict you if you were inaccurate." Just say whether I have taken your expression correctly or not. Believe me, &c.
MOIRA.

C.

Holland House, May 31st, 1812.

My dear Lord,—I cannot sufficiently thank you for your kind anxiety to procure an accurate statement of the words spoken by me in the House of Lords. It is difficult to remember precise expressions so long after they were spoken; but I am sure I cannot be far wrong in stating the substance of what I said, as follows:

I was speaking on the subject of the Irish catholics, and particularly on the charge of intemperate conduct which had been made against them. I stated, that great allowances were to be made for this, considering their repeated disappointments; and I cited, as instances of these, the recal of Lord Fitzwilliam, and the Union. I then said, that the most distinct and authentic pledges had been given to them, of the prince's wish to relieve them from the disabilities of which they complained; that I spoke in the hearing of persons who would contradict me if what I said was un-

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founded, and who would, I was sure, support its truth if questioned; that now, when the fulfilment of these pledges was confidently expected, to see an administration continued in power, which stood on the express principle of resisting their claims, was, perhaps, the bitterest disappointment they had yet experienced; and that it was not surprising, if, under such circumstances, they felt and acted in a way that all well-wishers to the peace of the empire must regret.

This I give as the substance, and by no means as a correct repetition, of the particular expressions used by me; and this statement I can neither retract, nor endeavour to explain away. If, in consequence of it, the prince feels a strong personal objection to me, I can only repeat what I have already said to you, that I am perfectly ready to stand out of the way; that my friends shall have my full concurrence and approbation in taking office without me, and my most cordial support in the government of the country, if their measures are directed, as I am sure they must always be, by the principles on which we have acted together.

I write this from Lord Holland's in a great hurry, and in the middle of dinner; but I was unwilling to defer, even for a minute, to answer an enquiry, which I feel to be prompted by so friendly a solicitude for me. I have not the means of taking a copy of this letter. I shall therefore be obliged to you to let me have one; and I am sure, if, upon recollection, I shall think it necessary to add any thing to what I have now said, you will allow me an opportunity of doing so. I am, with the sincerest regard, my dear lord, your's very faithfully,

GREY.

Revocation of the Orders in Council.

At the Court at Carlton-House, the 23d of June, 1812; present, his Royal Highness the Prince Regent in Council.

Whereas his Royal Highness the Prince Regent was pleased to declare, in the name, and on the behalf of his majesty, on the 21st day of April, 1812, "That if at any time hereafter the Berlin and Milan decrees shall, by some authentic act of the French government, publicly promulgated, be absolutely and unconditionally repealed, then and from thenceforth the order in council of the 7th of January, 1807, and the order in council of the 26th of April, 1809, shall, without any further order, be, and the same are hereby declared from thenceforth to be, wholly and absolutely revoked."

And whereas the Chargé des Affaires of the United States of America, resident at this court, did, on the 20th day of May last, transmit to Lord Viscount Castlereagh, one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, a copy of a certain instrument, then for the first time communicated to this court, purporting to be a decree passed by the government of France, on the 28th day of April, 1811, by which the decrees of Berlin and Milan are declared to be definitively no longer in force, in regard to American vessels.

And whereas his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, although he cannot consider the tenour of the said instrument as satisfying the conditions set forth in the said order of the 21st of April last, upon which the said orders were to cease and determine, is nevertheless disposed on his part to take such measures as may tend to

re-establish the intercourse between neutral and belligerent nations, upon its accustomed principles; his royal highness the Prince Regent, in the name and on the behalf of his majesty, is therefore pleased, by and with the advice of his majesty's privy council, to order and declare, and it is hereby ordered and declared, that the order in council bearing date the 7th day of January, 1807, and the order in council bearing date the 26th day of April, 1809, be revoked, so far as may regard American vessels, and their cargoes, being American property, from the 1st day of August next.

But whereas by certain acts of the government of the United States of America, all British armed vessels are excluded from the harbours and waters of the said United States, the armed vessels of France being permitted to enter therein; and the commercial intercourse between Great Britain and the said United States is interdicted, the commercial intercourse between France and the said United States having been restored; his royal highness the Prince Regent is pleased hereby further to declare, in the name and on the behalf of his majesty, that if the government of the said United States shall not, as soon as may be, after this order shall have been duly notified by his majesty's minister in America to the said government, revoke, or cause to be revoked, the said acts, this present order shall in that case, after due notice signified by his majesty's minister in America to the said government, be thenceforth null and of no effect.

It is further ordered and declared, that all American vessels, and their cargoes, being American property, that shall have been captured subsequently to the 20th day of May last,

for a breach of the aforesaid orders in council alone, and which shall not have been actually condemned before the date of this order; and that all ships and cargoes as aforesaid, that shall henceforth be captured under the said orders, prior to the 1st day of August next, shall not be proceeded against to condemnation till further orders, but shall, in the event of this order not becoming null and of no effect, in the case aforesaid, be forthwith liberated and restored, subject to such reasonable expenses on the part of the captors, as shall have been justly incurred.

Provided, that nothing in this order contained, respecting the revocation of the orders herein-mentioned, shall be taken to revive wholly or in part the orders in council of the 11th of November, 1807, or any other order not herein mentioned, or to deprive parties of any legal remedy to which they may be entitled under the order in council of the 21st of April, 1812.

His royal highness the Prince Regent is hereby pleased further to declare, in the name and on the behalf of his majesty, that nothing in this present order contained, shall be understood to preclude his royal highness the Prince Regent, if circumstances shall so require, from restoring, after reasonable notice, the orders of the 7th of January, 1807, and 26th of April, 1809, or any part thereof, to their full effect, or from taking such other measures of retaliation against the enemy, as may appear to his royal highness to be just and necessary.

And the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury, his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, and

the Judge of the High Court of Admiralty, and the Judges of the Courts of Vice-Admiralty, are to take the necessary measures herein, as to them may respectively appertain.

JAMES BULLER.

Treaty of Peace between Great Britain and Russia.

In the name of the Most Holy and Indivisible Trinity !

His majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, and his majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, being equally animated with the desire of re-establishing the ancient relations of amity and good understanding between the two kingdoms respectively, have nominated to this effect, as their ministers plenipotentiary ; namely, his majesty the emperor of all the Russias, the Sieur Peter Suchtelen, chief of the department of engineers, general and member of the council of state, &c. and the Sieur Paul Baron de Nicolay, gentleman of the bed-chamber, &c. and his royal highness the Prince Regent, in the name of his majesty, king of the united kingdom of England and Ireland, the Sieur Edward Thornton, Esq. plenipotentiary from his Britannic majesty to the king of Sweden.

The said plenipotentiaries, after exchanging their respective full powers in good and due form, have agreed upon the following articles :

I. There shall be between his majesty the emperor of all the Russias, and his majesty the king of the united kingdoms of Great Britain and Ireland, their heirs and successors, and between their kingdoms and subjects respectively, a firm, true, and inviolable peace, and a sincere and

perfect union and amity ; so that, from this moment, all subjects of disagreement that may have subsisted between them shall cease.

II. The relations of amity and commerce between the two countries shall be re-established on each side, on the footing of the most favoured nations.

III. If, in resentment of the present re-establishment of peace and good understanding between the two countries, any power whatsoever shall make war upon his imperial majesty or his Britannic majesty, the two contracting sovereigns agree to act in support of each other for the maintenance and security of their respective kingdoms.

IV. The two high contracting parties reserve to themselves to establish a proper understanding and adjustment, as soon as possible, with respect to all matters which may concern their eventual interests, political as well as commercial.

V. The present treaty shall be ratified by the two contracting parties, and the ratification shall be exchanged in six weeks, or sooner, if possible :

And for the due performance of the same, we sign, in virtue of our full powers, and have signed the present treaty of peace, and have thereto affixed our seals.

Done at Orebro, the 6th (18) July, 1812.

SUCHELEN (L. S.)

PAUL BARON DE NICOLAY.

EDWARD THORNTON (L. S.)

After sufficiently examining the articles of the present treaty of peace, we have approved of the same, which we now confirm, and by these presents most solemnly ratify, in all its tenour ; promising on our imperial part, for us and for our successors, to observe

and execute, inviolably, every thing that has been mentioned and repeated in the said treaty of peace. In witness whereof we have signed with our own hand this imperial ratification, and have thereto affixed the seal of our empire.

Done at Kamenroi Ostrow, the 1st of August, 1812, and the twelfth year of our reign.

(Signed) ALEXANDER.

(Countersigned)

COUNT ROMANZOW.

Treaty of Peace between his Majesty the King of Sweden, and his Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

In the name of the Most Holy and Indivisible Trinity!

His majesty the king of Sweden, and his majesty the king of the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, being equally animated with the desire of re-establishing the ancient relations of friendship and good intercourse between the two crowns, and their respective states, have appointed to that effect, namely, his majesty the king of Sweden, the Sieur Laurent, Baron D'Engerstrom, &c. and the Sieur Gustavus, Baron de Wetterstedt, &c. and the Prince Regent, in the name and on the behalf of his majesty the king of the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Edward Thornton, Esq. which plenipotentiaries, after exchanging their full powers, drawn up in full and due form; have agreed upon the following articles:

Art. 1. There shall be between their majesties the king of Sweden, and the king of the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, their

heirs and successors, and between their subjects, kingdoms, and states respectively, a firm, true, and inviolable peace, and a sincere and perfect union and friendship; so that from this moment, every subject of misunderstanding that may have subsisted between them shall be regarded as entirely ceased and destroyed.

II. The relations of friendship and commerce between the two countries shall be re-established on the footing whereon they stood on the first day of January, 1791; and all treaties and conventions subsisting between the two states at that epoch shall be regarded as renewed and confirmed, and are, accordingly, by the present treaty, renewed and confirmed.

III. If, in resentment of the present pacification, and the re-establishment of the good intercourse between the two countries, any power whatsoever make war upon Sweden, his majesty the king of the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland engages to take measures, in concert with his majesty the king of Sweden, for the security and independence of his states.

IV. The present treaty shall be ratified by the two contracting parties, and the ratifications exchanged within six weeks, or sooner, if possible.

In faith whereof, we, the undersigned, in virtue of our full powers, have signed the present treaty, and thereto affixed our seals.

Done at Orebro, on the 18th of July, 1812.

(Signed)

BARON D'ENGERSTROM.

BARON DE WETTERSTEDT.

EDWARD THORNTON.

[Here follow the ratifications, sign-

ed by the Prince Regent on the 4th of August, and by his Swedish majesty on the 17th of August.]

Prince Regent's Speech on Proroguing Parliament, delivered by Commission.

“ My Lords and Gentlemen,—In terminating the present session of parliament, his royal highness the Prince Regent has commanded us to express to you the deep concern and sorrow which he feels at the continuance of his majesty's lamented indisposition.

“ His royal highness regrets the interruptions which have occurred in the progress of public business, during this long and laborious session, in consequence of an event which his royal highness must ever deplore. The zeal and unwearied assiduity with which you have persevered in the discharge of the arduous duties imposed upon you by the situation of the country, and the state of public affairs, demands his royal highness's warmest acknowledgments.

“ The assistance which you have enabled his royal highness to continue to the brave and loyal nations of the peninsula is calculated to produce the most beneficial effects.

“ His royal highness most warmly participates in those sentiments of approbation, which you have bestowed on the consummate skill and intrepidity displayed in the operations which led to the capture of the important fortresses of Ciudad Rodrigo and Badajoz, during the present campaign; and his royal highness confidently trusts, that the tried valour of the allied forces, under the distinguished command of General the Earl of Wellington, combined with

the unabated spirit and steady perseverance of the Spanish and Portuguese nations, will finally bring the contest in that quarter to an issue, by which the independence of the peninsula will be effectually secured.

“ The renewal of the war in the north of Europe furnishes an additional proof of the little security which can be derived from any submission to the usurpations and tyranny of the French government.—His royal highness is persuaded, that you will be sensible of the great importance of the struggle in which the emperor of Russia has been compelled to engage, and that you will approve of his royal highness affording to those powers who may be united in this contest, every degree of co-operation and assistance, consistent with his other engagements, and with the interests of his majesty's dominions.

“ His royal highness has commanded us to assure you, that he views, with most sincere regret, the hostile measures which have been recently adopted by the government of the United States of America towards this country. His royal highness is nevertheless willing to hope, that the accustomed relations of peace and amity between the two countries may yet be restored: but if his expectations in this respect should be disappointed, by the conduct of the government of the United States, or by their perseverance in any unwarrantable pretensions, he will most fully rely on the support of every class of his majesty's subjects, in a contest in which the honour of his majesty's crown, and the best interests of his dominions, must be involved.

“ Gentlemen of the House of Commons,—We have it in command from his royal highness, to thank you for

the liberal provision which you have made for the services of the present year. His royal highness deeply regrets the burthens which you have found it necessary to impose upon his majesty's people; but he applauds the wisdom which has induced you so largely to provide for the exigencies of the public service, as affording the best prospect of bringing the contest in which the country is engaged to a successful and honourable conclusion.

“ My Lords and Gentlemen,— His royal highness has observed, with the utmost concern, the spirit of insubordination and outrage which has appeared in some parts of the country, and which has been manifested by acts, not only destructive of the property and personal safety of many of his majesty's loyal subjects in those districts, but disgraceful to the British character. His royal highness feels it incumbent upon him, to acknowledge your diligence in the investigation of the causes which have led to these outrages; and he has commanded us to thank you for the wise and salutary measures which you have adopted on this occasion. It will be a principal object of his royal highness's attention, to make an effectual and prudent use of the powers vested in him for the protection of his majesty's people, and he confidently trusts, that on your return into your respective counties, he may rely on your exertions for the preservation of the public peace, and for bringing the disturbers of it to justice. His royal highness most earnestly recommends to you, the importance of inculcating, by every means in your power, a spirit of obedience to those laws, and of attachment to that constitution, which provide equally for the welfare and hap-

piness of all classes of his majesty's subjects, and on which have hitherto depended the glory and prosperity of this kingdom.”

Then a commission for proroguing the parliament was read.

After which, the Lord Chancellor said,

“ My Lords and Gentlemen,—By virtue of the commission under the great seal, to us and other lords directed, and now read, we do, in obedience to the commands of his royal highness the Prince Regent, in the name and on behalf of his majesty, prorogue this parliament to Friday the 2d day of October next, to be then here holden; and this parliament is accordingly prorogued to Friday the 2d day of October next.”

Embargo and Detention of American Ships.

At the Court at Carlton House, the 31st of July, 1812; present, his royal highness the Prince Regent in Council:—

It is this day ordered, by his royal highness the Prince Regent, in the name and on the behalf of his majesty, and by and with the advice of his majesty's privy council, that no ships or vessels belonging to any of his majesty's subjects be permitted to enter and clear out for any of the ports within the territories of the United States of America, until farther order; and his royal highness is further pleased, in the name and on the behalf of his majesty, and by and with the advice aforesaid, to order, that a general embargo or stop be made of all ships and vessels whatsoever, belonging to the citizens of the United States of America, now within, or which shall hereafter come into

any of the ports, harbours, or roads, within any part of his majesty's dominions, together with all persons and effects on board all such ships and vessels; and that the commanders of his majesty's ships of war, and privateers, do detain and bring into port all ships and vessels belonging to the citizens of the United States of America, or bearing the flag of the said United States, except such as may be furnished with British licences, which vessels are allowed to proceed according to the tenour of the said licences; but that the utmost care be taken for the preservation of all and every part of the cargoes on board any of the said ships or vessels, so that no damage or embezzlement whatever be sustained; and the commanders of his majesty's ships of war and privateers are hereby instructed to detain and bring into port every such ship and vessel accordingly, except such as are above excepted: and the right honourable the Lords Commissioners of his majesty's Treasury, the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, and Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, are to give the necessary directions herein as to them may respectively appertain,

CHETWYND.

Report of the Secret Committee of the House of Lords on the Disturbed State of certain Counties.

Your committee, in pursuing the enquiry referred to their consideration, have endeavoured to ascertain the origin of the disturbances which have arisen in the different parts of the country, with respect to which they have obtained information, the manner in which those disturbances have been carried on, the objects to

which they have been apparently directed, the means used to suppress them, the effects of those means, and the state of those parts of the country within which the disturbances have prevailed.

The disposition to combined and disciplined riot and disturbance, which has attracted the attention of parliament, and excited apprehension of the most dangerous consequences, seems to have been first manifested in the neighbourhood of the town of Nottingham, in November last, by the destruction of a great number of newly-invented stocking-frames, by small parties of men, principally stocking-weavers, who assembled in various places round Nottingham.

By degrees the rioters became more numerous and more formidable, many were armed and divided into different parties, disturbed the whole country between Nottingham and Mansfield, destroying frames almost without resistance. This spirit of discontent (amongst other causes to which it has been attributed) was supposed to have been excited or called into action by the use of a new machine, which enabled the manufacturers to employ women in work in which men had been before employed, and by the refusal of the manufacturers to pay the wages at the rate which the weavers demanded; and their discontent was probably heightened by the increased price of provisions, particularly of corn. The men engaged in these disturbances were at first principally those thrown out of employ by the use of the new machinery, or by their refusal to work at the rates offered by the manufacturers, and they particularly sought the destruction of frames owned or worked by those who were willing to work at the lower rates. In consequence of

the resistance opposed to the outrages of the rioters, in the course of which one of them was killed, they became still more exasperated and more violent, till the magistrates thought it necessary to require the assistance of a considerable armed force, which was promptly assembled, consisting at first principally of local militia and volunteer yeomanry, to whom were added above 400 special constables; the rioters were then dispersed, and it was hoped that the disturbances had been by these means suppressed.

Before the end of the month of November, however, the outrages were renewed, they became more serious, were more systematically conducted; and at length the rioters began in several villages, where they destroyed the frames, to levy, at the same time, contributions for their subsistence, which rapidly increased their numbers, and early in December the outrages were in some degree extended into Derbyshire and Leicestershire, where many frames were broken.

In the mean time, a considerable force both of infantry and cavalry had been sent to Nottingham, and the commanding officer of the district was ordered to repair thither; and in January, two of the most experienced police magistrates were dispatched to Nottingham, for the purpose of assisting the local authorities in their endeavours to restore tranquillity in the disturbed districts.

The systematic combination, however, with which the outrages were conducted, the terror which they inspired, and the disposition of many of the lower orders to favour rather than oppose them, made it very difficult to discover the offenders, to apprehend them, if discovered, or to obtain evidence to convict those who were apprehended, of the crimes with

which they were charged. Some, however, were afterwards proceeded against at the spring assizes at Nottingham, and seven persons were convicted of different offences, and sentenced to transportation.

In the mean time acts were passed for establishing a police in the disturbed districts, upon the ancient system of watch and ward, and for applying to the destruction of stocking frames the punishment before applied by law to the destruction of other machinery.

The discontent which had thus first appeared about Nottingham, and had in some degree extended into Derbyshire and Leicestershire, had before this period been communicated to other parts of the country. Subscriptions for the persons taken into custody in Nottinghamshire were solicited in the month of February at Stockport, in Cheshire, where anonymous letters were at the same time circulated, threatening to destroy the machinery used in the manufactures of that place, and in that and the following months attempts were made to set on fire two different manufactories. The spirit of disorder then rapidly spread through the neighbourhood, inflammatory placards, inviting the people to a general rising, were dispersed, illegal oaths were administered, riots were produced in various places, houses were plundered by persons in disguise, and a report was industriously circulated, that a general rising would take place on the 1st of May, or early in that month.

The spirit of riot and disturbance was extended to many other places, and particularly to Ashton-under-Line, Eccles, and Middleton; at the latter place the manufactory of Mr Burton was attacked on the 20th of

April, and although the rioters were then repulsed, and five of their number were killed by the military force assembled to protect the works, a second attack was made on the 22d of April, and Mr Burton's dwelling house was burnt before military assistance could be brought to his support; when troops arrived to protect the works, they were fired upon by the rioters, and before the rioters could be dispersed, several of them were killed and wounded; according to the accounts received, at least three were killed and about twenty wounded.

On the 14th of April riots again prevailed at Stockport; the house of Mr Goodwin was set on fire, and his steam-looms were destroyed. In the following night, a meeting of rioters, on a heath about two miles from the town, for the purpose, as supposed, of being trained for military exercise, was surprised and dispersed; contributions were also levied in the neighbourhood, at the houses of gentlemen and farmers.

About the same time, riots also took place at Manchester, and in the neighbourhood; of which the general pretence was the high price of provisions. On the 26th and 27th of April, the people of Manchester were alarmed by the appearance of some thousands of strangers in their town, the greater part of whom however disappeared on the 28th; part of the local militia had been then called out, and a large military force had arrived, which it was supposed had over-awed those who were disposed to disturbance. An apprehension, however, prevailed, of a more general rising in May, and in the neighbourhood of the town many houses were plundered. Nocturnal meetings for the purpose of military exercise were frequent; arms were seized in various places by

the disaffected; the house of a farmer near Manchester was plundered, and a labourer coming to his assistance was shot.

The manner in which the disaffected have carried on their proceedings, is represented as demonstrating an extraordinary degree of concert, secrecy, and organization. Their signals were well contrived and well established, and any attempt to detect and lay hold of the offenders was generally defeated.

The same spirit of riot and disturbance appeared at Bolton-in-the-Moors. So early as the 6th of April, intelligence was given, that at a meeting of delegates from several places it had been resolved, that the manufactory at West Houghton, in that neighbourhood, should be destroyed, but that at a subsequent meeting it had been determined, that the destruction of this manufactory should be postponed. On the 24th of April, however, the destruction of this manufactory was accomplished. Intelligence having been obtained of the intended attack, a military force was sent for its protection, and the assailants dispersed before the arrival of the military, who then returned to their quarters; the rioters taking advantage of their absence, assailed and forced the manufactory, set it on fire, and again dispersed before the military could be brought again to the spot.

Symptoms of the same spirit appeared at Newcastle-under-Lyne, Wigan, Warrington, and other towns; and the contagion in the mean time had spread to Carlisle and into Yorkshire.

In Huddersfield, in the west riding of Yorkshire, and in the neighbourhood, the destruction of dressing and shearing machines and shears began

early in February; fire-arms were seized during the course of March, and a constable was shot at in his own house. In March a great number of machines belonging to Mr Vicarman were destroyed; and in April the destruction of Bradley mills, near Huddersfield, was threatened, and afterwards attempted, but the mills were protected by a guard, which defeated the attempt. About the same time, the machinery of Mr Rhodes's mill at Tentwhistle, near to Stockport, was utterly destroyed, and Mr Horsfall, a respectable merchant and mill-owner, in the neighbourhood of Huddersfield, was shot about six o'clock in the afternoon, in broad day-light, on the 28th of April, returning from market, and died on the 30th of the same month.

A reward of 2000*l.* was offered for the discovery of the murderers, but no discovery has yet been made, though it appears that he was shot by four persons, each of whom lodged a ball in his body; that when he fell, the populace surrounded and reviled him, instead of offering assistance, and no attempt was made to secure the assassins, who were seen to retire to an adjoining wood. Some time after a young woman was attacked in the streets of Leeds, and nearly murdered, her skull being fractured; and the supposed reason for this violence was an apprehension that she had been near the spot when Mr Horsfall was murdered, and might therefore be able to give evidence which might lead to the detection of the murderers.

The town of Leeds had for some time before been much alarmed by information that attacks were intended to be made on places in the town and its neighbourhood, which induced the magistrates to desire a strong mili-

tary force, and to appoint a great number of respectable inhabitants of the town special constables, by which means the peace of the town was in a great degree preserved.

Early, however, in the morning of the 24th of March, the mills of Messrs Thompsons, at Rawdon, a large village about eight miles from Leeds, was attacked by a large body of armed men, who proceeded with great regularity and caution, first seizing the watchman at the mill, and placing guards at every neighbouring cottage, threatening death to any who should attempt to give alarm, and then forcibly entering the mill, they completely destroyed the machinery. In the following night, notwithstanding the precautions adopted, the buildings belonging to Messrs Dickinsons, in Leeds, were forcibly entered, and the whole of the goods there, consisting principally of cloths, were cut to pieces. Many other persons in Leeds were threatened with similar treatment, and the proceedings at this place are represented to have had for their object the destruction of all descriptions of goods prepared otherwise than by manual labour.

At Leversedge, near Hockmondwicke, which is in the neighbourhood of the Moors dividing Lancashire and Yorkshire, an attack was made early in the morning of the 12th of April, by a body of armed men, represented to have been between two and three hundred in number, on a valuable mill belonging to Mr Cartwright. The mill was defended with great courage by Mr Cartwright, the proprietor, with the assistance of three of his men and five soldiers, and the assailants were at length compelled to retire, being unable to force an entrance into the mill, and their ammunition probably failing. Two of the

assailants were left on the spot desperately wounded, and were secured, but died of their wounds. Many others are supposed to have been also wounded, and information was afterwards obtained of the death of one of them. When the assailants retired, they declared a determination to take Mr Cartwright's life by any means. One of the wounded men who was left on the spot was only nineteen years of age, and son of a man in a respectable situation in the neighbourhood; but neither this man nor the other prisoner would make any confession respecting their confederates in this outrage. The neighbouring inhabitants, who assembled about the mill, after the rioters had retired, only expressed their regret that the attempt had failed. A vast concourse of people attended the funeral of the young man before described, who died of his wounds; and there was found written on walls in many places, "Vengeance for the blood of the innocent."

The threats against Mr Cartwright's life were attempted to be put into execution on the 18th of April, when he was twice shot at in the road from Huddersfield to Rawfold. About the same time a shot was fired at a special constable on duty at Leeds, and a ball was fired at night into the house of Mr Armitage, a magistrate in the neighbourhood, and lodged in the ceiling of his bed-room. Colonel Campbell also, who commanded the troops at Leeds, was shot at in the night of May 8, upon returning to his own house, by two men, who discharged their pieces at him within the distance of twenty yards, and immediately after a third shot was fired, directed towards the room usually occupied by Colonel Campbell and his family.

At Horbury, near Wakefield, valuable mills were attacked on the 9th of April by an armed body, supposed to consist of 300 men. The machinery and considerable property were destroyed. The men who committed the outrage were seen on the road between Wakefield and Horbury, marching in regular sections, preceded by a mounted party with drawn swords, and followed by the same number of mounted men as a rear-guard. They were supposed to have assembled from Huddersfield, Duesbury, Hickmondwicke, Guildersome, Morley, Wakefield, and other places.

In many parts of this district of country, the well-disposed were so much under the influence of terror, that the magistrates were unable to give protection by putting the watch and ward act in execution, and the lower orders are represented as generally either abettors of, or participators in, the outrages committed, or so intimidated, that they dared not to interfere.

At Sheffield, the storehouse of arms of the local militia was surprised in the month of May, a large proportion of the arms were broken by the mob, and many taken away. This disturbance, however, seems to have been followed by no further consequences, and the remainder of the arms were secured.

But during the months of May and June, depredations of different kinds, and particularly the seizure of arms, continued to be nightly committed in other parts of Yorkshire, and it is represented, that in the neighbourhood of Huddersfield and Birstall the arms of all the peaceable inhabitants had been swept away by bands of armed robbers. In consequence of these outrages, the vice-

lieutenant of the West Riding, the deputy-lieutenant and magistrates, assembled at Wakefield on the 11th of June, and came to a resolution, "That the most alarming consequences were to be apprehended from the nightly depredations which were committed by bodies of armed men." At the same time this remarkable circumstance was stated, that amongst one hundred depositions taken by the magistrates of the facts of robberies committed, there was only one as to the perpetrator of the crime.

During the latter part of this period, it is represented that nightly robberies of arms, lead, and ammunition, were prevalent in the districts bounded by the rivers Air and Calder, and that the patrols which went along both banks of the Calder, found the people in the ill-affected villages up at midnight, and heard the firing of small arms at short distances from them, through the whole night, to a very great extent, which they imagined proceeded from parties at drill. In the corner of Cheshire, touching upon Yorkshire and Lancashire, in the neighbourhood, and to the eastward of Ashton, Stockport, and Moultram, nocturnal meetings were more frequent than ever, and the seizure of arms carried on with great perseverance. Peculiar difficulties are stated to exist in this quarter from the want of magistrates.

Your committee have not thought it necessary to detail, or even to state, all the outrages which have been committed in different parts of the country, but have selected from the great mass of materials before them, such facts only as appeared to them sufficient to mark the extent and nature of those disturbances.

The causes alleged for these destructive proceedings have been gene-

rally the want of employment for the working manufacturers, a want, however, which has been the least felt in some of the places where the disorders have been most prevalent; the application of machinery to supply the place of labour; and the high price of provisions; but it is the opinion of persons, both in civil and military stations, well acquainted with the state of the country, an opinion grounded upon various information from different quarters now before your committee, but which, for obvious reasons, they do not think proper to detail, that the views of some of the persons engaged in these proceedings have extended to revolutionary measures of the most dangerous description.

Their proceedings manifest a degree of caution and organization which appears to flow from the direction of some persons under whose influence they act; but it is the opinion of a person, whose situation gives him great opportunities of information, that their leaders, although they may possess considerable influence, are still of the lowest orders; men of desperate fortunes, who have taken advantage of the pressure of the moment, to work upon the inferior class, through the medium of the associations in the manufacturing parts of the country.

The general persuasion of the persons engaged in those transactions appears, however, to be, that all the societies in the country are directed in their motions by a secret committee, and that this secret committee is therefore the great mover of the whole machine; and it is established by the various information to which the committee has before alluded, that societies are formed in different parts of the country; that these so-

cieties are governed by their respective secret committees; that delegates are continually dispatched from one place to another, for the purpose of concerting their plans; and that secret signs are arranged, by which the persons engaged in these conspiracies are known to each other. The form of the oath or engagement administered to those who are enlisted in these societies, also refers expressly to the existence of such secret committees.

The object of this oath is to prevent discovery, by deterring through the fear of assassination those who take it from impeaching others, and by binding them to assassinate those by whom any of the persons engaged may be impeached. These oaths appear to have been administered to a considerable extent; copies of them have been obtained from various quarters, and though slightly differing in terms, they are so nearly the same, as to prove the systematic nature of the concert by which they are administered.

The oath itself is of so atrocious a nature, that your committee have thought it right to insert the form, as it appears in one of those copies:—

“ I, *A. B.* of my own voluntary will, do declare, and solemnly swear, that I never will reveal to any person or persons under the canopy of heaven, the names of the persons who compose this secret committee, their proceedings, meeting, places of abode, dress, features, connections, or any thing else that might lead to a discovery of the same, either by word or deed, or sign, under the penalty of being sent out of the world by the first brother who shall meet me, and my name and character blotted out of existence; and never to be remembered but with contempt and abhorrence; and I further now do swear,

that I will use my best endeavours to punish by death any traitor or traitors, should any rise up amongst us, wherever I can find him or them, and though he should fly to the verge of nature, I will pursue him with increasing vengeance. So help me God, and bless me to keep this my oath inviolable.”

The military organization carried on by persons engaged in these societies, has also proceeded to an alarming length; they assemble in large numbers, in general by night, upon heaths or commons, which are numerous and extensive in some of the districts where the disturbances have been most serious; so assembled, they take the usual military precautions of patrols and countersigns; then muster rolls are called over by numbers, not by names; they are directed by leaders sometimes in disguise; they place sentries to give alarm at the approach of any persons whom they may suspect of meaning to interrupt or give information of their proceedings; and they disperse instantly at the firing of a gun, or other signal agreed upon, and so disperse as to avoid detection. They have in some instances used signals by rockets or blue lights, by which they communicate intelligence to their parties.

They have procured a considerable quantity of arms, by the depredations which are daily and nightly continued; they have plundered many places of lead for the purpose of making musket-balls, and have made some seizures of gunpowder.

Their progress in discipline appears from the representation before given of the two attacks upon the mills of Rawdon and Henbury; and the money, which has been in many instances obtained by contribution or plun-

der, answers the purpose of support, and may serve as an inducement to many persons to engage in these disturbances.

The system of intimidation, produced not only by the oaths and engagements before mentioned, or by threats of violence, but by the attack and destruction of houses and factories, by actual assassinations in some instances, and attempts at assassination in others, under circumstances which have hitherto generally baffled all endeavours to discover and bring to justice the offenders, all tend to render these proceedings greatly alarming to the country. In many parts the quiet inhabitants consider themselves as enjoying protection only as far as the military force can extend its exertions, and look upon the rest of the country, where the disturbances took place, as at the mercy of the rioters.

The legal proceedings at Nottingham checked the disposition to disturbance in that quarter, but this effect did not extend to other parts of the country; and though the proceedings under the special commissions since issued, and the convictions and executions at Lancaster and Chester, appear to make a considerable impression, they have been far from restoring peace and security to the disturbed districts.

A great military force has been assembled; the local militia has been in many places called out, and has done good service; the yeomanry corps have been active and highly useful. Many of the magistrates have zealously exerted their powers, some of them at great personal hazard. In many places great numbers of special constables have been appointed from amongst the more respectable inhabitants, and the Watch

and Ward Act has been in some places put in force, though attempted without effect in others, or abandoned from circumstances already stated. All these efforts have proved insufficient effectually to put down the spirit of disturbance; and it is therefore the decided opinion of your committee, that some further measures should be immediately adopted by parliament for affording more effectual protection to the lives and properties of his majesty's subjects, and for suppressing a system of turbulence and disorder which has already proved destructive of the tranquillity, and highly injurious to the property and welfare of some of the most populous and important districts of the country, and which unless effectually checked, may lead to consequences still more extensive and dangerous.

Prince Regent's Speech on opening Parliament, Nov. 30th.

This day the business of the session commenced with the usual formalities. Soon after two o'clock, his royal highness the prince regent arrived at the House, attended by the great officers of state, &c. when, the members of the House of Commons being called in, his royal highness was pleased to deliver the following speech from the throne:—

My Lords and Gentlemen,

It is with the deepest concern that I am obliged to announce to you at the opening of this parliament, the continuance of his majesty's lamented indisposition, and the diminution of the hopes which I have most anxiously entertained of his recovery.

The situation of public affairs has induced me to take the earliest op-

portunity of meeting you after the late elections. I am persuaded you will cordially participate in the satisfaction which I derive from the improvement of our prospects during the course of the present year.

The valour and intrepidity displayed by his majesty's forces, and those of his allies in the peninsula on so many occasions during this campaign, and the consummate skill and judgment with which the operations have been conducted by General the Marquis of Wellington, have led to consequences of the utmost importance to the common cause.

By transferring the war into the interior of Spain, and by the glorious and ever-memorable victory obtained at Salamanca, he has compelled the enemy to raise the siege of Cadiz; and the southern provinces of that kingdom have been delivered from the power and arms of France.

Although I cannot but regret that the efforts of the enemy, combined with a view to one great operation, have rendered it necessary to withdraw from the siege of Burgos; and to evacuate Madrid, for the purpose of concentrating the main body of the allied forces; these efforts of the enemy have, nevertheless, been attended with important sacrifices on their part, which must materially contribute to extend the resources, and facilitate the exertions, of the Spanish nation.

I am confident I may rely on your determination to continue to afford every aid in support of a contest, which has first given to the continent of Europe the example of persevering and successful resistance to the power of France, and on which not only the independence of the nations of the peninsula, but the best interests of his

majesty's dominions, essentially depend.

I have great pleasure in communicating to you, that the relations of peace and friendship have been restored between his majesty and the courts of St Petersburg and Stockholm.

I have directed copies of the treaties to be laid before you.

In a contest for his own sovereign rights, and for the independence of his dominions, the Emperor of Russia has had to oppose a large proportion of the military power of the French government, assisted by its allies, and by the tributary states dependent upon it.

The resistance which he has opposed to so formidable a combination, cannot fail to excite sentiments of lasting admiration.

By his own magnanimity and perseverance; by the zeal and disinterestedness of all ranks of his subjects; and by the gallantry, firmness, and intrepidity of his forces, the presumptuous expectations of the enemy have been signally disappointed.

The enthusiasm of the Russian nation has increased with the difficulties of the contest, and with the dangers with which they were surrounded. They have submitted to sacrifices of which there are few examples in the history of the world; and I indulge the confident hope, that the determined perseverance of his imperial majesty will be crowned with ultimate success; and that this contest, in its result, will have the effect of establishing, upon a foundation never to be shaken, the security and independence of the Russian empire.

The proof of confidence which I have received from his imperial majesty, in the measure which he has adopted of sending his fleets to the

ports of this country, is in the highest degree gratifying to me; and his imperial majesty may most fully rely on my fixed determination to afford him the most cordial support in the great contest in which he is engaged.

I have the satisfaction further to acquaint you, that I have concluded a treaty with his Sicilian majesty, supplementary to the treaties of 1808 and 1809.

As soon as the ratifications shall have been exchanged, I will direct a copy of this treaty to be laid before you.

My object has been to provide for the more extensive application of the military force of the Sicilian government to offensive operations; a measure which, combined with the liberal and enlightened principles which happily prevail in the councils of his Sicilian majesty, is calculated, I trust, to augment his power and resources, and, at the same time, to render them essentially serviceable to the common cause.

The declaration of war by the government of the United States of America was made under circumstances, which might have afforded a reasonable expectation, that the amicable relations between the two nations would not be long interrupted. It is with sincere regret that I am obliged to acquaint you, that the conduct and pretensions of that government have hitherto prevented the conclusion of any pacific arrangement.

Their measures of hostility have been principally directed against the adjoining British provinces, and every effort has been made to seduce the inhabitants of them from their allegiance to his majesty.

The proofs, however, which I have received of loyalty and attachment

from his majesty's subjects in North America are highly satisfactory.

The attempts of the enemy to invade Upper Canada have not only proved abortive, but by the judicious arrangements of the governor-general, and by the skill and decision with which the military operations have been conducted, the forces of the enemy assembled for that purpose in one quarter have been compelled to capitulate, and in another have been completely defeated.

My best efforts are not wanting for the restoration of the relations of peace and amity between the two countries; but until this object can be attained without sacrificing the maritime rights of Great Britain, I shall rely upon your cordial support in a vigorous prosecution of the war.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I have directed the estimates for the services of the ensuing year to be laid before you, and I entertain no doubt of your readiness to furnish such supplies as may enable me to provide for the great interests committed to my charge, and afford the best prospect of bringing the contest in which his majesty is engaged to a successful termination.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

The approaching expiration of the charter of the East-India company renders it necessary that I should call your early attention to the propriety of providing effectually for the future government of the provinces of India.

In considering the variety of interests which are connected with this important subject, I rely on your wisdom for making such an arrangement as may best promote the prosperity of the British possessions in that quarter, and at the same time secure the

greatest advantages to the commerce and revenue of his majesty's dominions.

I have derived great satisfaction from the success of the measures which have been adopted for suppressing the spirit of outrage and insubordination which had appeared in some parts of the country : and from the disposition which has been manifested to take advantage of the indemnity held out to the deluded, by the wisdom and benevolence of parliament.

I trust I shall never have occasion to lament the recurrence of atrocities so repugnant to the British character ; and that all his majesty's subjects will be impressed with the conviction, that the happiness of individuals, and the welfare of the state, equally depend upon a strict obedience to the laws, and an attachment to our excellent constitution.

In the loyalty of his majesty's people, and in the wisdom of parliament, I have reason to place the fullest confidence. The same firmness and perseverance which have been manifested on so many and such trying occasions, will not, I am persuaded, be wanting at a time when the eyes of all Europe, and of the world, are fixed upon you. I can assure you, that in the exercise of the great trust reposed in me, I have no sentiment so near my heart as the desire to promote, by every means in my power, the real prosperity and lasting happiness of his majesty's subjects.

Message from the Prince Regent to both Houses of Parliament, Dec. 17, on a Grant to Russia.

“ G. P. R.

“ The prince regent, acting in the name and on the behalf of his majesty, having taken into his serious consideration the accounts which he has received of the severe distresses to which the inhabitants of a part of the empire of Russia have been exposed in their persons and property, in consequence of the unprovoked and atrocious invasion of that country by the ruler of France, and the exemplary and extraordinary magnanimity and fortitude with which they have submitted to the greatest privations and sufferings in the defence of their country, and the ardent loyalty and unconquerable spirit they have displayed in its cause, whereby results have been produced of the utmost importance to the interests of this kingdom, and to the general cause of Europe, recommends to the House of Commons, to enable his royal highness, in aid of the contributions which have been commenced within the Russian empire for this purpose, to afford to the suffering subjects of his majesty's good and great ally, the Emperor of Russia, such speedy and effectual relief as may be suitable to this most interesting occasion.”

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PUBLIC GENERAL ACTS,

Passed in the Sixth Session of the Fourth Parliament of the united Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, 52d George III.—A.D. 1812.

An act for continuing to his majesty certain duties on malt, sugar, tobacco, and snuff, in Great Britain; and on pensions, offices, and personal estates in England; for the service of the year 1812.

An act to permit sugar, the produce of Martinique, and other conquered islands in the West Indies, to be taken out of warehouse on the payment of the like rate of duty for waste as British plantation sugar.

An act to revive and to continue until the 31st day of December 1812, so much of an act made in the 49th year of his present majesty, to prohibit the distillation of spirits from corn or grain, in the united kingdom, as relates to Great Britain; and to revive and continue another act made in the 49th year aforesaid, to suspend the importation of British or Irish-made spirits into Great Britain or Ireland respectively; and for granting certain duties on worts or wash made from sugar during the prohibition of distillation from corn or grain in Great Britain.

An act for raising the sum of 10,500,000*l.* by exchequer bills, for the service of Great Britain for the year 1812.

An act for raising the sum of 1,500,000*l.* by exchequer bills, for the service of Great Britain for the year 1812.

An act for making provision for the better support of his majesty's household, during the continuance of his majesty's indisposition.

An act for granting to his majesty a certain sum for defraying the expenses incident to the assumption of the personal exercise of the royal authority, by his royal highness the Prince Regent, in the name and on the behalf of his majesty.

An act for the regulation of his majesty's household, and enabling her majesty the queen to meet the increased expense to which her majesty may be exposed during his majesty's indisposition: and for the care of his majesty's real and personal property; and to amend an act of the last session of parliament, to provide for the administration of the royal authority during his majesty's illness.

An act to repeal an act of the 25th year of his present majesty, for better securing the duties on coals, culm, and cinders; and making other provisions in lieu thereof; and for requiring ships in the coal trade to be measured.

An act to amend an act of the 50th year of his present majesty, for granting a sum of money to be raised by exchequer bills, to be advanced and applied in the manner and upon the terms therein mentioned for the relief of the united company of mer-

chants of England trading to the East Indies.

An act to repeal an act passed in the 39th and 40th year of his present majesty, for establishing certain regulations in the offices of the House of Commons, and to establish other and further regulations in the said offices.

An act for extending the laws for preventing the embezzlement of his majesty's naval ordnance and victualing stores in Ireland.

An act to alter and amend an act, passed in the 51st year of the reign of his present majesty, for the relief of certain insolvent debtors in England.

An act, for granting annuities to discharge certain exchequer bills.

An act for further continuing, until the 25th day of March 1813, certain bounties and drawbacks on the exportation of sugar from Great Britain; and for suspending the counter-vailing duties and bounties on sugar, when the duties imposed by an act of the 49th year of his present majesty shall be suspended; and for continuing so much of an act of the 47th year of his present majesty, as allows a bounty on raw sugar exported until the 25th day of March 1813.

An act for the more exemplary punishment of persons destroying or injuring any stocking or lace frames, or other machines or engines used in the frame-work knitting manufactory, or any articles or goods in such frames or machines: to continue in force until the first day of March, 1814.

An act for the more effectual preservation of the peace, by enforcing the duties of watching and warding, until the 1st day of March, 1814, in places where disturbances prevail or are apprehended.

An act for making perpetual an

act made in the 12th year of his present majesty, for encouraging the manufacture of leather, by lowering the duty payable upon the importation of oak bark, when the price of such bark shall exceed a certain rate.

An act to amend an act of the last session of parliament, for granting to his majesty a sum of money to be raised by lotteries.

An act to continue several laws relating to permitting the importation of tobacco into Great Britain from any place whatever, and to permitting goods and commodities to be imported into and exported from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, in any ship or vessel, until the 25th day of March, 1815; and to the amending an act for consolidating and extending the several laws in force for allowing the importation of certain goods and merchandize into and from certain ports in the West Indies, until the 25th day of March, 1814.

An act to render valid and effectual certain oaths administered to and taken by certain members of the House of Commons before deputies of the late Lord Steward of his majesty's household, during the vacancy of the said office.

An act for punishing mutiny and desertion; and for the better payment of the army and their quarters.

An act for the regulating of his majesty's royal marine forces, while on shore.

An act for raising the sum of 6,789,625*l.* by way of annuities.

An act to continue, until the 25th day of March, 1813, an act for regulating the drawbacks and bounties on the exportation of sugar from Ireland.

An act to indemnify such persons in the united kingdom as have omitted to qualify themselves for offices

and employments, and for extending the times limited for those purposes respectively, until the 25th day of March, 1813; and to permit such persons in Great Britain as have omitted to make and file affidavits of the execution of indentures of clerks to attornies and solicitors, to make and file the same on or before the 1st day of Hilary term, 1813.

An act for enabling the wives and families of soldiers embarked in Ireland for foreign service to return to their homes.

An act to amend an act of the last session of parliament, making provision for the families of militiamen in Ireland.

An act to amend the laws relating to the militia of Ireland.

An act to provide for regulating the warehousing of spirits distilled from corn in Ireland, for exportation, without payment of the duty of excise chargeable thereon; and to transfer the custody of spirits so warehoused, from the commissioners of customs and port duties in Ireland, and their officers, to the commissioners of inland excise and taxes in Ireland, and their officers.

An act to repeal an act made in the 39th year of Queen Elizabeth, entitled an act against lewd and wandering persons pretending themselves to be soldiers or mariners.

An act for the relief of infant suitors in courts of equity, entitled to stock or annuities in any of the public or other funds, transferable at the bank of England.

An act to continue until the expiration of six months after the conclusion of the present war, an act made in the 46th year of his present majesty, for permitting the importation of masts, yards, bowsprits, and timber for naval purposes, from the British colonies in North America, duty free.

An act for altering and amending an act made in the 32d year of the reign of his late majesty King George the Second, for the relief of debtors, with respect to the imprisonment of their persons, and of an act made in the 39th year of his present majesty, for making perpetual an act made in the 33d year of his present majesty, for the further relief of debtors; and for other purposes in the said act expressed.

An act to prohibit all intercourse between the island of Jamaica and certain parts of the island of Saint Domingo.

An act for granting additional duties on mahogany not imported from the Bay of Honduras, and for reducing the duties on certain species of wood imported from the said bay.

An act for settling and securing a certain annuity on Earl Wellington and the two next persons to whom the title of Earl Wellington shall descend, in consideration of his eminent services.

An act for amending the laws relating to the local militia in England.

An act for the more effectual regulation of pilots, and of the pilotage of ships and vessels on the coast of England.

An act to make provision for a limited time respecting certain grants of offices.

An act to amend and continue until the 25th day of March, 1813, an act of the 45th year of his present majesty, for appointing commissioners to enquire into the public expenditure, and the conduct of the public business in the military departments therein mentioned; and another act, of the 51st year of his present majesty, for continuing and extending the same to public works executed by the office of works and others.

An act for amending the laws relating to the allowance of the bounties on pilchards exported until the 24th day of June, 1819.

An act for increasing the rates of subsistence to be paid to innkeepers and others on quartering soldiers.

An act for the erection of a penitentiary house for the confinement of offenders convicted within the city of London and the county of Middlesex; and for making compensation to Jeremy Bentham, Esquire, for the non-performance of an agreement between the said Jeremy Bentham and the Lords Commissioners of his majesty's Treasury, respecting the custody and maintenance of convicts.

An act to suspend the exportation from Ireland to parts beyond the seas of spirits made or distilled in Ireland from corn or grain, until the 31st day of December, 1812.

An act to grant to his majesty duties upon spirits made or distilled in Ireland, and to allow certain drawbacks on the exportation thereof; and to repeal certain bounties given to persons licensed to sell spirituous liquors, wine, beer, and ale, by retail, in Ireland.

An act to revive and continue until the 31st day of December, 1812, so much of an act made in the 49th year of his present majesty to prohibit the distillation of spirits from corn or grain in the united kingdom as relates to Ireland.

An act to provide for the regulating and securing the collection of the duties on spirits distilled in Ireland from corn, malted, or unmalted, in stills of and under 100 gallons content.

An act to continue the period for purchasing the legal quays in the port of London, and to enable the Lords of the Treasury to purchase buildings

in Thames-street, for the purpose of erecting a new custom-house.

An act to continue until three months after the commencement of the next session of parliament, and amend an act of the last session of parliament, for making more effectual provision for preventing the current gold coin of the realm from being paid or accepted for a greater value than the current value of such coin; for preventing any note or bill of the governor and company of the bank of England from being received for any smaller sum than the sum therein specified; and for staying proceedings upon any distress by tender of such notes; and to extend the same to Ireland.

An act to provide for the more speedy examination, controuling, and finally auditing the military accounts of Ireland.

An act to provide for the speedy and regular examination and audit of the public accounts of Ireland; and to repeal certain former acts relating thereto.

An act for extending the time in which coffee of the British plantations may be sold by auction without payment of the duty on auctions; and for making an allowance of such duty on coffee sold, for which the said duty has not been paid.

An act for continuing until the 1st day of August, 1813, several laws relating to the duties on glass made in Great Britain.

An act to prevent foreign goods of certain descriptions being brought from the United States of America into Canada; and to allow a greater quantity of worsted yarn to be exported from Great Britain to Canada.

An act to explain and amend an act passed in the 50th year of his

present majesty, for explaining and amending an act for continuing and making perpetual several duties of 1s. 6d. in the pound, on offices and employments of profit, and on annuities, pensions, and stipends.

An act to enable his majesty to settle on their royal highnesses the Princesses Augusta Sophia, Elizabeth, Mary, and Sophia, an annuity of 36,000*l.* instead of the annuity settled on them by an act passed in the 18th year of his present majesty.

An act to grant to his majesty certain duties of excise on tobacco to be manufactured in Ireland; and to allow certain drawbacks in respect thereof, in lieu of former duties of excise and drawbacks: and to provide for the regulating and securing the collection of the said duties.

An act for allowing on the exportation of manufactured plate for the private use of persons residing or going to reside abroad, the same drawback as is now allowed on the exportation of such plate by way of merchandize.

An act for altering the mode of payment of the superannuation allowances in the department of the customs in Scotland.

An act to grant an excise duty on spirits made or distilled from sugar in Ireland, during the prohibition of distillation from corn or grain there, in lieu of the excise duty now chargeable thereon; and to allow a drawback on the export thereof.

An act to enable coadjutors to archbishops and bishops in Ireland to execute the powers of archbishops and bishops respectively.

An act for more effectually preventing the embezzlement of securities for money and other effects; left or deposited for safe custody, or other

special purpose, in the hands of bankers, merchants, brokers, attorneys, or other agents.

An act for extending the provisions of an act of the 30th year of King George the Second, against persons obtaining money by false pretences, to persons so obtaining bonds and other securities.

An act to allow the use of sugar in brewing beer in Great Britain.

An act to explain and amend an act of the 50th year of his present majesty, to regulate the taking of securities in all offices in respect of which security ought to be given, and for avoiding the grant of all such offices in the event of such security not being given within a time to be limited after the grant of such offices.

An act for settling and securing certain annuities; on the widow and eldest son of the late right honourable Spencer Perceval, and for granting a sum of money for the use of his other children.

An act for amending the laws relating to the local militia in Scotland.

An act to continue until the 5th day of July, 1813; several acts for granting certain rates and duties, and for allowing certain drawbacks and bounties on goods, wares, and merchandize, imported into and exported from Ireland.

An act for raising the sum of 1,500,000*l.* by way of annuities, and treasury bills for the service of Ireland.

An act for the better cultivation of navy timber in the forest of Woolmer, in the county of Southampton.

An act for the better cultivation of navy timber in the forest of Alice Holt, in the county of Southampton.

An act for repealing so much of an act of the 36th year of his present majesty, for the better relief of the poor within England; and enlarging the powers of the guardians of the poor, as limits the annual amount of the assessments.

An act to continue until the 1st day of January, 1814, an act for appointing commissioners to enquire and examine into the nature and extent of the several bogs in Ireland, and the practicability of draining and cultivating them, and the best means of effecting the same.

An act to provide for the more complete and effectual liquidation of a debt due to his majesty from the late Abraham Goldsmid, merchant, and his surviving partners; and to confirm and establish certain agreements entered into for that and other purposes relating thereto.

An act to amend several acts relating to the revenue of customs and port duties in Ireland.

An act for granting an additional drawback on flint, phial and crown glass; for charging an additional countervailing duty on flint and crown glass imported from Ireland; and for the better prevention of frauds in the exportation of glass on drawback.

An act to make better provision for the commissioners of appeal in revenue causes in Ireland.

An act to allow British plantation sugar and coffee, imported into Bermuda in British ships to be exported to the territories of the United States of America in foreign ships or vessels; and to permit articles, the production of the said United States, to be imported into the said island in foreign ships or vessels.

An act for extending the period in which deeds were directed to be enrolled by an act of the 50th year of

his present majesty, for amending several acts for the redemption and sale of the land-tax.

An act to amend an act made in the 49th year of his present majesty, for providing a durable allowance of superannuation to the officers of excise, under certain restrictions.

An act for transferring the Scotch excise charity and superannuation funds to the consolidated fund, and paying all future allowances from the latter fund, and for making provision for certain superannuated officers of excise in England and Scotland.

An act to revive and continue, until the 25th day of March, 1813, and amend so much of an act, made in the 39th and 40th year of his present majesty, as grants certain allowances to adjutants, and serjeant majors of the militia of England, disembodied under an act of the same session of parliament.

An act for making allowances in certain cases to subaltern officers of the militia in Great Britain, while disembodied.

An act for raising the sum of 22,500,000*l.* by way of annuities.

An act for raising the sum of 5,000,000*l.* by exchequer bills, for the service of Great Britain, for the year 1812.

An act to repeal the several duties under the care of the commissioners for managing the stamp duties in Ireland, and to grant new duties in lieu thereof; and for transferring the management of the duties on playing cards and dice from the commissioners of inland excise to the commissioners of stamp duties.

An act for granting to his majesty certain additional rates of postage in Great Britain.

An act for charging an additional duty on copper imported into Great

Britain, until the expiration of six calendar months after the ratification of a definitive treaty of peace.

An act for raising the sum of 500,000*l.* by treasury bills for the service of Ireland, for the year 1812.

An act to continue until the 25th day of March, 1814, an act made in the parliament of Ireland, in the 27th year of his present majesty, for the better execution of the law, and preservation of the peace within counties at large.

An act to continue, until the 1st day of August, 1813, certain acts for appointing commissioners to enquire into the fees, gratuities, perquisites, and emoluments received in several public offices in Ireland; to examine into any abuses which may exist in the same, and into the mode of receiving, collecting, issuing, and accounting for public money in Ireland.

An act for granting to his majesty certain new and additional duties of assessed taxes; and for consolidating the same with the former duties of assessed taxes.

An act for granting to his majesty additional duties of excise in Great Britain, on glass, hides, and tobacco and snuff.

An act to amend and regulate the assessment and collection of the assessed taxes, and of the rates and duties on profits arising from property, professions, trades, and offices, in that part of Great Britain called Scotland.

An act for applying the amount of the bounties on certain linens exported from Great Britain towards defraying the charge of the loan made and stock created in the present session of parliament.

An act to amend several acts relating to the revenue of inland excise and taxes in Ireland.

An act to permit sugar, coffee, and cocoa to be exported from his majesty's colonies or plantations to any port in Europe to the southward of Cape Finisterre, and corn to be imported from any such port, and from the coast of Africa, into the said colonies and plantations, under licenses granted by the collectors and controllers of the customs.

An act for allowing certain articles to be imported into the Bahama islands, and exported therefrom in foreign vessels; and for encouraging the exportation of salt from the said islands.

An act to permit the exportation of wares, goods, and merchandize, from any of his majesty's islands in the West Indies, to any other of the said islands, and to and from any of the British colonies on the continent of America, and the said islands and colonies.

An act to provide a summary remedy in cases of abuses of trusts created for charitable purposes.

An act for the registering and securing of charitable donations.

An act for the more easy manning of vessels employed in the southern whale fishery.

An act to render more effectual an act, passed in the 37th year of his present majesty, for preventing the administering or taking unlawful oaths.

An act to continue, amend, and extend the provisions of an act, passed in the 48th year of his present majesty, for enabling the secretary at war to enforce returns from clerks of subdivisions and others, in relation to fines, bounties, and sums due under any acts relating to the defence of the realm or militia, for the purpose of directing the distribution and securing the due application thereof.

An act for increasing the duty on rum and other spirits imported into Newfoundland from the British colonies and plantations on the continent of America, and charging a duty on spirits imported into Newfoundland from his majesty's colonies in the West Indies.

An act for extending the allowance of the duty on salt used in making oxygenated muriatic acid for bleaching linen, to salt used in making such acid for bleaching thread and cotton twist.

An act to amend an act passed in the 50th year of his present majesty, for placing the duties of hawkers and pedlars under the management of the commissioners of hackney coaches.

An act to empower the commissioners of Chelsea hospital to commute pensions for a sum of money in certain cases.

An act for amending an act passed in the 12th year of his late majesty, King George the 2nd, entitled, 'An act for the more easy assessing, collecting, and levying of county rates;' and for the remedying certain defects in the laws relating to the repairing of county bridges and other works maintained at the expense of the inhabitants of counties in England.

An act for defraying the charge of the pay and cloathing of the militia and local militia in Great Britain for the year 1812.

An act for defraying, until the 26th day of March, 1813, the charge of the pay and clothing of the militia of Ireland; and for making allowances in certain cases to subaltern officers of the said militia during peace.

An act for raising the sum of 1,216,666l. 12s. 4d. Irish currency by treasury bills for the service of Ireland for the year 1812.

An act to enable the commissioners of his majesty's treasury to issue exchequer bills, on the credit of such aids or supplies as have been or shall be granted by parliament for the service of Great Britain for the year 1812.

An act to make more effectual provision for enabling the corporation for preserving and improving the port of Dublin, to erect, repair, and maintain light houses and lights round the coasts of Ireland, and to raise a fund for defraying the charge thereof.

An act to amend an act of this session of parliament for amending the laws relating to the local militia of England.

An act for imposing additional duties of customs on certain species of wood, and on pot and pearl ashes imported into Great Britain.

An act to amend an act made in the present session of parliament, entitled, 'An Act to revive and continue until the 31st day of December, 1812, so much of an act made in the 49th year of his present majesty, to prohibit the distillation of spirits from corn or grain, in the united kingdom, as relates to Great Britain; and to revive and continue another act made in the 49th year aforesaid, to suspend the importation of British or Irish made spirits into Great Britain or Ireland, respectively; and for granting certain duties on worts or wash made from sugar, during the prohibition of distillation from corn or grain in Great Britain.'

An act to repeal so much of an act of the 43d year of his present majesty, as permits the importation of goods and commodities from Turkey, Egypt, or the Levant seas, in foreign ships.

An act to explain, amend, and extend the provisions of an act, passed

in the last session of parliament, for enabling the wives and families of soldiers to return to their homes, to the widows, wives, and families of soldiers dying or employed on foreign service.

An act to authorise the transfer to the East Indies, of debts originally contracted there, on the part of the East India company, payable in England.

An act to remove doubts as to an act passed in the 50th year of the reign of his present majesty, relating to raising men for the service of the East India company.

An act for amending and enlarging the powers of an act passed in the 50th year of his present majesty, to enable his royal highness the Prince of Wales to grant leases of certain lands and premises called Prince's Meadows, in the parish of Lambeth, in the county of Surrey, parcel of his said royal highness's duchy of Cornwall, for the purpose of building thereon.

An act for vesting in his majesty, his heirs, and successors, certain lands or grounds, formerly part of the wastes of the manor of Sandhurst, in the county of Berks, freed and discharged of commonable and other rights.

An act for granting to his majesty a sum of money to be raised by lotteries.

An act to repeal the several acts for the collection and management of the stamp duties in Ireland, and to make more effectual regulations for collecting and managing the said duties;

An act to prohibit until the 1st day of November, 1812, the making of starch, hair-powder, and blue, from wheat and other articles of food; and for suspending part of the duties

now payable on the importation into Great Britain of starch.

An act for better securing the duties on malt.

An act for amending two acts passed in the 48th and 49th years of his present majesty, for enabling the commissioners for the reduction of the national debt to grant life annuities.

An act for the more effectual punishment of persons destroying the properties of his majesty's subjects; and enabling the owners of such properties to recover damages for the injury sustained.

An act to exempt from the duties of 1s. and of 6d. in the pound, certain augmentations made to the stipends of parishes in Scotland.

An act for explaining, amending, and extending the several laws relative to the payment of forfeited and unclaimed shares of army prize money, to the royal hospital at Chelsea; and for directing the mode of making up the accounts of pensions, paid to the widows of officers of the army.

An act for taking an account of the population of Ireland, and of the increase or diminution thereof.

An act for the better regulation of the butter trade in Ireland.

An act for advancing 2,500,000l. to the East India Company, to enable them to discharge part of the Indian debt.

An act to enable the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland to regulate the price of coals to be bought for the benefit of the poor of the city of Dublin.

An act for extending the time for the payment of certain sums of money, advanced by way of loan under an act, passed in the last session of parliament, for enabling his majesty to direct the issue of exchequer bills, to a limited amount, for the purposes and in the manner therein mentioned.

An act for the further prevention of the counterfeiting of silver tokens issued by the governor and company of the bank of England, called dollars, and of silver pieces issued and circulated by the said governor and company, called tokens; and for the further prevention of frauds practised by the imitation of the notes or bills of the said governor and company.

An act for granting to his majesty certain duties on stone bottles made in or imported into Great Britain.

An act to permit the exportation of certain articles to the Isle of Man from Great Britain.

An act to regulate the manner of licensing boats by the commissioners of the customs, and the delivering up of licenses in cases of loss or capture of vessels licensed; and for enabling the commissioners of the customs to purchase certain boats at a valuation.

An act to permit the removal of goods from one bonding warehouse to another, in the same port.

An act for amending and reducing into one act, the provisions contained in any laws now in force imposing the penalty of death for any act done in breach of or in resistance to any part of the laws for collecting his majesty's revenue in Great Britain.

An act to suspend and finally vacate the seats of members of the House of Commons, who shall become bankrupts, and who shall not pay their debts in full within a limited time.

An act to explain the exemption from toll in several acts of parliament, for carriages employed in husbandry; and for regulating the tolls to be paid on other carriages, and on horses, in certain other cases therein specified.

An act for the better regulating and preserving parish and other registers of births, baptisms, marriages, and burials in England.

An act for regulating the allowances granted out of the duties of assessed taxes, to persons in respect of the number of their children, by an act passed in the 46th year of his present majesty; and for extending the limitation mentioned in the said act in proportion to the increase of the said duties.

An act to enable the keeper of his majesty's privy purse for the time being, to dispose of and transfer all such public stocks or funds, as now do or shall hereafter stand in his name, in the books of the governor and company of the bank of England, in trust for his majesty.

An act to regulate the separation of damaged from sound coffee, and to permit dealers to send out any quantity of coffee not exceeding eight pounds weight without permit, until the end of two years from the passing of this act.

An act to amend an act passed in the 44th year of his majesty's reign for granting stamp duties in Great Britain, so far as regards the duties granted on medicines and on licenses for vending the same.

An act to extend the provisions of an act of the last session of parliament, relating to the half-pay and allowance of officers retiring from service; and to authorise the allowing to foreign officers wounded the like pensions and allowances as are given to British officers under the like circumstances.

An act to repeal an act, passed in the 49th year of his present majesty, entituled, 'An Act for better regulating the office of agent general for volunteers and local militia,' and for the more effectually regulating the said office.

An act to rectify a mistake and to carry into more effectual execution the purposes of an act made in the

last session of parliament, relating to the British white herring fishery.

An act for granting to his majesty certain sums of money out of the consolidated fund of Great Britain, and for applying certain monies therein mentioned, for the service of the year 1812, and for further appropriating the supplies granted in this session of parliament.

An act to repeal certain acts, and amend other acts relating to religious worship and assemblies, and persons teaching or preaching therein.

An act for the more effectual punishment of persons aiding prisoners of war to escape from his majesty's dominions.

An act to prevent the issuing and circulating of pieces of gold and silver, or other metal, usually called tokens, except such as are issued by the banks of England and Ireland respectively.

An act to extend the provisions of an act passed in the 36th year of the reign of his present majesty, for the relief of persons equitably entitled to stocks and annuities transferable at the bank of England, and of an act passed in this present session for the relief of infant suitors entitled to the like stocks and annuities, to all other transferable stocks and funds.

An act for charging foreign liquors and tobacco derelict, jetsam, flotsam, lagan, or wreck, brought or coming into Great Britain, with the duties payable on importation of such liquors and tobacco.

An act to enable justices of the peace to order parochial relief to prisoners confined under mesne process for debt in such gaols as are not county gaols.

An act for enabling his majesty to grant leases under certain circumstances, and for the better carrying into effect the provisions of an act passed in the 39th and 40th year of the reign of his present majesty, touching the formation of a map of the New Forest, in the county of Southampton, and continuing and extending other provisions of the said act; for further appropriating the monies arisen or to arise from the sale of certain crown lands under the authority of divers acts of parliament; for annexing certain lands within the forest of Rockingham to his majesty's manor of King's Cliffe; and for enabling the Commissioners of the Treasury to appropriate small portions of land for ecclesiastical purposes.

An act for the preservation of the public peace in certain disturbed counties in England; and to give, until the 25th day of March, 1813, additional powers to justices for that purpose.

An act for the relief of certain insolvent debtors in Ireland.

An act for enabling his majesty to raise the sum of three millions for the service of Great Britain, and for applying the sum of 200,000*l.* British currency, for the service of Ireland.

An act for the relief of certain insolvent debtors in England.

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STATE PAPERS.—FOREIGN.

Speech of the Prince Royal of Sweden to the King, on his Majesty's resuming the Government, Jan. 7th.

SIRE,—My most ardent wishes have been fulfilled. The re-established health of your majesty again enables you to resume the government of the kingdom.

I can appeal to your own heart, to judge of the delightful emotion mine experiences in replacing in the hands of your majesty, an authority, the prolonged exercise of which has constantly kept before me the danger which threatened your days.

Notwithstanding the daily reports which I have submitted to your majesty, both respecting the exterior and interior situation of the state, I, nevertheless, consider it my duty to profit by the present occasion, so important for me, upon all accounts, to present your majesty with a rapid sketch of them.

When your majesty decided upon embracing the continental policy, and declaring war against Great Britain, Sweden had got clear of an unfortunate contest; her wounds were still bleeding; it was necessary for her to make new sacrifices, at a moment even when she lost one of the principal branches of her public revenues; the whole of that produced by the customs being nearly annihilated.

In defiance of the insulated situa-

tion of Sweden, she has performed, for the interest of the common cause, all that could be expected from a people faithful to their engagements; more than 2,000,000 of rix-dollars have been expended in recruiting the army, and placing in a state of defence the coasts of our islands, our fortresses, and our fleets.

I will not conceal from your majesty, that our commerce has been reduced to a simple coasting trade from port to port, and has greatly suffered from this state of war. Privateers, under friendly flags, against which it would have been injurious to have adopted measures of safety and precaution, have taken advantage of our confidence in treaties, to capture, one after another, nearly fifty of our merchantmen; but at last, sire, your flotilla received orders to protect the Swedish flag, and the just commerce of your subjects, against piracies which could neither be authorised nor avowed by any government.

The Danish cruizers have given much cause for complaint on our part; but the evil decreases daily, and every thing leads us to think the lawful commerce of Sweden will not be any longer disturbed by them, and that the relations of good neighbourhood will be more and more strengthened.

The cruizers under the French flag have given an unlimited extension to their letters of marque; the injuries

which they have done us have been the object of our complaints. The justice and loyalty of his majesty the emperor of the French have guaranteed their redress.

The protections given by friendly governments have been respected; and such of their ships as have touched upon our coasts, have been at liberty to continue their voyage, whatever might be their destination.

About 50 American ships driven upon our coasts by successive tempests, have been released. This act of justice, founded upon the rights of nations, has been appreciated by the United States: and appearances promise us, that better understood relations with their government will facilitate the exportation of the numerous piles of iron with which our public places are now filled.

Political considerations join with the family connection which unites your majesty and the King of Prussia, to consolidate the relations of friendship that subsist between the two powers.

The peace with Russia will not be troubled: the treaties by which it is cemented are executed on both sides with frankness and good faith.

Our relations with the Austrian empire are upon a most amicable footing; the remembrance of glory brings the two nations nearer to each other; and your majesty will neglect nothing which can contribute to maintain the reciprocity of confidence and esteem it causes.

If Spain and Portugal should assume a tranquil posture, these countries will offer to Swedish commerce, advantages which would guarantee the perfection of the plans she has commenced for improving her iron mines.

Our intercourse with Southern

America has entirely ceased; civil war ravages these fine and unfortunate countries. When they have a regular administration, the produce of the kingdom will find an advantageous vent there.

The maritime war has interrupted our commercial relations with Turkey; but nothing which interests that ancient friend of Sweden can be indifferent to your majesty.

Such, sire! are the exterior relations of Sweden;—justice and loyalty towards all nations have been the political guides of your majesty.

The army and the finances,—those two principal guarantees of a state,—have, above all, been the objects of my constant solicitude.

A wise economy has governed the expenditure of the funds destined for the armaments which the state of war rendered necessary. This war having great influence upon the exportation of Swedish productions, upon the general proceedings of trade, and the imaginations of merchants, had caused the course of exchange to rise to an exorbitant height. I particularly directed my attention to stop this scourge of states; which having once broken its dykes, no bounds can be placed to its ravages; by repressing, on the one side, stock-jobbing; by carrying into execution the ancient laws against the unlawful exportation of gold and silver; by imposing a duty of transit upon the conveyance of ingots from foreign countries, passing through Sweden; by endeavouring to bring back the nation to the principles of economy which distinguished their ancestors. On the other side, I have endeavoured to give activity to the interior industry and lawful commerce of Sweden.

I have had the satisfaction of seeing my efforts crowned with success; and

that the course of exchange upon Hamburg, which in March last was at 136 sk. on the 3d of the present January was only 84 sk.

I have taken measures to render more general the manufacture of linen, and the culture of hemp; to proceed actively in the discovery of new sources for obtaining salt; to continue the clearing of the ground in Dalecarlia; to establish a new communication with, and new markets in, Vermeland; to form a company destined to carry on the herring-fishery in the open sea; to augment our commercial relations with Finland; to carry into execution the financial resolutions of the states of the kingdom; to give to the direction of magazines, to those of the customs, and to the island of St Bartholomew, a fresh organization.

The harvest not having proved a good one, I have adopted means to prevent a scarcity, by causing corn to be imported from foreign countries; but in order to prevent such importation influencing the exchange, salt must be exported for grain so received. This exchange will be effected with so much the more facility, as there yet exists a sufficient provision of salt in the country for two years' consumption.

I have with grief observed, that the immoderate use and manufacture of brandy, by which the general interests are sacrificed to individual ones, corrupt the nation, and will sooner or later inevitably cause a scarcity. I have only employed exhortations on this subject, which I have collected from the paternal sentiments of your majesty; and I leave it to other times, and to the judgment of the states, to put an end to an evil which, every body acknowledges, continues increasing.

I have paid particular attention to

the state and organization of the hospitals, to the religious establishments, and to the means of preventing, or at least of relieving, the condition of mendicity.

The interior police and agriculture have not been lost sight of; and a central academy of agriculture will shortly be established, for the purpose of giving an impulse and an encouragement to the public economy, and to scientific knowledge, which will contribute to insure the prosperity of the state.

The works of the canal of Gothland, that grand monument of your majesty's reign, have been carried on with great activity. Those of the canal of Sodertelje, stopped by obstacles which the zealous efforts of the directors have not been able to surmount, have again recommenced with more rapid strides.

I have carried into execution the solemn resolution of the states of the kingdom, sanctioned by your majesty, regarding the national armament; but, careful not to deprive agriculture of any more arms than are indispensably necessary for the defence of our country, I have merely ordered a levy of 15,000 men, exclusive of the 50,000 which the states had placed at your majesty's disposal. The most direful errors were carried even into Schonon, where violence and a public rebellion threatened for a moment to oppose the execution of the measures ordained. Already did our enemies, or such as are envious of our repose, begin to rejoice at our intestine dissensions; but these were soon suppressed by the united force of the army and the laws; and were succeeded by the return of national sentiment and obedience to their duty. The vacancies in the new enrolment, and in the national armament, are almost entirely filled up;

and every measure has been taken to render them useful in this employ. The regular army has been recruited, as is also the whole of the reserve new clothed, and supplied with well-conditioned arms, of which sufficient quantities are found in the magazines; and the founderies for arms have obtained a renewed activity. The making of gunpowder and saltpetre has been extended and improved, and the artillery put into a respectable condition.

The pensions granted to officers and soldiers wounded during the war have been either confirmed or augmented. The accounts of the expenses of the late war have been accelerated; and such measures as have been successively adopted, had no other object in view than to render the troops serviceable, and to supply them with the necessaries requisite.

Your majesty will deign to perceive by this statement, that notwithstanding all that the detractors of Sweden have insinuated on this head, as that it would take sixty years to organize an army of 60,000 men, yet the effecting of this will be apparent in the month of April next, both to the friends and enemies of your majesty. The intent of this augmentation of our military force is merely defensive. Without any other ambition than that of preserving her liberty and laws, Sweden will have the means of defending herself, and she can do it. Bounded by the sea on one side, and on the other by inaccessible mountains, it is not solely on the courage of her inhabitants, nor in the remembrance of her former glory, that she has to seek for the security of her independence; it is rather to be found in her local situation, in her mountains, her forests, in her lakes, and in her

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frosts. Let her therefore profit by these united advantages; and let her inhabitants be thoroughly persuaded of this truth, that if iron, the produce of their mountains, cultivates their farms, by ploughing up their fields, that it is likewise iron alone, and the firm determination of making use of it, that can defend them.

I have been seconded in my efforts by the good spirit prevalent in the army, and by the zeal and abilities of the public functionaries.

The magistracy has maintained its ancient reputation; it has painful duties to fulfil, but this has procured it a fresh claim to the general esteem.

The different departments of the chancery of state have rivalled each other in giving the quickest dispatch, compatible with the formalities required by our laws and customs, to all business which has come under their cognizance.

The secretary of state's department for church affairs has, since the 17th of March, expedited nearly 600 causes; that of the interior 952; that of finance and commerce 1653; and the war-department 2535; the causes in which final decision has not yet been given, and which are confined to a very moderate number in each department, in comparison to the extent coming under their several denominations, are either of such a nature as to require your majesty's decision, or to be again brought forward for final determination.

Should your majesty deign to recognize in the sketch which I have laid before you, the desire which has actuated me to deserve the high confidence you have shewn towards me, this would prove, next to the joy I feel on your majesty's re-establishment, the most pleasing recompence

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for all my pains. May Heaven, in accordance with my prayers, lengthen your majesty's days; and that Sweden, protected by your virtues, sire, may find an imperishable guarantee for her future destiny, in the absolute devotion which my heart has vowed to your majesty; in the respectful attachment of my son; in the sanctity of the laws of the state; in the uprightness of the public functionaries; and in the union, the courage, and the patriotism of all Swedes!

With the most sincere sentiments of attachment, and with the most profound respect, I am, sire, your majesty's most humble and faithful subject, and good son,

C. JOHN

Palace at Stockholm, Jan. 7, 1812.

Appointment of the Hereditary Prince of Sicily to the Government as Vicar-General, January 16.

The King our Lord, by a resolution dated this day, signed by his majesty, and sealed with the royal seal, has constituted his royal highness Don Francis, hereditary Prince of the Two Sicilies, his most dear son, his Vicar-general in this kingdom of Sicily: transferring to him, with the most ample title of *Alter Ego*, the exercise of all rights, prerogatives, pre-eminencies, and powers, in the same manner as they could be exercised by his majesty in person. In the name of the king I communicate to your excellency this sovereign determination; transmitting to you also a copy of the same, that you may forthwith communicate it to all the departments depending on the office of Secretary of State, the Royal Household, the Treasury, and Commerce, which are

committed to the charge of your Excellency.

(Signed)

MARQUIS DE CIRCELLO.

To the Marquis Tomasi.

Palerme, Jan. 16, 1812.

ROYAL LETTER.

Ferdinand, by the grace of God, King of the Two Sicilies, Jerusalem, &c. Infante of Spain, Duke of Parma, Placencia, Castro, &c. Grand Hereditary Prince of Tuscany, &c.

My most esteemed Son Francis, Hereditary Prince of the Two Sicilies:—

Being obliged through bodily indisposition, and from the advice of the physicians, to breathe the air of the country, and to withdraw myself from all serious application, I should esteem myself culpable before God, if I did not make such provision for the government of the kingdom, in these most difficult times, that affairs of the greatest importance should be promptly dispatched, and the public weal suffer no detriment through my infirmities. Wishing, therefore, to disburthen myself of the weight of government, as long as it shall not please God to restore me to a state of health suitable for conducting it, I cannot more properly entrust it to any other than to you, my beloved son, as well because you are my legitimate successor, as on account of the experience which I have had of your high rectitude and capacity; and by these presents, with my free will and consent, I constitute and appoint you my Vicar-general in this my kingdom of Sicily, in the same way as you have been already twice Vicar-general in my

other kingdom of Naples; and I yield and transfer to you with the ample title of *Alter Ego*, the exercise of all the rights, prerogatives, pre-eminencies, and powers, which could be exercised by myself: and that this my determination may be known to all, and obeyed by all, I order that this my letter, signed by myself, and sealed with my royal seal, be preserved in the archives of the kingdom, and that you direct a copy of it to be sent to all councillors and secretaries of state for their information, and that they may communicate the same to all persons interested.—Given in Palermo, this 16th day of January, 1812.

FERDINAND.
THOMAS DE SOMMA.

Address of the Spanish Regency to the Nation, Jan. 2d.

Spaniards,—the regency, in taking upon themselves the government of the Spanish monarchy entrusted to them by the cortes in their decree of the 22d instant, could do no less than fix their whole attention on the critical circumstances in which the nation is placed, and on the immensity of their obligations. They do not, however, entertain for a single moment, the horrible idea, that the ferocious enemy who besets us, will ultimately accomplish the subjugation of the heroic Spanish people, who are now in the 5th year of their glorious resistance. You raised the cry of independence and of vengeance, even when deprived of your princes, when your laws and institutions were trampled under foot,—when destitute of resources, and without either armies, generals, or a central and respectable government. Even then, you conquered: you have continued

the contest, and you have gone on progressively ameliorating your institutions so as to assemble the cortes, to establish a government on the most legitimate basis, and through the medium of your representatives, to form a constitution, which is to raise you to the prosperity and grandeur of which you are worthy. True it is, that the sacred fire of patriotism burns throughout the whole extent of the peninsula,—that the war becomes every day more obstinate,—your hatred to a foreign domination, more inextinguishable,—the desire of vengeance stronger,—your love of liberty, and of our legitimate king, Ferdinand the Seventh, more inflamed; but it is also true, that now is the time to render such great sacrifices more useful, to exterminate with decision the abuses which are devouring us as the inevitable consequences of our ancient disorder, which could not be repaired amidst so many agitations. It is now time to apply with effect the great resources which we possess to the desired object which occupies our minds. Such are the duties of your new government: it acknowledges them publicly, and it promises their fulfilment. O Spaniards! fulfil your duties with the greatest constancy, and the most indefatigable energy. There have reached the government, the cries of the armies which defend us, depicting their painful privations; the groans of the inhabitants of districts ready to fall under the yoke of the barbarous invaders; the complaints of the provinces already occupied, always loyal, though oppressed and laid waste. Behold the situation of your new government; hear the demands which are made upon its attention, at the very moment of its commencing its painful functions; behold the ex-

tent of its wants ! To answer your own wishes and those of your representatives, it is necessary to overcome all the obstacles which have enfeebled the arrangements of authority, and to support the dignity of the government with a majesty corresponding to that of the people by whom it has been formed. The very nature of this war, in which the sacred interests of religion, of the nation, and of the king are defended, imperiously require it. The impetuous and persevering character of the enemy requires it also. The strength of our alliances must be founded on this ; and the safety of the country depends entirely and exclusively on the strictest union between all, and on the strength of your government.

The regency, deeply persuaded of this incontrovertible truth, will act with firmness in the performance of their delicate trust : they will watch, with the greatest activity, over the fate of the brave defenders of the country. They will give a fixed system to all the branches of the public administration under their control—will reward those who deserve well of the country, will apply all their exertions to the expulsion of the enemy from our soil, and to maintain the empire of justice. But they will, at the same time, be inexorable towards those who are wanting in the performance of their duties, or who do not yield obedience to their resolves. Authority is null, if it be not respected. Anarchy then diffuses its deadly poison, social order is subverted, and the state advances to the most frightful dissolution. Cease, now and henceforward, all personal pretensions ; the ill-understood feelings of interest dictated by provincial spirit ; exemptions unjustly demanded at this period of desolation : writings which, while

they ought to create the most ardent patriotism, to unite and enlighten the nation, appeared inspired by the enemy for the purpose of dividing it ! Cease ; and let the nation appear with all the power which it possesses, and which it has displayed vigorously at different periods of its grand insurrection ! The danger is great ; the government neither wishes, nor ought to conceal it : let the sacrifices also be great. The regency will spare no exertions to fulfil its duties : and even though it should see itself on the brink of a precipice, it will there exercise its last act of vigour in burying itself under the ruins of the country ; thus corresponding to the resolutions which you all have formed, and to the confidence reposed in it by the national congress. But, that fatal moment, Spaniards ! shall not arrive. We have all sworn to be free. To attain that object, let us devote the remains of our ancient opulence, exhaust our resources, and prodigally shed our blood. Of what importance are all these, when we wish to maintain the glory of our contest, our precious liberty, and the respect due to the Spanish name ? Who with an avaricious hand would conceal those barren treasures which the country demands, and which the enemy contemplates with a greedy and rapacious eye ? who would utter the voice of dismay for the purpose of coming to terms with the tyrant ? who will oppose himself to the legitimate authority which has emanated from the cortes, and dare to disobey it, in the hope of an impunity created by the discredit of government, and a want of confidence on the part of the people ? Omissions and want of obedience can no longer be overlooked. The Spaniards desire that the government should be consolidated ; and that or-

der should be established ; which can alone be the fruit of a constitutional system, dictated by the representatives of the nation : they wish that there should be an equality of sacrifices among those who enjoy the rights of citizens : they wish that the government, impressed with a sense of its unbounded obligations, shall employ all its zeal in annihilating the enemy's legions, and in confirming the constitution of the monarchy. As long as the regency exercises the authority entrusted to it, it will constantly endeavour to satisfy this anxious desire of the public mind, founded upon principles of equity and justice.

Spaniards ! Our danger is imminent. Our fate must either be that of the most ignominious slavery, or the possession of glory and independence. The government has been formed to advance the latter, and to open to you the path of greatness. Respect it ; confide in your representatives and in it : all of them act towards the same object ; all co-operate to attain the ultimate triumph which Providence has destined for us. You, on your part, will go on prosecuting eternal war against the tyrant ; you will die sooner than submit to wear the chains of servitude ; you will effectually oppose those domestic enemies who endeavour to produce disunion, or destroy the generous institutions which you have decreed. Thus, doubtless, will you act, and you shall be free ; your government assures you of it. You shall be free !

(Signed)

JOAQUIN MOSQUERAY FIGUEROA,
President,

Cádiz, Jan. 23, 1812.

Treaty of Alliance between their Majesties the Emperor and King, and

the Emperor of Austria, March 14th.

His majesty, the Emperor of the French, King of Italy, &c. &c. and his majesty, the Emperor of Austria, &c. having at heart the perpetuating the amity and good intelligence which exist between them, and to concur by the friendship and force of their union in maintaining the peace of the continent, and the re-establishment of internal peace :

Considering that nothing would be more calculated to produce those happy results than the conclusion of a treaty of alliance, which should have for its object the security of their estates and possessions, and the guarantee of the principal interests of their respective policies, have named for their plenipotentiaries,—

His majesty, the Emperor of the French, &c. M. Hugues Bernard, Count Maret, Duke de Bassano, &c.

And his majesty the Emperor of Austria, &c. the Prince Charles of Schwartzenberg, Duke de Kruseman, &c. who, after having exchanged their respective full powers, have agreed upon the following articles :—

Art. 1. There shall be perpetual amity, and sincere union and alliance, between his majesty the Emperor of the French, &c. and his Majesty the Emperor of Austria, &c. In consequence the high contracting parties will take the greatest care to maintain the good intelligence so happily established between them, their respective states and subjects, to avoid all that could injure it, and to further on every occasion their mutual utility, honour, and advantage.

Art. 2. The two high contracting parties reciprocally guarantee the integrity of their present territories.

Art. 3. As the result of this reciprocal guarantee, the two high contracting parties will always labour to concert upon the measures that shall appear the most proper for the maintenance of peace; and in case the states of one or other shall be threatened with invasion, they will employ their most efficacious offices to prevent it.

But as these good offices may not have the desired effect, they oblige themselves to mutual assistance in case one or other shall be attacked or menaced.

Art. 4. The succour stipulated by the preceding article shall be composed of 30,000 men (24,000 infantry, and 6,000 cavalry), constantly kept up to the war establishment, and of a park of 60 pieces of cannon.

Art. 5. This succour shall be furnished at the first requisition of the party attacked or menaced. It shall march in the shortest delay, and at the latest before the end of two months after the demand shall have been made.

Art 6. The two high contracting parties guarantee the integrity of the territory of the Ottoman Porte in Europe.

Art. 7. They equally recognise and guarantee the principles of the Navigation of Neutrals, such as they have been recognised and consecrated by the Treaty of Utrecht.

His Majesty the Emperor of Austria renews, as far as is needful, the engagement to adhere to the prohibitive system against England, during the present maritime war.

Art. 8. The present treaty of alliance shall not be rendered public, nor communicated to any cabinet, but in concert between the two high parties.

It shall be ratified, and the ratifications exchanged at Vienna in a fortnight, or sooner if possible.

(Signed)

H. B. Duke of BASSANO.

Prince CHAS. of Schwartzenberg.
Done and signed at Paris,
March 14, 1812.

Correspondence between the French and English Ministers on a Proposal for Peace.

Copy of a Letter addressed by the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, to Lord Castlereagh, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to his Britannic Majesty.

“Paris, April 17, 1812.

“SIR,—His majesty, constantly actuated by sentiments friendly to moderation and peace, is pleased again to make a solemn and sincere attempt to put an end to the miseries of war.

“The awful circumstances in which the world is at present placed, have induced a resolution in the breast of his majesty, the result of which has been, to authorise me to explain to you, sir, his views and intentions.

“Many changes have taken place in Europe for the last ten years, which have been the necessary consequence of the war between France and England, and many more changes will be effected by the same cause. The particular character which the war has assumed, may add to the extent and duration of these results. Exclusive and arbitrary principles cannot be combated but by an opposition without measure or end; and the system of preservation and resistance should have the same character of universality, perseverance, and vigour.

“ The peace of Amiens, if it had been observed, would have prevented much confusion.

“ I heartily wish that the experience of the past may not be lost for the future.

“ His majesty has often stopped when the most certain triumphs lay before him, and turned round to invoke peace.

“ In 1805, secure as he was by the advantage of his situation, and in spite of the confidence which he might reasonably feel in anticipations which fortune was about to realize, he made proposals to his Britannic majesty, which were rejected, on the ground that Russia should be consulted. In 1808, new proposals were made, in concert with Russia. England alleged the necessity of an intervention, which could be no more than the result of the negotiation itself. In 1810, his majesty, having clearly discerned that the British orders in council of 1807, rendered the conduct of the war incompatible with the independence of Holland, caused indirect overtures to be made towards procuring the return of peace. They were fruitless; and the consequence was, that new provinces were united to the empire.

“ In the present time are to be found united all the circumstances of the various periods at which his majesty manifested the pacific sentiments which he now orders me again to declare that he is actuated by.

“ The calamities under which Spain, and the vast regions of Spanish America suffer, should naturally excite the interest of all nations, and inspire them with an equal anxiety for their termination.

“ I will express myself, sir, in a manner which your excellency will find conformable to the sincerity of

the step which I am authorised to take; and nothing will better evince the sincerity and sublimity of it than the precise terms of the language which I have been directed to use. What views and motives should induce me to envelope myself in formalities suitable to weakness, which alone can find its interest in deceit?

“ The affairs of the peninsula, and the Two Sicilies, are the points of difference which appear least to admit of being adjusted. I am authorised to propose to you an arrangement of them, on the following basis:—

“ The integrity of Spain shall be guaranteed. France shall renounce all idea of extending her dominions beyond the Pyrennees. The present dynasty shall be declared independent, and Spain shall be governed by a national constitution of her cortes.

“ The independence and integrity of Portugal shall be also guaranteed, and the house of Braganza shall have the sovereign authority.

“ The kingdom of Naples shall remain in possession of the present monarch, and the kingdom of Sicily shall be guaranteed to the present family of Sicily.

“ As a consequence of these stipulations, Spain, Portugal, and Sicily, shall be evacuated by the French and English land and naval forces.

“ With respect to the other objects of discussion, they may be negotiated upon this basis, that each power shall retain that of which the other could not deprive it by war.

“ Such are, sir, the grounds of conciliation offered by his majesty to his royal highness the prince regent.

“ His majesty the emperor and king, in taking this step, does not look either to the advantages or losses which this empire may derive from

parts of the kingdom can be assembled by the 1st of March, of the said year, the first ordinary cortes will therefore open their session on the 1st of October, 1813. And for this purpose shall be held electoral assemblies of parishes, districts, and provinces, in conformity to the instructions for the peninsula and ultra marine possessions which accompany this decree.

3. That with a view of facilitating the elections at a period when the extraordinary circumstances in which the whole kingdom is placed, oppose obstacles of so many kinds to the necessary verification of the elections, and to the first assembling of the ordinary cortes which is to result from them: the regulations contained in the instructions for each of the two hemispheres, which accompany this decree, shall be observed and followed in the provinces of the peninsula and adjacent isles, and in those beyond the sea respectively.

4. That all the ultra marine deputies repair to this city of Cadiz, where the place in which they are to open their sittings shall be communicated to them by the permanent deputation of the cortes; for this purpose they ought to be assembled in this city at the commencement of the month of September, 1813.

5. The deputies to the present general and extraordinary cortes cannot be re-elected for the ensuing ordinary cortes.

The regency shall take the proper measures for executing this decree, causing it to be printed, published, and circulated.

JOSE MARIA GUTIERREZ DE
TERAN, President.

JOSE DE ZORRAQUIN,
JOAQUIN DIAZ CANEJA,
Secretaries.

Given at Cadiz, the 23d of May, 1812.

To the regency of the kingdom.

We therefore order all tribunals, justices, chiefs, governors, and other authorities, civil, military, and ecclesiastical, to observe, and cause to be observed, fulfil and execute the present decree in all its parts; and that the same be printed, published, and made known in order to its fulfilment.

JOAQUIN DE MOSQUERA Y
FIGUEROA, President.

JUAN VILLAVICENCIO,

IGNACIO RODRIGUES DE RIVAS,

The Conde DEL ABIZBAL,

Cadiz, May 24, 1812.

AMERICA.—*Message from the President of the United States to the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, June 1.*

I communicate to congress certain documents; being a continuation of those heretofore laid before them, on the subject of our affairs with Great Britain.

Without going beyond the renewal in 1803, of the war in which Great Britain is engaged, and omitting unrepaired wrongs of inferior magnitude, the conduct of her government presents a series of acts hostile to the United States as an independent and neutral nation.

British cruizers have been in the continued practice of violating the American flag on the great highway of nations, and of seizing and carrying off persons sailing under it, not in the exercise of a belligerent right, founded on the law of nations, against an enemy, but of a municipal prerogative over British subjects. British jurisdiction is thus extended to neu-

aral vessels in a situation where no laws can operate but the law of nations and the laws of the country to which the vessels belong; and a self-redress is assumed, which, if British subjects were wrongfully detained and alone concerned, is that substitution of force for a resort to the responsible sovereign, which falls within the definition of war. Could the seizure of British subjects, in such cases, be regarded as within the exercise of a belligerent right, the acknowledged laws of war, which forbid an article of captured property to be adjudged without a regular investigation before a competent tribunal, would imperiously demand the fairest trial, where the sacred rights of persons were at issue. In place of such trial, these rights are subjected to the will of every petty commander.

The practice, hence, is so far from affecting British subjects alone, that under the pretext of searching for these, thousands of American citizens, under the safe-guard of public laws, and of their national flag, have been torn from their country, and from every thing dear to them,—have been dragged on board ships of war of a foreign nation, and exposed, under the severities of their discipline, to be exiled to the most distant and deadly climes, to risk their lives in the battles of their oppressors, and to be the melancholy instruments of taking away those of their own brethren.

Against this crying enormity, which Great Britain would be so prompt to avenge if committed against herself, the United States have in vain exhausted remonstrances and expostulations; and that no proof might be wanting of their conciliatory dispositions, and no pretext left

for continuance of the practice, the British government was formally assured of the readiness of the United States to enter into arrangements, such as could not be rejected, if the recovery of the British subjects were the real and sole object. The communication passed without effect.

British cruisers have been in the practice also of violating the rights and peace of our coasts. They hover over and harass our entering and departing commerce. To the most insulting pretensions they have added lawless proceedings in our very harbours, and have wantonly spilt American blood within the sanctuary of our territorial jurisdiction. The principles and rules enforced by that nation, when a neutral nation, against armed vessels of belligerents hovering near her coasts, and disturbing her commerce, are well known. When called on, nevertheless, by the United States to punish the greater offences committed by her own vessels, her government has bestowed on their commanders additional marks of honour and confidence.

Under pretended blockades, without the presence of an adequate force, and sometimes without the practicability of applying one, our commerce has been plundered in every sea, the great staples of our country have been cut off from their legitimate markets; and a destructive blow aimed at our agricultural and maritime interests. In aggravation to these predatory measures, they have been considered as in force from the dates of their notification; a retrospective effect being thus added, as has been done in other important cases, to the unlawfulness of the course pursued: and to render the outrage more signal, these mock blockades have been reiterated and enforced in the face of

official communications from the British government, declaring, as the true definition of a legal blockade, "that particular ports must be actually invested, and previous warning given to vessels bound to them not to enter."

Not content with these occasional expedients for laying waste our neutral trade, the cabinet of Great Britain resorted, at length, to the sweeping system of blockades, under the name of orders in council, which has been moulded and managed as might best suit its political views, its commercial jealousies, or the avidity of British cruisers.

To our remonstrances against the complicated and transcendent injustice of this innovation, the first reply was, that the orders were reluctantly adopted by Great Britain as a necessary retaliation on decrees of her enemy proclaiming a general blockade of the British isles, at a time when the naval force of the enemy dared not to issue from his own ports. She was reminded without effect, that her own prior blockades, unsupported by an adequate naval force actually applied and continued, were a bar to this plea; that executed edicts against millions of our property could not be retaliation on edicts confessedly impossible to be executed; that retaliation, to be just, should fall on the party setting the guilty example, not on an innocent party, which was not even chargeable with an acquiescence in it.

When deprived of this flimsy veil for a prohibition of our trade with Great Britain, her cabinet, instead of a corresponding repeal, or a practical discontinuance of its orders, formally avowed a determination to persist in them against the United States, until the markets of her enemy should

be laid open to British products; thus asserting an obligation on a neutral power to require one belligerent to encourage, by its internal regulations, the trade of another belligerent; contradicting her own practice towards all nations in peace as well as in war; and betraying the insincerity of those professions which inculcated a belief, that, having resorted to her orders with regret, she was anxious to find an occasion for putting an end to them.

Abandoning still more all respect for the neutral rights of the United States, and for its own consistency, the British government now demands as pre-requisites to a repeal of its orders, as they relate to the United States, that a formality should be observed in the repeal of the French decrees nowise necessary to their termination, nor exemplified by British usage; and that the French repeal, besides including that portion of the decrees which operates within a territorial jurisdiction, as well as that which operates on the high seas against the commerce of the United States, should not be a single special repeal in relation to the United States, but should be extended to whatever other neutral nations unconnected with them may be affected with those decrees.

And as an additional insult, they are called on for a formal disavowal of conditions and pretensions advanced by the French government, for which the United States are so far from having been themselves responsible, that, in official explanations which have been published to the world, and in a correspondence of the American minister at London with the British minister for foreign affairs, such a responsibility was explicitly and emphatically disclaimed.

It has become, indeed, sufficiently certain that the commerce of the United States is to be sacrificed, not as interfering with the belligerent rights of Great Britain—not as supplying the wants of their enemies, which she herself supplies—but as interfering with the monopoly which she covets for her own commerce and navigation. She carries on a war against the lawful commerce of a friend, that she may the better carry on a commerce with an enemy,—a commerce polluted by the forgeries and perjuries which are for the most part the only passports by which it can succeed.

Anxious to make every experiment short of the last resort of injured nations, the United States have withheld from Great Britain, under successive modifications, the benefits of a free intercourse with their market, the loss of which could not but outweigh the profits accruing from her restrictions of our commerce with other nations. And to entitle those experiments to the more favourable consideration, they were so framed as to enable her to place her adversary under the exclusive operation of them. To these appeals her government has been equally inflexible, as if willing to make sacrifices of every sort, rather than yield to the claims of justice, or renounce the errors of a false pride. Nay, so far were the attempts carried to overcome the attachment of the British cabinet to its unjust edicts, that it received every encouragement, within the competency of the executive branch of our government, to expect that a repeal of them would be followed by a war between the United States and France, unless the French edicts should also be repealed. Even this communication, although silencing for ever the plea of a disposition in the United States to acquiesce in

those edicts, originally the sole plea for them, received no attention.

If no other proof existed of a pre-determination of the British government against a repeal of its orders, it might be found in the correspondence of the minister plenipotentiary of the United States at London, and the British secretary for foreign affairs in 1810, on the question whether the blockade of May, 1806, was considered in force or as not in force. It had been ascertained that the French government, which urged this blockade as the ground of its decree, was willing, in the event of its removal, to repeal that decree; which being followed by alternate repeals of the other offensive edicts, might abolish the whole system on both sides. This inviting opportunity for accomplishing an object so important to the United States, and professed so often to be the desire of both the belligerents, was made known to the British government. As that government admits that an actual application of an adequate force is necessary to the existence of a legal blockade, and it was notorious that if such a force had ever been applied, its long discontinuance had annulled the blockade in question, there could be no sufficient objection on the part of Great Britain to a formal revocation of it; and no imaginable objection to a declaration of the fact that the blockade did not exist. The declaration would have been consistent with her avowed principles of blockade, and would have enabled the United States to demand from France the pledged repeal of her decrees; either with success—in which case the way would have been opened for a general repeal of the belligerent edicts,—or without success, in which case the United States would have been justified in turning their measures ex-

clusively against France. The British government would, however, neither rescind the blockade, nor declare its non-existence, nor permit its non-existence to be inferred and affirmed by the American plenipotentiary. On the contrary, by representing the blockade to be comprehended in the orders in council, the United States were compelled so to regard it in their subsequent proceedings.

There was a period, when a favourable change in the policy of the British cabinet was justly considered as established. The minister plenipotentiary of his Britannic majesty here, proposed an adjustment of the differences more immediately endangering the harmony of the two countries. The proposition was accepted with a promptitude and cordiality, corresponding with the invariable professions of this government. A foundation appeared to be laid for a sincere and lasting reconciliation. The prospect, however, quickly vanished. The whole proceeding was disavowed by the British government, without any explanation which could at that time repress the belief, that the disavowal proceeded from a spirit of hostility to the commercial rights and prosperity of the United States: and it has since come into proof, that, at the very moment when the public minister was holding the language of friendship, and inspired confidence in the sincerity of the negotiation with which he was charged, a secret agent of his government was employed in intrigues, having for their object a subversion of our government, and a dismemberment of our happy union.

In reviewing the conduct of Great Britain towards the United States, our attention is necessarily drawn to the warfare just renewed by the savages on one of our extensive fron-

tiers; a warfare which is known to spare neither age nor sex, and to be distinguished by features particularly shocking to humanity. It is difficult to account for the activity and combinations which have for some time been developing themselves among the tribes in constant intercourse with British traders and garrisons, without connecting their hostility with that influence; and without recollecting the authenticated examples of such interpositions heretofore furnished by the officers and agents of that government.

Such is the spectacle of injuries and indignities which have been heaped on our country; and such the crisis which its unexampled forbearance and conciliatory efforts have not been able to avert. It might at least have been expected, that an enlightened nation, if less urged by moral obligations, or invited by friendly dispositions on the part of the United States, would have found in its true interests alone a sufficient motive to respect their rights and their tranquillity on the high seas: that an enlarged policy would have favoured the free and general circulation of commerce, in which the British nation is at all times interested, and which in time of war is the best alleviation of its calamities to herself, as well as the other belligerents; and more especially that the British cabinet would not, for the sake of a precarious and surreptitious intercourse with hostile markets, have persevered in a course of measures which necessarily put at hazard the invaluable market of a great and growing country, disposed to cultivate the mutual advantages of an active commerce.

Other councils have prevailed. Our moderation and conciliation have had no other effect than to encourage perseverance, and to enlarge pretensions.

We behold our seafaring citizens still the daily victims of lawless violence committed on the great and common highway of nations, even within the sight of the country which owes them protection. We behold our vessels freighted with the products of our soil and industry, or returning with the honest proceeds of them, wrested from their lawful destinations, confiscated by prize courts, no longer the organs of public law, but the instruments of arbitrary edicts, and their unfortunate crews dispersed and lost, or forced or inveigled in British ports into British fleets; whilst arguments are employed in support of these aggressions, which have no foundation but in a principle equally supporting a claim to regulate our external commerce in all cases whatsoever.

We behold, in fine, on the side of Great Britain, a state of war against the United States; and, on the side of the United States, a state of peace towards Great Britain.

Whether the United States shall continue passive under these progressive usurpations, and these accumulating wrongs, or, opposing force to force in defence of their natural rights, shall commit a just cause into the hands of the Almighty Disposer of events, avoiding all connections which might entangle it in the contests or views of other powers, and preserving a constant readiness to concur in an honourable re-establishment of peace and friendship, is a solemn question, which the constitution wisely confides to the legislative department of the government. In recommending it to their early deliberations, I am happy in the assurance, that the decision will be worthy the enlightened and patriotic councils of a virtuous, a free, and a powerful nation.

Having presented this view of the

relations of the United States with Great Britain, and of the solemn alternative growing out of them, I proceed to remark, that the communications last made to congress on the subject of our relations with France, will have shewn, that since the revocation of her decrees, as they violated the neutral rights of the United States, her government has authorised illegal captures by its privateers and public ships; and that other outrages have been practised on our vessels and our citizens. It will have been seen, also, that no indemnity had been provided, or satisfactorily pledged, for the extensive spoiliations committed under the violent and retrospective order of the French government against the property of our citizens seized within the jurisdiction of France.

I abstain at this time from recommending to the consideration of congress definitive measures with respect to that nation, in the expectation, that the result of the enclosed discussions between our minister plenipotentiary at Paris, and the French government, will speedily enable congress to decide with greater advantage, on the course due to the rights, the interests, the honour of our country.

JAMES MADISON.

Washington, June 1, 1812.

An Act, declaring War between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and the Dependencies thereof, and the United States of America, and their Territories.

“Be it enacted, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, that war be, and the same is hereby declared to exist, between the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and the dependencies thereof,

and the United States of America and their territories; and that the president of the United States be, and is hereby authorised, to use the whole land and naval forces of the United States, to carry the same into effect; and to issue to private armed vessels of the United States, commissions or letters of marque and general reprisal, in such form as he shall think proper, and under the seal of the United States, against the vessels, goods, and effects of the government of the said united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and the subjects thereof.

“ JAMES MADISON.”

“ June 18, 1812.—Approved.”

*Treaty of Friendship and Alliance
between Spain and Russia.*

His catholic majesty Don Ferdinand VII. king of Spain and the Indies, and his imperial majesty the emperor of all the Russias, equally animated with the desire of establishing and strengthening the ancient relations of friendship which have existed between their monarchies, have nominated for that purpose, to wit, on the part of his catholic majesty, and in his name and authority the regency of Spain, residing in Cadiz, Don Francisco de Zea Bermudez, and his majesty the emperor of all the Russias, Count Nicholas de Romanzoff; who having exchanged their full powers, ascertained to be in good and due form, have agreed as follows:

Art. 1. There shall be between his majesty the king of Spain and the Indies, and his majesty the emperor of all the Russias, their heirs and successors, and between their monarchies, not only friendship, but also sincere union and alliance.

Art. 2. The two high contracting parties, in consequence of this resolution, will come to an understanding without delay on the stipulations of this alliance, and agree on every thing which may have connection with their respective interests, and with the firm intention to prosecute a vigorous war against the emperor of the French, their common enemy; and engage, from this time, to concur sincerely in every thing which may be advantageous to the one or the other party.

Art. 3. His majesty the emperor of all the Russias acknowledges for legitimate the General and Extraordinary Cortes assembled in Cadiz, as also the constitution which they have decreed and sanctioned.

Art. 4. The commercial relations shall be re-established from this time, and reciprocally favoured. The two high contracting parties will provide the means of giving them still greater extension.

Art. 5. The present treaty shall be ratified, and the ratifications exchanged within three months, reckoning from the date of their signature, or sooner if possible: in faith of which, we, the undersigned, have signed the present treaty, and have affixed to it the seals of our arms.

Done at Weliki Louky, July 8, (20) 1812.

FRANCISCO DE ZEA BERMUDEZ.

The Count N. DE ROMANZOFF.

SICILY.—*Articles established in Parliament, and presented to the Sovereign for his Royal Sanction.*

Art. 1. The religion shall be the Catholic, Apostolical, Roman, alone, to the entire exclusion of every other; the king shall profess the same, and

whenever he shall profess any other, he shall be *ipso facto* deposed from the throne.—*Placet Regis Majestati.*

Art. 2. The legislative power shall reside exclusively in the parliament. The laws to be in force after being sanctioned by his majesty. All taxes, &c. imposed, of whatever nature, to be fixed by the parliament alone; and also to be sanctioned by his majesty. The form to be *veto* or *placet*, the king having it in his power to admit or reject them without qualification.—*Placet Regis Majestati.*

Art. 3. The executive power shall reside in the person of the king.—*Placet Regis Majestati.*

Art. 4. The judiciary power shall be distinct, and independent of the executive and legislative powers, and to be administered by a body of judges and magistrates. These to be tried, punished, and deprived of their situations, by sentence of the House of Peers, after having gone through the House of Commons, as set forth by the constitution of Great Britain, and which shall be explained at length in the article of magistracy.—*Placet Regis Majestati.*

Art. 5. The person of the king shall be always sacred and inviolable.—*Placet Regis Majestati.*

Art. 6. The king's ministers, and other persons in the employ of government, shall be subject to the examination and controul of the parliament; and to be by the same accused, tried, and condemned, should they be found to have offended against the constitution, and the observance of the laws, or to be guilty of any other high crimes, in the exercise of their functions.—*Placet Regis Majestati.*

Art. 7. The parliament shall be composed of two houses, the one to be called the Commons, or Representative of the People, as well freehold-

ers as vassals, on the conditions and forms to be hereafter established by parliament, in its subsequent acts upon this article; the other to be called the peers; the same to be composed of all those ecclesiastics and their successors, and of all those barons and their successors, and the present possessors of estates, who now have the right to sit and vote in the ecclesiastical and military branches, as well as of others who may be hereafter elected by his majesty, agreeably to the conditions and limitations to be fixed by parliament in the article of detail upon this point.—*Placet Regis Majestati.*

Art. 8. The barons shall have, as peers, individually one vote only, relinquishing the multiplicity of votes relative to the number of their population. The chancellor of the kingdom to present an account of the actual barons and ecclesiastics, to be inserted in the acts of parliament.—*Placet Regis Majestati.*

Art. 9. The king shall enjoy the prerogative of convoking, proroguing, or dissolving the parliament, agreeably to the forms and institutions which may be hereafter established. His majesty, however, to be bound to convoke it every year.—*Placet Regis Majestati.*

Art. 10. The nation, having to fix the subsidies necessary to the state, will consider it as a positive duty to fix, for the civil list, such sums as are necessary to the splendour, independence, and maintenance of its august sovereign and royal family, to the most generous extent that the actual state of the finances of the kingdom will permit—in consequence of which arrangement, the nation shall take upon itself the management and administration of the national funds, including all those which have hitherto

been considered as fiscal duties, and land revenues, which shall be paid over to the minister of finances, for the purposes established by parliament. As to the persons, system, and means, by which such funds are to be collected and disposed of, they remain to be fixed in the detail of this article.—*Vetat Regia Majestas.*

Art. 11. No Sicilian subject shall be arrested, banished, or otherwise punished, or disturbed in the enjoyment of his rights or property, unless in conformity to the new code of laws, to be hereafter established by this parliament. The peers to enjoy the same judicial forms which they enjoy in England, as will be subsequently detailed.—*Placet Regis Majestati.*

Art. 12. With that disinterestedness which the military branch has always shewn, it has voted and concluded, and the parliament has established, that the feudal system shall be abolished, and all the lands shall be possessed in Sicily, as *allodial* or free estates; preserving, however, the order of succession in the respective families, which is actually enjoyed. The jurisdiction of the barons shall likewise cease, and therefore the barons shall be exempted from all the burdens to which they have hitherto been subjected by such feudal rights. There shall also be abolished, the investitures, reliefs (*rilevi*), fines to the crown (*devoluzioni al Fisco*), and every other burden whatever inherent in the feudal system; every family, however, preserving its titles and honours.—*Placet Regis Majestati.*

Art. 13. It likewise agrees to establish that the rights called *Angarici* (being privileges and exemptions from assessment), shall be abolished as soon as the community in general, or the individual subject to them, shall indemnify the actual proprietors; cal-

culating the capital either at twenty years purchase of the produce of the tax existing at the period of liquidation; or, in default of that, estimating the same by the books of the respective *Segrezia*; it being understood, however, that the possessors of lands of whatever nature, shall retain the same power and the same rights as before, so far as regards the exacting of debts or rents, and this in the same manner and form as they have hitherto enjoyed them.—(His majesty reserves to himself to give his royal sanction to the above article, when he shall have received the necessary information respecting it.)

Art. 14. The military branch agrees, also, to the suggestion of the commons, that every proposal relative to subsidies shall proceed exclusively from, and be concluded in, the House of Commons, and from thence pass to that of the peers, where it shall only be either assented to or rejected without the least alteration. It is further determined, that all proposals respecting articles of legislation, or any other subject whatsoever, may be moved in either house indifferently, leaving to the other the power of rejection.—*Placet Regis Majestati.*

Art. 15. As to the other principles and arrangements of the aforesaid British constitution, the parliament will hereafter declare those that are to be admitted, those to be rejected, and those to be modified, according to the difference of the circumstances of the two nations. It therefore declares, that it will willingly receive any projects which its members may make for the convenient application of the British constitution to the kingdom of Sicily, in order to select what may be judged most suitable to the glory of his majesty, and to the happiness of the Sicilian people.—(His

majesty, whenever such articles shall be presented, will determine on those which may merit his royal sanction.)

New York Convention.

At a convention of delegates from the several counties of the state of New York, held at the capitol in the city of Albany, on the 17th and 18th days of September, 1812,

Resolved, That the doctrine, of late so frequently and violently inculcated, that when war is once declared, all enquiry into its justice and expediency ought to cease, and all opposition to the men in power immediately to be abandoned, is essentially hostile to the vital principles of our republican institutions; and if adopted, would change our present government into one of the worst species of tyranny which the ingenuity of the foes of freedom has yet contrived,—a government republican in its forms, in spirit and practice arbitrary and despotic,—that it must be obvious to the most ordinary capacity, that were such a doctrine to prevail, an administration which by its corruption or imbecillity had justly forfeited the confidence of the people, would be tempted to plunge the nation into an unjust or unnecessary war, for the sole purpose of perpetuating their power, and thus building their own greatness on the ruins of their country.

Resolved, That without insisting on the injustice of the present war, taking solely into consideration the time and circumstances of its declaration, the condition of the country, and state of the public mind, we are constrained to consider, and feel it our duty to pronounce it a most rash, unwise, and inexpedient measure; the

adoption of which ought for ever to deprive its authors of the esteem and confidence of an enlightened people—because, as the injuries we have received from France are at least equal in amount to those we have sustained from England, and have been attended with circumstances of still greater insult and aggravation—if war were necessary to vindicate the honour of the country, consistency and impartiality required that both nations should have been included in the declaration. Because if it were deemed expedient to exercise our right of selecting our adversary, prudence and common sense dictated the choice of an enemy, from whose hostility we had nothing to dread. A war with France would equally have satisfied our insulted honour, and at the same time, instead of annihilating, would have revived and extended our commerce—and even the evils of such a contest would have been mitigated by the sublime consolation, that by our efforts we were contributing to arrest the progress of despotism in Europe, and essentially serving the great interests of freedom and humanity throughout the world. Because a republican government, depending solely for its support on the wishes and affections of the people, ought never to declare a war, into which the great body of the nation are not prepared to enter with zeal and alacrity; as where the justice and necessity of the measure are not so apparent as to unite all parties in its support, its inevitable tendency is to augment the dissensions that have before existed, and by exasperating party violence to its utmost height, prepare the way for civil war. Because, before a war was declared, it was perfectly well ascertained, that a vast majority of the people in the middle and northern states, by whom

the burthen and expenses of the contest must be borne almost exclusively, were strongly opposed to the measure. Because we see no rational prospect of attaining, by force of arms, the objects for which our rulers say we are contending—and because the evils and distresses which the war must of necessity occasion, far overbalance any advantages we can expect to derive from it. Because the great power of England on the ocean, and the amazing resources she derives from commerce and navigation, render it evident, that we cannot compel her to respect our rights and satisfy our demands, otherwise than by a successful maritime warfare; the means of conducting which we not only do not possess, but our rulers have obstinately refused to provide. Because the exhausted state of the treasury, occasioned by the destruction of the revenue derived from commerce, should the war continue, will render necessary a resort to loans and taxes to a vast amount—measures by which the people will be greatly burthened and oppressed, and the influence and patronage of the executive alarmingly increased. And, finally, because of a war begun with such means as our rulers had prepared, and conducted in the mode they seem resolved to pursue, we see no grounds to hope the honourable and successful termination.

Resolved, That while we condemn the war, in the most distinct and unqualified terms, we are deeply sensible of the new duties and obligations which the change of our national relations has imposed upon us, and, are fully determined in our several capacities of magistrates, soldiers, and citizens, to obey with promptness and alacrity all constitutional requisitions of the proper authorities; seeking no other redress for the evils of which

we complain, than that which we confidently trust will be obtained from a change of sentiment in the people, leading to a change of men and measures.

Resolved, That we view the creation of new states out of territories not within the ancient limits of the United States as inconsistent with the spirit of the feudal compact, and calculated to destroy the weight, which the old, great, and populous states ought to have in the union, and utterly to disappoint and frustrate the great purpose for which they entered into the confederacy.

Resolved, That we consider the employment of the militia, for the purpose of offensive war, as a palpable violation of the constitution, as extremely offensive to the people, as the most expensive and the least efficient mode of conducting the war; and as a serious and alarming encroachment on the rights of the several states, which it behoves the true friends of our excellent institutions, by all lawful means, firmly to resist.

Whereas the late revocation of the British orders in council has removed the great and ostensible cause of the present war, and prepared the way for an immediate accommodation of all existing differences, inasmuch as, by the confession of the present secretary of state, satisfactory and honourable arrangements might easily be made, by which the abuses resulting from the impressment of our seamen, might, in future, be effectually prevented—Therefore,

Resolved, That we shall be constrained to consider the determination on the part of our rulers to continue the present war, after official notice of the revocation of the British orders in council, as affording conclusive evidence, that the war has been

undertaken from motives entirely distinct from those which have been hitherto avowed, and for the promotion of objects wholly unconnected with the interest and honour of the American nation.

Resolved, That we contemplate with abhorrence, even the possibility of an alliance with the present emperor of France, every action of whose life has demonstrated, that the attainment, by any means, of universal empire, and the consequent extinction of every vestige of freedom, are the sole objects of his incessant, unbounded, and remorseless ambition. His arms, with the spirit of freemen, we might openly and fearlessly encounter; but, of his secret arts, his corrupting influence, we entertain a dread we can neither conquer nor conceal. It is therefore with the utmost distrust and alarm, that we regard his late professions of attachment and love to the American people, fully recollecting, that his invariable course has been, by perfidious offers of protection, by deceitful professions of friendship, to lull his intended victims into the fatal sleep of confidence and security, during which the chains of despotism are silently wound round and rivetted on them.

Resolved, That we are firmly attached to the union of the states, most conscientiously believing, that on its preservation, the future peace, security, and independence, as well as power and grandeur of the American nation, must mainly depend; and we are therefore strengthened in our reprobation of the measures of our present rulers, from a consideration of their evident tendency to produce a dissolution of that union which we so warmly cherish.

Whereas, in the opinion of this convention, the dangers which seem

to threaten the existence of the union have chiefly arisen from the prevalence of a course of policy, by which the interests of the commercial states have been wantonly sacrificed to local prejudices and state jealousies: and whereas our minds are irresistibly impressed with the conviction that a change of system is now demanded by the imperious law of self-preservation: therefore resolved, that to effect a purpose so desirable, but so necessary, as a change of our present rulers, the barriers of party, which separate men, differing, not in principle but in name merely, ought to be thrown down, and every obstacle removed which can prevent and impede the full and cordial co-operation of those who are actuated by the same feelings, and entertain the same sentiments.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the friends of peace, liberty, and commerce, who are opposed to the present war, without distinction of parties, to assemble in their respective counties, wherein such meetings have not been already held, and appoint committees of correspondence and conference, who, if deemed necessary hereafter, may meet in a convention, for the purpose of explaining and comparing their sentiments, and concerting a common plan of operation, having for its object the restoration of peace to our degraded and afflicted country.

JACOB MORRIS, President.

WILLIAM HENDERSON, Sec.

Correspondence between Sir J. B. Warren, and the Secretary of State, Mr Monroe.

Halifax, Nova Scotia, Sept. 30,
SIR,—The departure of Mr Foster

from America has devolved upon me the charge of making known to you, for the information of the government of the United States, the sentiments entertained by his royal highness the prince regent, upon the existing relations of the two countries.

You will observe from the enclosed copy of an order in council, bearing date the 23d of June, 1812, that the orders in council of the 7th of Jan. 1807, and the 26th of April, 1809, ceased to exist nearly at the same time that the government of the United States declared war against his majesty.

Immediately on the receipt of this declaration in London, the order in council, of which a copy is herewith enclosed to you, was issued, on the 31st day of July, for the embargo and detention of all American ships.

Under these circumstances, I am commanded to propose to your government the immediate cessation of hostilities between the two countries; and I shall be most happy to be the instrument of bring about a reconciliation, so interesting and beneficial to America and Great Britain.

I therefore propose to you, that the government of the United States of America shall instantly recal their letters of marque and reprisal against British ships, together with all orders and instructions for any acts of hostility whatever against the territory of his majesty, or the persons or property of his subjects; with the understanding, that immediately on my receiving from you an official assurance to that effect, I shall instruct all the officers under my command to desist from corresponding measures of war against the ships and property of the United States, and that I shall transmit, without delay, corresponding intelligence to the several parts

of the world where hostilities may have commenced; the British commanders in which will be required to discontinue hostilities, from the receipt of such notice.

Should the American government accede to the above proposal for terminating hostilities, I am authorised to arrange with you as to the revocation of the laws which interdict the commerce and ships of war of Great Britain from the harbours and waters of the United States; in default of which revocation within such reasonable period as may be agreed upon, you will observe, by the order of the 23d of June, the orders in council of January, 1807, and April, 1809, are to be revived.

The officer who conveys this letter to the American coast has received my orders to put to sea immediately upon the delivering of this dispatch to the competent authority; and I earnestly recommend, that no time may be lost in communicating to me the decision of your government, persuaded as I feel, that it cannot but be of a nature to lead to a speedy termination of the present differences.

The flag of truce which you may charge with your reply, will find one of my cruisers at Sandy Hook, ten days after the landing of this dispatch, which I have directed to call there with a flag of truce for that purpose. I have the honour to be, with the highest consideration,

JOHN BORLASE WARBEN,

Admiral of the Blue, and
Commander in Chief, &c.

Mr Monroe to Sir J. B. Warren.

Department of State, Oct. 26, 1812.

SIR,—I have had the honour to receive your letter of the 30th ult. and

to submit it to the consideration of the president.

It appears that you are authorised to propose a cessation of hostilities between the United States and Great Britain; on the ground of the repeal of the orders in council; and, in case the proposition is acceded to, to take measures, in concert with this government, to carry it into complete effect on both sides.

You state, also, that you have it in charge in the event, to enter into an arrangement with the government of the United States for the repeal of the laws which interdict the ships of war and the commerce of Great Britain from the harbours and waters of the United States: and you intimate, that if the proposition is not acceded to, the orders in council (repealed conditionally by that of the 23d of June last) will be revived against the commerce of the United States.

I am instructed to inform you, that it will be very satisfactory to the president to meet the British government in such arrangements as may terminate without delay, the hostilities which now exist between the United States and Great Britain, on conditions honourable to both nations.

At the moment of the declaration of war, the president gave a signal proof of the attachment of the United States to peace. Instructions were given, at an early period, to the late charge d'affaires of the United States at London, to propose to the British government an armistice, on conditions which, it was presumed, would have been satisfactory. It has been seen with regret, that the proposition made by Mr Monroe, particularly in regard to the important interest of impressment, was rejected, and that none was offered through

that channel, as a basis on which hostilities might cease.

As your government has authorised you to propose a cessation of hostilities, and is doubtless aware of the important and salutary effect which a satisfactory adjustment of this difference cannot fail to have on the future relations between the two countries, I indulge the hope that it has, ere this, given you full powers for the purpose. Experience has sufficiently evinced that no peace can be durable, unless this object is provided for: it is presumed, therefore, that it is equally the interest of both countries to adjust it at this time.

Without further discussing questions of right, the president is desirous to provide a remedy for the evils complained of on both sides. The claim of the British government is to take from the merchant vessels of other countries British subjects. In the practice, the commanders of British ships of war often take from the merchant vessels of the United States American citizens. If the United States prohibit the employment of British subjects in their service, and enforce the prohibition by suitable regulations and penalties, the motive for the practice is taken away. It is in this mode that the president is willing to accommodate this important controversy with the British government, and it cannot be conceived on what ground the arrangement can be refused.

A suspension of the practice of impressment, pending the armistice, seems to be a necessary consequence. It cannot be presumed, while the parties are engaged in a negotiation to adjust amicably this important difference, that the United States would admit the right or acquiesce in the practice of the opposite party; or that

Great Britain would be unwilling to restrain her cruizers from a practice which would have the strongest tendency to defeat the negociation. It is presumable that both parties would enter into a negociation with a sincere desire to give it effect. For this purpose, it is necessary that a clear and distinct understanding be first obtained between them, of the accommodation which each is prepared to make. If the British government is willing to suspend the practice of impressment from American vessels, on consideration that the United States will exclude British seamen from their service, the regulation by which this compromise should be carried into effect would be solely the object of this negociation. The armistice would be of short duration. If the parties agree, peace would be the result. If the negociation failed, each would be restored to its former state, and to all its pretensions, by recurring to war.

Lord Castlereagh, in his note to Mr Russel, seems to have supposed, that, had the British government accepted the propositions made to it, Great Britain would have suspended immediately the exercise of a right on the mere assurance of this government, that a law would be afterwards passed to prohibit the employment of British seamen in the service of the United States, and that Great Britain would have no agency in the regulation to give effect to that proposition. Such an idea was not in the contemplation of this government, nor is it to be reasonably inferred from Mr Russel's note: lest, however, by possibility such an inference might be drawn from the instructions to Mr Russel, and anxious that there should be no misunderstanding in the case, subsequent instructions were given to Mr Russel, with a view to obviate every

objection of the kind alluded to. As they bear date on the 27th of July, and were forwarded by the British packet *Alpheia*, it is more than probable that they may have been received and acted on.

I am happy to explain to you thus fully the views of my government on this important subject. The president desires that the war which exists between our countries should be terminated on such conditions as may secure a solid and durable peace. To accomplish this great object, it is necessary that the interest of impressment be satisfactorily arranged. He is willing that Great Britain should be secured against the evils of which she complains. He seeks, on the other hand, that the citizens of the United States should be protected against a practice, which, while it degrades the nation, deprives them of their right as freemen, takes them by force from their families and their country, into a foreign service, to fight the battles of a foreign power, perhaps against their own kindred and country.

I abstain from entering, in this communication, into other grounds of difference. The orders in council having been repealed (with a reservation not impairing a corresponding right on the part of the United States), and no illegal blockades revived or instituted in their stead, and an understanding being obtained on the subject of impressment, in the mode herein proposed, the president is willing to agree to a cessation of hostilities, with a view to arrange, by treaty, in a more distinct and ample manner, and to the satisfaction of both parties, every other subject of controversy.

I will only add, that if there be no objection to an accommodation of the

difference relating to impressment, in the mode proposed, other than the suspension of the British claims to impressment during the armistice, there can be none to proceeding, without the armistice, to an immediate discussion and arrangement of an article on that subject. This great question being satisfactorily adjusted, the way will be open either for an armistice, or any other course leading most conveniently and expeditiously to a general pacification.

I have the honour to be, &c.

JAMES MONROE.

President's Message to Congress.

Washington City, Nov. 4.

The president of the United States this day communicated to Mr Coles, his private secretary, the following message to congress;—

Fellow citizens of the senate and house of representatives,

On our present meeting, it is my first duty to invite your attention to the providential favours which our country has experienced in the unusual degree of health dispensed to its inhabitants, and in the rich abundance with which the earth has rewarded the labours bestowed on it. In the successful cultivation of other branches of industry, and in the progress of general improvement favourable to the national prosperity, there is just occasion also for our mutual congratulations and thankfulness.

With these blessings are naturally mingled the pressures and vicissitudes incidental to the state of war into which the United States have been forced by the perseverance of a foreign power in its system of injustice and aggression. Previous to its declaration, it was deemed proper, as a

measure of precaution and forecast, that a considerable force should be placed in the Michigan territory, with a general view to its security; and, in the event of war, to such operations in the uppermost Canada, as would intercept the hostile influence of Great Britain over the savages; obtain the command of the lake on which that part of Canada borders; and maintain co-operating relations with such forces as might be most conveniently employed against other parts.

Brigadier-General Hull was charged with this provisional service, having under his command a body of troops, composed of regulars and of volunteers from the state of Ohio: having reached his destination, after his knowledge of the war, and possessing discretionary authority to act offensively, he passed into the neighbouring territory of the enemy with a prospect of an easy and victorious progress. The expedition, nevertheless, terminated unfortunately, not only in a retreat to the town and fort of Detroit, but in the surrender of both, and of the gallant corps commanded by that officer. The causes of this painful reverse will be investigated by a military tribunal. A distinguishing feature in the operations which preceded and followed this adverse event, is the use made by the enemy of the merciless savages under their influence. Whilst the benevolent policy of the United States invariably recommended peace, and promoted civilization amongst that wretched portion of the human race, and was making exertions to dissuade them from taking either side in the war, the enemy has not scrupled to call to his aid their ruthless ferocity, armed with the horrors of those instruments of carnage and torture which are

known to spare neither age nor sex. In this outrage against the laws of honourable war, and against the feelings sacred to humanity, the British commanders cannot resort to a plan of retaliation; for it is committed in the face of our example. They cannot mitigate it by calling it a self-defence against men in arms, for it embraces the most shocking butcheries of defenceless families; nor can it be pretended that they are not answerable for the atrocities perpetrated, since the savages are employed with the knowledge, and even with menaces, that their fury could not be controlled. Such is the spectacle which the deputed authorities of a nation boasting its religion and morality, have not been restrained from presenting to an enlightened age.

The misfortune at Detroit was not, however, without a consoling effect. It was followed by signal proofs, that the national spirit rises according to the pressure on it. The loss of an important post, and of the brave men surrendered with it, inspired every where new ardour and determination. In the states and districts least remote, it was no sooner known, than every citizen was eager to fly with his arms at once to protect his brethren against the blood-thirsty savages let loose by the enemy on an extensive frontier; and to convert a partial calamity into a source of invigorated efforts. This patriotic zeal, which it was necessary rather to limit than excite, has embodied an ample force from the states of Kentucky and Ohio, and from parts of Pennsylvania and Virginia. It is placed, with the addition of a few regulars, under the command of Brigadier-General Harrison, who possesses the entire confidence of his fellow-soldiers; among whom are citizens,—some of

them volunteers in the ranks,—not less distinguished by their political stations, than by their personal merits.

The greater portion of this force is proceeding on its destination towards the Michigan territory, having succeeded in relieving an important frontier post, and in several incidental operations against hostile tribes of savages, rendered indispensable by the subserviency into which they have been seduced by the enemy; a seduction the more cruel, as it could not fail to impose a necessity of precautionary severities against those who yielded to it.

At a recent date, an attack was made on a post of the enemy near Niagara, by a detachment of the regular and other forces, under the command of Major General Van Rensselaer, of the militia of the State of New York. The attack, it appears, was ordered in compliance with the ardour of the troops, who executed it with distinguished gallantry, and were for a time victorious; but not receiving the expected support, they were compelled to yield to reinforcements of British regulars and savages. Our loss has been considerable, and is deeply to be lamented. That of the enemy, less ascertained, will be the more felt, as it includes among the killed, the commanding general, who was also governor of the province; and was sustained by veteran troops, from inexperienced soldiers, who must daily improve in the duties of the field.

Our expectation of gaining the command of the Lakes by the invasion of Canada from Detroit, having been disappointed, measures were instantly taken to provide on them a naval force superior to that of the enemy. From the talents and activi-

ty of the officer charged with this object, every thing that can be done may be expected. Should the present season not admit of complete success, the progress made will ensure for the next a naval ascendancy where it is essential to a permanent peace with, and control over, the savages.

Among the incidents to the measures of the war, I am constrained to advert to the refusal of the governors of Massachusetts and Connecticut to furnish the required detachments of militia towards the defence of the maritime frontier. The refusal was founded on a novel and unfortunate exposition of the provision of the constitution relating to the militia. The correspondence, which will be laid before you, contains the requisite information on the subject. It is obvious, that if the authority of the United States to call into service and command the militia for the public defence, can be thus frustrated, even in a state of declared war, and of course under apprehensions of invasion preceding war, they are not one nation for the purpose most of all requiring it, and that the public safety may have no other resource than those large and permanent military establishments which are forbidden by the principles of our free government, and against the necessity of which the militia were meant to be a constitutional bulwark.

On the coasts and on the ocean, the war has been as successful as circumstances from its early stages could promise. Our public ships and private cruizers, by their activity, and, where there was occasion, by their intrepidity, have made the enemy sensible of the difference between a reciprocity of captures, and the long confinement of them to their side. Our

trade, with little exception, has safely reached our ports, having been much favoured in it by the course pursued by a squadron of our frigates under the command of Commodore Rodgers; and in the instance in which skill and bravery were more particularly tried with those of the enemy, the American flag had an auspicious triumph. The frigate Constitution, commanded by Captain Hull, after a close and short engagement, completely disabled and captured a British frigate; gaining for that officer, and all on board, a praise which cannot be too liberally bestowed,—not merely for the victory actually achieved, but for that prompt and cool exertion of commanding talents, which, giving to courage its highest character, and to the force applied its full effect, proved that more could have been done in a contest requiring more.

Anxious to abridge the evils from which a state of war cannot be exempt, I lost no time after it was declared, in conveying to the British government the terms on which its progress might be arrested, without waiting the delays of a formal and final pacification: and our charge d'affaires at London was at the same time authorised to agree to an armistice founded upon them. These terms required, that the orders in council should be repealed, as they affected the United States, without a revival of the blockades violating acknowledged rules; that there should be an immediate discharge of American seamen from British ships, and a stop to impressments from American ships, with an understanding that an exclusion of the seamen of each nation from the ships of the other should be stipulated, and that the ar-

mistice should be improved into a definitive and comprehensive adjustment of depending controversies.

Although a repeal of the orders, susceptible of explanations meeting the views of this government had taken place before this pacific advance was communicated to that of Great Britain, the advance was declined from an avowed repugnance to a suspension of the practice of impressment during the armistice, and without any intimation that the arrangement proposed with respect to seamen would be accepted. Whether the subsequent communications from this government, affording an occasion for re-considering the subject on the part of Great Britain, will be viewed in a more favourable light, or received in a more accommodating spirit, remains to be known. It would be unwise to relax our measures, in any respect, on a presumption of such a result.

The documents from the department of state, which relate to this subject, will give a view also of the propositions for an armistice, which have been received here,—one of them, from the authorities at Halifax and in Canada, the other from the British government itself, through admiral Warren; and of the grounds upon which neither of them could be accepted.

Our affairs with France retain the posture which they held at my last communication to you.

Notwithstanding the authorised expectation of an early as well as favourable issue of the discussions on foot, these have been procrastinated to the latest date. The only intervening occurrence meriting attention, is the promulgation of a French decree, purporting to be a definitive repeal of the Berlin and Milan decrees. This proceeding, although made the ground

of the repeal of the British orders in council, is rendered, by the time and manner of it, liable to many objections.

The final communications from our special minister to Denmark, afford further proofs of the good effects of his mission, and of the amicable disposition of the Danish government. From Russia we have the satisfaction to receive assurances of continued friendship, and that it will not be affected by the rupture between the United States and Great Britain. Sweden also professes sentiments favourable to existing harmony.

With the Barbary powers, excepting that of Algiers, our affairs remain on the ordinary footing. The consul-general residing with that regency, has suddenly, and without cause, been banished, together with all the American citizens found there. Whether this was the transitory effect of capricious despotism, or the first act of predetermined hostility, is not ascertained. Precautions were taken by the consul on the latter supposition.

The Indian tribes, not under foreign instigations, remain at peace, and receive the civilising attentions which have proved so beneficial to them.

With a view to that vigorous prosecution of the war to which our national faculties are adequate, the attention of congress will be particularly drawn to the insufficiency of the existing provisions for filling up the military establishment. Such is the happy condition of our country, arising from the facility of subsistence, and the high wages for every species of occupation, that, notwithstanding the augmented inducements provided at the last session, a partial success only has attended the recruit-

ing service. The deficiency has been necessarily supplied during the campaign by other than regular troops, with all the inconveniences and expences incident to them. The remedy lies in establishing more favourably for the private soldier, the proportion between his recompense and the term of his enlistment : and it is a subject which cannot too soon or too seriously be taken into consideration. The same insufficiency has been experienced in the provisions for volunteers made by an act of the last session. The recompense for the service required in this case, is still less attractive than in the other ; and although patriotism alone has sent into the field some valuable corps of that description, those alone who can afford the sacrifice, can reasonably be expected to yield to the impulse. It will merit consideration also, whether, as auxiliary to the security of our frontier, corps may not be advantageously organized, with a restriction of their services, to particular districts convenient to them ; and whether the local or occasional services of marines or others in the sea-port towns, under a similar organization, would not be a proper addition to the means of their defence. I recommend a provision for an increase of the general officers of the army, the deficiency of which has been illustrated by the number and distance of separate commands, which the cause of the war, and the advantage of the service, have required ; and I cannot press too strongly on the earliest attention of the legislature, the importance of the re-organization of the staff establishment, with a view to render more distinct and definite the relations and responsibilities of its several departments : that there is room for improvements which will

materially promote both economy and success, in what appertains to the army and the war, is equally inculcated by the examples of other countries, and by the experience of our own.

A revision of the militia laws, for the purpose of rendering them more systematic, and better adapting them to emergencies of the war, is at this time particularly desirable. Of the additional ships authorised to be fitted for service, two will be shortly ready to sail ; a third is under repair, and delay will be avoided in the repair of the residue. Of the appropriations for the purchase of materials for ship-building, the greater part has been applied to that object, and the purchases will be continued with the balance. The enterprising spirit which has characterized our naval force, and its success both in restraining insults and depredations on our coasts, and in reprisals on the enemy, will not fail to recommend an enlargement upon it.

There being reason to believe, that the act prohibiting the acceptance of British licenses is not a sufficient guard against the use of them, for purposes favourable to the interests and views of the enemy : further provisions on that subject are highly important. Nor is it less so, that penal enactments should be provided for cases of corrupt and perfidious intercourse with the enemy, not amounting to treason, nor yet embraced by any statutory provisions.

A considerable number of American vessels, which in England, when the revocation of the orders in council took place, were laden with British manufactures, under an erroneous impression that the non-importation act would immediately cease to operate, have arrived in the United States. It did not appear proper to

exercise on unforeseen cases of such magnitude, the ordinary powers vested in the treasury department, to mitigate forfeitures without previously affording congress an opportunity of making on the subject such provisions as they may think proper. In their decisions they will, doubtless, equally consult what is due to equitable considerations, and to the public interest.

The receipts into the treasury during the year ending on the 30th of September last, have exceeded sixteen millions and a half of dollars; which have been sufficient to defray all the demands on the treasury to that day, including a necessary reimbursement of near three millions of the principal of the public debt. In these receipts are included a sum of near 8,850,000 received on account of the loans authorised by the acts of last session. The whole sum actually obtained on loan, amounts to eleven millions of dollars, the residue of which being receivable subsequent to the 30th of September, will, together with the current revenue, enable us to defray all the expenses of this year.

The duties on the late unexpected importations of British manufactures will render the revenue of the ensuing year more productive than could have been anticipated. The situation of our country, fellow-citizens, is not without its difficulties, though it abounds in animating considerations, of which the view here presented of our pecuniary resources is an example. With more than one nation we have serious and unsettled controversies; and with one powerful in the means and habits of war, we are at war. The spirit and strength of this nation are, nevertheless, equal to the support of all its rights, and to carry it through all its trials. They can

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be met in that confidence. Above all, we have the inestimable consolation of knowing that the war in which we are actually engaged, is a war neither of ambition nor vain glory; that it is waged, not in violation of the rights of others, but in the maintenance of our own; that it was preceded by a patience without example, under wrongs accumulating without end; and that it was finally not declared until every hope of averting it was extinguished by the British sceptre falling into new hands, clinging to former councils, and until declarations were reiterated in the last hour through the British envoy here, that the hostile edicts against our commercial rights and our maritime independence could not be revoked, without violating the obligations of Great Britain to other powers as well as to her own interests. To have shrunk, under such circumstances, from manly resistance, would have been a degradation blasting our best and proudest hopes. It would have struck us from the high rank where the virtuous struggles of our fathers had placed us, and would have betrayed the magnificent legacy which we hold in trust for future generations. It would have acknowledged, that on the element which forms three-fourths of the globe we inhabit, and where all independent nations have equal and common rights, the American people were not an independent people, but colonists and vassals.

It was at this moment, and with such an alternative, that war was chosen. The nation felt the necessity of it, and called for it. The appeal was accordingly made in a just cause, to the just and powerful Being, who holds in his hands the chain of events and the destiny of nations. It

remains only, that, faithful to ourselves, entangled with no connections with the views of other powers, and ever ready to accept peace from the hand of justice, we prosecute that war with united council, and with the am-

ple faculties of the nation, until peace be so obtained, and as the only means under the divine blessing of speedily obtaining it.

JAMES MADISON.

Nov. 4, 1812.

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PUBLIC ACCOUNTS
OF
GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND
FOR THE YEAR 1812.

VOL. V. PART II.

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PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.

PUBLIC INCOME.

HEADS OF REVENUE.		Gross Revenue.		Net Produce.		Payments into Exchequer.	
		L.	d.	L.	d.	L.	d.
ORDINARY REVENUES;							
<i>Permanent and Annual Taxes.</i>							
Customs	-	9,676,009	4 7½	7,835,236	5 6½	6,802,402	15 4½
Excise	-	20,617,266	8 0	19,008,970	16 5½	18,489,914	12 4
Stamps	-	5,896,882	11 5½	5,291,224	9 10½	5,090,478	11 3
Land and Assessed Taxes	-	7,899,442	1 0½	7,280,919	4 8½	6,868,280	8 9½
Post Office	-	1,709,869	1 9½	1,478,505	3 1½	1,274,000	0 0
Is. in the L. on Pensions and Salaries	-	19,288	7 2½	26,201	4 11½	22,335	6 8
6d. in the L. on Pensions and Salaries	-	17,650	8 8½	21,480	6 6½	15,372	1 9
Hackney Coaches	-	30,909	0 0	28,076	9 1½	27,677	0 0
Hawkers and Pedlars	-	23,282	18 11	21,240	16 7	22,221	3 5
Total Permanent and Annual Duties,	-	44,890,600	1 9½	40,986,860	16 10½	38,611,631	19 6½
<i>Small Branches of the Hereditary Revenue.</i>							
Alienation Fines	-	8,571	10 0	9,570	10 9	Hana- } 2,000 0 0	
Post Fines	-	2,032	5 0	5,357	12 11½	per. } 4,089 12 0	
Seizures	-	26,044	6 10½	26,044	6 10½	26,044	6 10½
Compositions and Profits	-	595	4 11	595	4 11	595	4 11
Crown Lands	-	82,507	16 2½	85,858	13 0½	33,135	7 9
Carried forward	-	119,751	3 0½	127,426	7 6	65,814	11 6½

PUBLIC INCOME.

HEADS OF REVENUE.		Gross Revenue.		Net Produce.		Payments into Exchequer.	
		L.	s. d.	L.	s. d.	l.	s. d.
<i>Extraordinary Resources.</i>							
	Brought forward	119,751	3 0 4	127,496	7 6	65,814	11 6 4
	Customs	3,018,728	2 4 4	2,633,919	0 10	2,633,919	0 10
	Excise	6,543,953	1 0	6,484,964	19 7 4	6,410,139	17 8
	Property Tax	13,920,365	4 5	13,437,649	19 8 4	12,941,155	5 10 4
	Arrears of Income Duty, &c.	14,541	9 6 4	14,336	5 0 4	14,336	5 0 4
	Lottery, Net Profit—one-third for Ireland	304,000	0 0	281,386	8 0	281,386	8 0
	Monies paid on Account of the Interest of Loans raised for the Service of Ireland	2,752,796	11 10	2,752,796	11 10	2,752,796	11 10
	On Account of the Commissioners, appointed for issuing Exchequer Bills for Grenada, &c.	31,000	0 0	31,000	0 0	31,000	0 0
	Surplus Fees of Regulated Public Offices	78,324	17 11 4	73,324	17 11 4	73,324	17 11 4
	Surplus Revenue of the Isle of Man	1,595	0 8	1,595	0 8	1,595	0 8
	On Account of the Interest, &c. of a Loan granted to the Prince Regent of Portugal	57,170	3 0	57,170	3 0	57,170	3 0
	Imprest Money repaid by sundry Public Accountants, &c.	40,501	9 7 4	40,301	9 7 4	40,301	9 7 4
	Other Monies paid to the Public	50,476	0 9	50,476	0 9	50,476	0 9
	Total, independent of Loans	71,113,588	6 0	66,973,308	1 5	63,965,047	12 4 4
	Loans paid into the Exchequer, (of which the Sum of 4,500,000 <i>l.</i> is for the Service of Ireland)	16,686,375	3 9	16,686,375	3 9	16,686,375	3 9
	GRAND TOTAL	87,749,963	9 9	83,609,583	5 2	80,601,422	16 1 4

CONSOLIDATED FUND AND PERMANENT TAXES.

INCOME.				CHARGE.	Annual Payment			Future Annual		
	L.	s.	d.		L.	s.	d.	L.	s.	d.
Net Produce of the Customs	3,410,457	7	1½	Total Charge for Debt created prior to 5th January 1808, as it stood on 5th January 1812	24,141,187	10	11½	24,137,908	0	3
Excise	14,617,820	12	4							
Stamps	2,914,251	2	11½							
Incidents	5,657,976	14	2½							
Surplus of Sugar, Malt, and Tobacco, annually granted	1,179,421	18	7	Civil List.						
Do. . . . 6d. and 1s. per lb. on Penions and Salaries	2,707	8	5	His Majesty's Household	958,000	0	0	958,000	0	0
Arrears of annual Malt, 1809, 1810. Pensions, Offices, and Personal Estates, 1804 to 1811	553,983	0	0	COURTS OF JUSTICE.						
Land Taxes, 1801 to 1811	139,497	9	7½	Judges of England and Wales, in Augmentation of their Salaries	19,050	0	0	19,050	0	0
Income Duty, 1799 to 1801	996,936	0	5½	Deficiencies of Judge Salaries in England	19,085	4	9½	Uncertain.		
Arrears of Assessed Taxes, 1798	14,214	15	0	land						
Money reserved on Account of Non-cominees appointed by the Lords of the Treasury, in Tontine, 1809	121	10	0½	Additional Salaries to Judges in Wales	3,300	0	0	3,300	0	0
Fines of Leases	29,911	8	5	Aaron Graham, Esq. Inspector of temporary places of Confinement for felons	350	0	0	350	0	0
Rent of Crown Lands	8,099	0	0	William Buldwin, Esq. Receiver of the Seven Police Offices	16,573	6	6½	Uncertain.		
Montes paid into the Treasury by divers persons	24,165	14	4½	ditto	6,598	4	6			
1,110,416	1	7½								
Total Income, applicable towards Debt created before 5th January, 1808	30,642,220	3	2½							

DUTIES pro Anno 1803.		VICE ADMIRALTY JUDGES.—J. W. Compton, Esq. Chief Justice of the Vice Admiralty Court, at Barbadoes		2,000 0 0	
Reserved out of the Consolidated Customs	250,000 0 0	Henry Moreton Dyer, Esq. Ditto, Bahamas	2,000 0 0	2,000 0 0	2,000 0 0
Brought from Consolidated Duties on Stamps	59,965 15 3	Alexander Croke, Esq. Ditto, America	3,000 0 0	3,000 0 0	3,000 0 0
Reserved out of Consolidated Duties on Assessed Taxes	289,705 0 0	John Sewell, Esq. Ditto, Malta	2,000 0 0	2,000 0 0	2,000 0 0
Interest, &c. on Loan for Ireland	136,032 17 1	Henry John Hinchliffe, Esq. Ditto, Jamaica	2,000 0 0	2,000 0 0	2,000 0 0
TOTAL	785,723 12 4	William Territ, Esq. Ditto, Bermuda	4,000 0 0	4,000 0 0	4,000 0 0
DUTIES pro Anno 1804.		Sheriffs of England and Wales	4,000 0 0	4,000 0 0	4,000 0 0
Brought from Consolidated Stamp Duties	960,846 18 11	Clerk of the Hanaper in Chancery	5,500 0 0	5,500 0 0	Uncertain.
Interests, &c. on Loan for Ireland	890,213 17 2				
Total	1,290,460 16 1	MINT.			
DUTIES pro Anno 1805.		Masters of his Majesty's Mint in England	6,900 0 0	6,900 0 0	Uncertain.
Brought from Consolidated Stamp Duties		Ditto, Scotland	1,200 0 0	1,200 0 0	1,200 0 0
Ditto from Consolidated Customs on Goods		Receiver of Fees in the Office of the Mint	2,797 13 0	2,797 13 0	Uncertain.
Taken from Consolidated Letter-Money		SALARIES and ALLOWANCES	66,640 13 9½	66,640 13 9½	Uncertain.
Reserved out of Consolidated Duties on Assessed Taxes, Duty on Horses	149,924 0 0	MISCELLANEOUS	58,637 8 2½	58,637 8 2½	Uncertain.
Duties taken from Consolidated Excise	709,364 0 0	PENSIONS	299,981 1 5½	299,981 1 5½	299,981 1 5½
Interest, &c. on Loan for Ireland	276,987 14 1	Total of Incidental Charges upon the Consolidated Fund, as they stood on the 5th of January, 1812.	1,472,403 11 9½	1,472,403 11 9½	1,813,062 13 0
TOTAL	1,791,069 7 5½	Debt incurred in respect of 12,000,000L. raised for the Service of the year 1803	817,120 10 6½	817,120 10 6½	817,120 10 6½

CONSOLIDATED FUND AND PERMANENT TAXES.

INCOME.	L. s. d.		CHARGE.	Annual payment out of the Consolidated Fund, in the Year ended 5th Jan. 1812.		Future Annual Charge upon the Consolidated Fund, as it stood on 5th Jan. 1812.		
	L.	s.		L.	s.		L.	s.
Duties pro Anno 1806.								
Wine Anno 1803, 1804, and Tea	141,483	0	0					
British Spirits, Anno 1806	862,700	0	0	1,174,168	13	0		
Reserved out of Consolidated Duties on Assessed Taxes	542,299	0	0					
Brought from Consolidated Stamp Duties	6,917	1	4	1,716,992	0	4		
Interest, &c. on Loan for the Service of Ireland	183,865	8	1					
Total	1,467,264	9	5	1,339,288	0	0		
Duties pro Anno 1807.								
Brought from War Taxes to pay the Charge of Loan	1,200,000	0	0	1,434,519	14	5		
Interest, &c. on Loan for the Service of Ireland	222,874	13	6					
Total	1,422,874	13	6	878,055	2	4½		
Duties pro Anno 1808.								
Surplus of Consolidated Duties on Assessed Taxes	131,675	13	10½	1,378,006	7	7		
				1,531,507	6	4½		
						1,540,829	7	7½

Surplus of Consolidated Stamp Duties Interest, &c. on Loan for Ireland	150,000 0 0	Debt incurred in respect of 7,018,000 <i>l.</i> Eschequer Bills, funded for the service of the Year 1811	918,744 16 4½	1,494,962 2 1½
TOTAL	490,976 5 7½			
DUTIES pro Anno 1809.				
Brought from Consolidated Customs	106,000 0 0	RECAPITULATION.		
Ditto from War Taxes, to pay the Charge of Loan of 1809	1,040,000 0 0	Total Charge for Debt incurred prior to 1808	24,141,187 10 11½	24,127,903 0 3
Charges of Loan for the Prince Regent of Portugal	57,170 3 0	Total of Incidental Charges	1,479,408 11 9½	1,515,063 13 0
Interest, &c. on Loan for Ireland	177,267 15 11	Total Charge for Debt incurred in 1808	817,120 10 6½	817,120 10 6½
Total	1,379,437 18 11	Ditto - Ditto - 1804	1,174,168 18 0	1,174,168 18 0
DUTIES pro Anno 1810.				
Brought from Consolidated Stamp Duties	946,683 16 1	Ditto - Ditto - 1805	1,716,992 0 4	1,716,992 0 0
Interest, &c. on Loan for Ireland	413,165 1 8	Ditto - Ditto - 1806	1,339,388 0 0	1,339,388 0 4
Total	1,359,948 17 9	Ditto - Ditto - 1807	1,434,519 14 5	1,434,519 14 5
DUTIES pro Anno 1811.				
Interest, &c. on Loan	216,089 14 1	Ditto - Ditto - 1808	878,055 2 4½	878,055 2 4½
British Spirits, 1811	142,315 0 0	Ditto - Ditto - 1809	1,378,006 7 7	1,378,006 7 7
Foreign Spirits, ditto	20,055 0 0	Ditto - Ditto - 1810	1,531,507 6 4½	1,540,890 7 7½
Total	378,459 14 1	Ditto - Ditto - 1811	918,744 16 4½	1,494,962 2 1½
TOTAL INCOME OF CONSOLIDATED FUND in the Year ended 5th January, 1812	40,917,835 18 4½	TOTAL CHARGE upon the CONSOLIDATED FUND in the Year ended 5th January, 1812	36,801,998 18 9½	37,314,898 16 2½

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.

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An Account of the Net Produce of all the PERMANENT TAXES of GREAT BRITAIN; taken for Two Years, ending respectively 5th January, 1811, and 5th January, 1812.

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	In the Year ended 5th Jan: 1811.			In the Year ended 5th Jan. 1812.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
CONSOLIDATED CUSTOMS.	4,869,366	5	5½	3,974,732	1	10½
Ditto - EXCISE	15,867,564	15	0	15,768,167	12	4
Ditto - STAMPS	5,332,509	0	10	5,086,782	11	2
INCIDENTS.						
Houses and Windows - 1766	-	-	-	300	0	0
Horses for Riding - 1785	312	0	0	300	0	0
Male Servants	-	-	-	300	0	0
Carts	6	0	0	-	-	-
Hackney Coaches and Chairs 1711 and 1784	25,458	0	0	23,877	0	0
6d. per lb. on Pensions - 1721	18,318	2	0½	-	-	-
1s. ditto on Salaries - 1758	4,367	7	3½	-	-	-
4-wheeled Carriages - 1785	206	18	0	50	0	0
2 - Ditto	-	-	-	150	0	0
Waggons	4	9	0	-	-	-
L.10 per Cent. - 1791	-	2	9½	-	-	-
Letter Money	1,256,000	0	0	1,275,000	0	0
Hawkers and Pedlars	14,353	13	4½	20,251	3	5
Seizures	14,773	7	3½	26,044	6	10½
Proffers	618	6	11	593	1	7
Compositions	1	10	0	2	3	4
Fines and Forfeitures	303	9	0	373	10	0
Rent of a Light-House	6	13	4	6	13	4
Ditto Alum Mines	864	0	0	864	0	0
Alienation Duty	4,443	18	8	4,040	2	0
Lottery Licences	3,946	8	6	3,696	0	1
Quarantine Duty	26,462	2	5½	12,679	0	0
Canal and Dock Duty	44,142	11	5	32,907	10	5½
Hair Powder Certificates 1795	-	-	-	902	2	0
Horse Dealers Licences 1796	-	-	-	300	0	0
L.30 per Cent - 1797	562	13	2	300	0	0
Houses - 1778	-	-	-	200	0	0
Horses - 1797	-	-	-	200	0	0
Dogs	-	-	-	100	0	0
Additional Assessed Taxes 1798	6,157	19	0½	121	10	0½
Houses and Windows	100	0	0	1,299	6	0
Inhabited Houses	-	-	-	220	9	4
Horses for Riding	-	-	-	741	2	0
Ditto - Husbandry	-	-	-	1,235	14	0
Male Servants	-	-	-	20	11	0
4-wheel Carriages	-	-	-	34	16	0
2 - Ditto	-	-	-	1,027	12	0
Dogs	-	-	-	1,012	6	0
Armorial Bearings	-	-	-	501	11	6
Horses for Husbandry - 1801	-	-	-	23	16	0
Ditto - Riding	-	-	-	17	10	0
Houses and Windows - 1802	203	18	10	2,628	2	5
Inhabited Houses	200	0	0	1,300	0	0
Horses for Riding	87	0	0	576	8	4

	Ditto, 5th Jan. 1811.			Ditto, 5th Jan. 1812.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Horses for Husbandry	-	-	-	420	5	6
Male Servants	-	-	-	21	6	1
4-Wheeled Carriages	225	1	1	92	16	0
2 - Ditto	27	0	0	500	0	0
Dogs	-	-	-	503	6	0
Houses and Windows, 1804	36,592	11	1	10,361	15	6
Inhabited Houses	31,386	8	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	4,930	19	3
Horses for Riding	41,510	5	7	4,803	14	9 $\frac{1}{4}$
Ditto and Mules	44,035	2	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	6,421	9	6 $\frac{1}{4}$
Male Servants	24,878	16	8 $\frac{1}{4}$	2,009	10	7
Carriages	34,454	7	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	4,111	16	10 $\frac{1}{4}$
Dogs	24,696	2	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	4,739	17	8
Hair Powder Certificates	15,051	10	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	3,131	11	4
Horse Dealers Licences	4,443	11	11 $\frac{1}{4}$	734	7	0
Armorial Bearings	10,847	4	11	1,875	1	5
British Spirits, 1806	195,400	0	0	505,015	0	0
Foreign Spirits	-	-	-	20,055	0	0
£.10 per Cent.	49,186	19	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	8,870	0	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
Consolidated Assessed Taxes—1808	5,614,200	17	6	5,667,881	13	1 $\frac{1}{4}$
Land Taxes - 1809	1,091,917	9	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	999,782	1	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
6d. per lib. on Pensions	16,660	0	0	3,650	0	0
1s. ditto on Salaries	16,720	0	0	6,550	0	0
6d. ditto on Pensions, 1810	200	0	0	9,200	0	0
1s. ditto on Salaries	2,400	0	0	12,800	0	0
6d. ditto on Pensions, 1811	-	-	-	1,100	0	0
1s. ditto on Salaries	-	-	-	1,700	0	0
Customs, Isle of Man,	-	-	-	8,335	4	9 $\frac{1}{4}$
Surplus Duties annually granted, after discharging three millions Exchequer Bills charged thereon	Sugar and Malt - 580,313 13 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ Additional Malts - 737,703 15 9 Annual Malts - 494,129 0 0 Tobacco - 133,881 5 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ Land Tax on Offices &c. - 148,111 13 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ 6d. per £. on Pensions - 5,330 0 0 1s. ditto - - Salaries - 6,890 0 0			230,927 11 0 834,072 0 0 553,923 0 0 119,878 0 0 129,497 9 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ 1,422 1 9 1,285 6 8		
	36	85453	8 11 $\frac{3}{4}$	35,404,781	19	6
Duties annually granted to discharge three millions Exchequer Bills charged thereon	Sugar and Malt - 2,242,214 7 0 $\frac{1}{4}$ Additional Malts - 252,477 4 3 Annual Malts - - - - Tobacco - 376,630 14 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ Land Tax on Offices - 93 8 2			2,134,981 18 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ 282,528 0 0 - - - - 406,276 0 0 4,030 0 0		
	39,724,069	-3	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	38,222,567	17	7 $\frac{1}{4}$

PUBLIC EXPENDITURE.

	£	s	d.	£	s	d.	£	s	d.
I. For Interest, &c. on the Permanent Debt of Great Britain, unredeemed	-	-	-	-	-	-	94,832,054	18	0½
II. The Interest on Exchequer Bills (B)	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,556,755	0	5½
III. The Civil List (C)	-	-	-	-	-	958,000	0	0	
IV. { Other Charges } Courts of Justice	-	-	-	-	-	78,306	15	4½	
{ on the } Mint	-	-	-	-	-	10,837	13	0	
{ Consolidated } Allowance to Royal Family	-	-	-	-	-	299,981	1	5½	
{ Fund, } salaries and Allowances	-	-	-	-	-	66,640	13	9½	
{ viz. } Bounties.	-	-	-	-	-	58,637	8	2½	
V. Civil Government of Scotland (D)	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,472,403	11	9½
VI. Other Payments in Anticipation (E)	-	-	-	-	-	-	109,698	6	1
Bounties for Fisheries, Manufactures, Corn, &c.	-	-	-	-	-	396,975	2	7	
Pensions on the Hereditary Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	27,700	0	0	
Militia and Deserters Warrants	-	-	-	-	-	172,874	2	6	
VII. Navy (F). Wages of Officers and Seamen	2,721,000	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Half Pay to Sea Officers and Bounty to Chaplains	291,000	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wages to his Majesty's Dock and Rope Yards	918,000	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
General Services—Building of Ships, Purchase of Stores of every description, Repairing of Ships, Purchase of Ships taken from the Enemy, Head Money, &c.	4,126,291	15	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bills of Exchange, Impress, Salaries, Pensions, &c.	1,464,881	15	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
							5,921,173	10	6

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The Victualling Department	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,079,280	1	1
Transport ditto, for Transports, Prisoners of War, Sick and Wounded Seamen	-	-	-	-	-	3,538,225	3	6		
Miscellaneous Services,	-	-	-	-	-	402,000	1	0		
								3,940,225	3	6
VIII. Ordnance (G)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
IX. Army (H)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19,759,169	0	0
Extraordinary Services.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,116,196	0	0
								29,875,365	0	0
X. Loans, Remittances, and Advances to other countries (I), viz.								4,499,292	15	3
Ireland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	275,000	0	0
Sicily	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Portugal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spain	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,702,747	0	0
								7,410,039	15	3
XI. Miscellaneous Services (K)								1,711,809	17	11
At Home	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	251,226	10	9½
Abroad	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
								4,499,292	15	3
Deduct Loan, &c. for Ireland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	57,170	3	0
Deduct for Interest, &c. on Portuguese Loan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
								1,962,636	8	2½
								95,907,659	8	9½
								4,489,412	18	3
								91,418,196	10	0½

This includes the sum of £.425,175 0 3 for Interest, &c. paid on Imperial Loans,

PUBLIC FUNDED DEBT.

PUBLIC FUNDED DEBT OF GREAT BRITAIN, as the same stood on the 1st of February, 1812.

	£.	s.	d.
TOTAL DEBT UNREDEEMED.			
Bank of England and Annuities, 1726	12,686,800	0	0
South Sea Old and New Annuities, 1751	16,507,684	18	11½
Consolidated Annuities	341,489,516	11	9½
Reduced Annuities	97,562,377	0	7
Consolidated Annuities	66,115,296	2	2
Consolidated Annuities	79,433,233	18	1½
Annuities, 1797 and 1802	1,723,287	3	7
Total CAPITALS	615,518,185	5	8½
Annual Interest	90,749,828	14	7½
Annuities for Lives or for term of years	1,540,257	19	1½
Charges of Management	284,254	3	9
Annuities fallen in, or dead; Grants of Parliament, and 1 per cent. on Annual Grants	13,084,274	3	11
Total CHARGE for DEBT payable in GREAT BRITAIN	35,608,615	1	5

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UNFUNDED DEBT.

An Account of the UNFUNDED DEBT and DEMANDS OUTSTANDING on the 5th Day of January, 1812.

EXCHEQUER BILLS.		On what Funds charged.		Amount Outstanding.
Under what Acts issued.				
48 Geo. III. cap. 3	- Supplies	-	-	£3,000,000 0 0
Ditto cap. 53	- Ditto	-	-	3,000,000 0 0
50 Geo. III. cap. 69	- Ditto 1811	-	-	1,775,600 0 0
Ditto cap. 113	- Ditto	-	-	2,135,200 0 0
51 Geo. III. cap. 2	- Malt and Personal Estates 1811	-	-	584,000 0 0
Ditto cap. 3	- Supplies 1812	-	-	10,500,000 0 0
Ditto cap. 4	- Ditto	-	-	1,500,000 0 0
Ditto cap. 53	- Ditto	-	-	6,000,000 0 0
Ditto cap. 85	- Ditto 1811	-	-	11,285,000 0 0
Ditto cap. 112	- Ditto 1812	-	-	1,762,000 0 0
				41,491,800 0 0
TREASURY:				
Miscellaneous Services	-	-	-	550,807 14 4
Warrants for Army Services	-	-	-	17,522 14 1
Treasury Bills accepted previous to and on the 5th January 1812, due subsequent to that day	-	-	-	1,143,138 14 8½
				1,710,969 2 8½
ARMY:				
Ordinary Services	-	-	-	1,517,008 0 0
Extraordinary Services	-	-	-	Nil
NAVY:				
Barracks	-	-	-	1,517,008 0 0
Ordnance	-	-	-	289,559 19 4
Navy	-	-	-	1,078,476 5 4
Civil List Advances	-	-	-	7,888,890 10 4
				66,960 17 0
				£. 54,088,059 14 8½

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.

An ACCOUNT of the real value of EXPORTS from GREAT BRITAIN, in the Years 1805, 1806, 1807, 1808, 1809, 1810, and 1811, respectively; distinguishing generally the Countries to which the Goods were exported.

YEARS.	Continent of EUROPE.	Ireland, and Isles Guernsey Jersey and Man.	ASIA.	AFRICA.	United States of AMERICA.	Other parts of America and the West Indies.	TOTAL.
1805	L. 20,435,940	L. 6,400,363	L. 3,111,748	L. 1,156,955	L. 11,446,939	L. 8,557,186	L. 51,109,131
1806	17,547,243	5,813,650	3,259,834	1,655,042	12,865,551	11,887,561	53,028,881
1807	13,420,514	7,032,372	3,555,392	1,022,745	12,097,942	11,533,796	50,482,661
1808	13,983,123	7,971,694	3,718,813	820,194	5,302,866	18,173,056	49,969,746
1809	27,190,387	7,565,599	2,990,440	976,872	7,607,688	19,838,696	66,017,712
1810	24,224,567	5,765,464	3,117,075	693,911	11,217,685	17,983,707	62,702,409
1811	18,537,204	7,210,699	3,063,971	409,075	1,874,917	12,943,754	43,989,620
Annual average of 3 years ending with 1807.....	17,801,332	6,415,428	3,308,991	1,278,248	12,136,811	10,599,514	51,540,324
Annual average of 4 years ending with 1811.....	20,983,808	7,128,364	3,222,575	725,013	6,464,059	17,133,553	55,657,372

WILLIAM IRVING,
Inspector-General of Imports and Exports.

Custom House, London,
28th April, 1812.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT
OF THE
POPULATION OF GREAT BRITAIN,

In the Years 1801 and 1811,

Shewing the Increase or Diminution thereof.

Together with the present State of the Returns called for by an
Act of the last Session of Parliament.

ENGLAND.

COUNTIES.	POPULATION 1801.			In-crease.	Dimi-nution.	POPULATION 1811.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.			Males.	Females.	Total.
Bedford	30,523	32,870	63,393	6,820	...	33,171	37,042	70,213
Berks	52,821	56,394	109,215	9,062	...	57,360	60,917	118,277
Buckingham . .	52,094	55,350	107,444	10,026	...	56,208	61,442	117,650
Cambridge . . .	44,081	45,265	89,346	11,763	...	50,756	50,353	101,109
Chester	92,759	98,992	191,751	35,280	...	110,844	116,190	227,031
Cornwall	69,868	98,401	168,269	28,398	...	103,310	118,357	216,667
Cumberland . .	54,377	62,853	117,230	16,514	...	63,433	70,311	133,744
Derby	79,401	81,746	161,142	24,345	...	91,494	93,993	185,487
Devon	157,240	185,761	343,001	40,307	...	179,533	208,755	388,308
Dorset	53,667	61,652	115,319	9,374	...	57,717	66,976	124,693
Durham	74,770	85,591	160,361	19,444	...	84,777	95,028	179,805
Essex	111,356	115,081	226,437	26,036	...	124,839	127,634	252,473
Gloucester . . .	117,180	133,629	250,809	27,727	...	129,546	148,990	278,536
Hereford	43,955	45,236	89,191	4,882	...	46,404	47,069	94,073
Hertford	48,063	49,514	97,577	14,077	...	55,023	56,631	111,654
Huntingdon . . .	18,521	19,047	37,568	4,640	...	20,402	21,806	42,208
Kent	151,374	156,250	307,624	63,261	...	181,925	188,960	370,885
Lancaster	322,356	350,375	672,731	155,578	...	394,104	434,205	828,309
Leicester	63,943	66,138	130,081	20,338	...	73,366	77,033	150,419
Lincoln	102,445	106,112	208,557	13,994	...	109,707	112,844	222,551
Middlesex	373,655	444,474	818,129	131,913	...	433,036	517,006	950,042
Mopmouth	22,173	23,409	45,582	5,692	...	25,715	25,559	51,274
Norfolk	129,842	143,529	273,371	18,611	...	138,076	153,906	291,982
Northampton . .	63,417	68,340	131,757	9,596	...	68,279	73,074	141,353
Northumb. . . .	73,357	83,741	157,101	15,060	...	80,385	91,776	172,161
Nottingham . . .	68,558	71,792	140,350	22,580	...	79,037	83,843	162,900
Oxford	53,786	55,834	109,620	9,584	...	59,140	60,064	119,204
Rutland	7,978	8,378	16,356	24	...	7,981	8,449	16,380
Salop	62,563	85,076	167,639	27,061	...	96,038	98,662	194,700
Somerset	126,927	146,823	273,750	29,430	...	141,449	161,731	303,181
Southampton . .	105,667	113,789	219,656	25,691	...	118,434	126,913	245,347
Stafford	118,698	120,455	239,153	57,370	...	148,758	147,765	296,523
Suffolk	101,091	109,340	210,431	23,468	...	111,866	122,033	233,899
Surrey	127,138	141,905	269,043	54,808	...	151,811	172,040	323,851
Sussex	78,797	80,514	159,311	29,934	...	98,755	95,470	194,225
Warwick	99,942	108,248	208,190	10,703	...	104,487	114,406	218,893
Westmoreland . .	20,175	21,442	41,617	4,369	...	22,902	23,084	45,986
Wilts	87,880	97,727	185,607	8,721	...	91,560	102,268	193,828
Worcester	67,631	71,702	139,333	21,668	...	78,361	82,740	161,001
York, E. Rid. . .	68,457	70,976	139,433	27,920	...	81,905	86,148	168,053
— N. Rid.	74,904	80,602	155,506	2,698	...	77,805	80,699	158,504
— W. Rid.	276,005	287,948	563,953	89,049	...	321,651	331,351	653,002
Totals	3,987,935	4,343,499	8,331,434	1,167,966	...	4,555,257	4,944,143	9,499,400

WALES.

COUNTIES.	POPULATION 1801.			In-crease.	Dimi-nution.	POPULATION 1811,		
	Males.	Females.	Total.			Males.	Females.	Total.
Anglesey . . .	15,775	18,031	33,806	3,286	...	17,467	19,625	37,092
Brecon	15,393	16,240	31,633	6,117	...	18,522	19,228	34,750
Cardigan . . .	20,408	22,548	42,956	7,376	...	23,793	26,539	50,332
Carmarthen . .	31,439	35,878	67,317	9,900	...	36,080	41,137	77,217
Carnarvon . . .	19,586	21,235	41,521	7,498	...	23,241	25,778	49,019
Denbigh	29,247	31,105	60,352	3,888	...	31,129	33,111	64,240
Flint	19,577	20,045	39,622	6,896	...	22,712	23,806	46,518
Glamorgan . . .	34,190	37,325	71,525	9,743	...	39,378	41,890	81,268
Merioneth . . .	13,896	15,610	29,506	1,418	...	14,308	16,616	30,924
Montgomery . .	22,914	25,064	47,978	2,628	...	24,760	25,846	50,606
Pembroke	25,406	30,874	56,280	4,335	...	27,453	33,162	60,615
Radnor	9,347	9,703	19,050	2,749	...	10,571	11,228	21,799
Totals	257,178	284,368	541,546	65,834	...	289,414	317,966	607,380

SHIRRS.

SCOTLAND:

Aberdeen	55,625	67,457	123,082	13,821	...	60,973	75,930	136,903
Argyll	33,767	38,092	71,859	13,726	...	40,675	44,910	85,585
Ayr	39,666	44,640	84,396	19,648	...	48,506	55,448	103,954
Banff	16,067	19,740	35,807	...	1707	14,911	19,189	34,100
Berwick	14,294	16,327	30,621	158	...	14,466	16,313	30,779
Bute	5,552	6,239	11,791	282	...	5,545	6,488	12,033
Caithness	10,183	12,426	22,609	810	...	10,608	12,811	23,419
Clackmanan . . .	5,064	5,794	10,858	1,152	...	5,715	6,295	12,010
Dumbarton	9,796	10,914	20,710	3,479	...	11,369	12,820	24,189
Dumfries	25,407	29,190	54,597	3,363	...	29,347	33,613	62,960
Edinburgh	54,224	68,730	122,954	25,490	...	64,903	83,541	148,444
Elgin	11,763	14,942	26,705	1,403	...	12,401	15,707	28,108
Fife	42,952	50,791	93,743	7,529	...	45,968	55,301	101,272
Forfar	45,461	58,666	99,127	8,137	...	48,151	59,113	107,264
Haddington	13,890	16,096	29,086	1,178	...	14,232	16,932	31,164
Inverness	33,801	40,491	74,292	4,123	...	35,749	42,666	78,415
Kincardine	12,104	14,245	26,349	1,090	...	12,580	14,859	27,439
Kinross	3,116	3,609	6,725	520	...	3,466	3,779	7,245
Kirkcudbright . .	13,619	15,592	29,211	4,473	...	15,788	17,896	33,684
Lanark	68,100	78,599	146,699	45,053	...	88,688	103,064	191,752
Linlithgow	8,129	9,715	17,844	1,607	...	8,874	10,577	19,451
Nairn	3,639	4,618	8,257	...	6	3,530	4,721	8,251
Orkney and Shetland }	20,793	26,031	46,824	...	671	20,151	26,001	46,153
Peebles	4,160	4,575	8,735	1,200	...	4,846	5,089	9,935
Perth	58,088	67,558	126,366	8,727	...	64,034	71,059	135,093
Renfrew	36,068	41,988	78,056	14,540	...	41,960	50,636	92,596
Ross & Cro- marty }	25,494	29,849	55,343	5,510	...	27,640	33,213	60,853
Roxburgh	15,813	17,869	33,682	3,548	...	17,119	20,117	37,230
Selkirk	2,356	2,714	5,070	819	...	2,750	3,139	5,889
Stirling	23,875	26,950	50,825	7,349	...	27,745	30,429	58,174
Sutherland	10,425	12,692	23,117	512	...	10,488	13,141	23,629
Wigtown	10,570	12,348	22,918	3,973	...	12,205	14,686	26,891
Totals	734,581	864,487	1,599,068	208,180	2384	825,377	979,487	1,804,864

Average Price of Corn per Quarter in England and Wales, 1812.

	Wheat.		Rye.		Barley.		Oats.		Beans.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Jan.	105	11	55	5	51	2	31	9	56	9
Feb.	105	1	55	7	51	9	31	5	56	0
Mar.	113	1	62	1	59	2	34	4	57	5
Apr.	126	11	74	2	69	0	39	5	62	0
May	133	7	81	7	76	1	47	5	70	1
June	133	10	82	5	74	2	69	0	73	4
July	146	0	90	0	77	10	52	9	77	4
Aug.	155	0	98	2	79	10	56	2	77	6
Sept.	132	9	83	1	69	8	54	10	81	9
Oct.	110	1	70	8	57	8	41	10	82	0
Nov.	122	8	78	8	64	7	44	5	91	11
Dec.	121	0	81	6	64	4	44	1	88	6

Average of the Year.

124 8 | 76 2 | 66 3½ | 44 0½ | 74 6½.

Price of the Quartern Loaf according to the Assize of Bread in London.

	s.	d.		s.	d.
January	1	5	July	1	8
February	1	4	August	1	8
March	1	5½	September	1	8
April	1	6¾	October	1	7¾
May	1	6½	November	1	6½
June	1	7	December	1	6½

Average of the Year 1 6½ +

NATIONAL DEBT.

An Account of the Reduction of the National Debt, from the 1st of August, 1786, to the 1st of February, 1812:—

Redeemed by the sinking fund	-	-	L.189,538,430
Transferred by land-tax redeemed	-	-	23,941,056
Ditto by life annuities purchased	-	-	1,606,640
			<hr/>
On account of Great Britain	-	-	L.215,085,577
Ditto of Ireland	-	-	9,085,958
Ditto of imperial loan	-	-	1,234,514
Ditto of loan to Portugal	-	-	118,562
			<hr/>
Total	-	-	L.225,254,617

An Account of the Amount of Balances of Sums issued for the Payment of Dividends due and not demanded, and for the Payment of Lottery Prizes or Benefits, which had not been claimed, and which remained in the hands of the Governor and Company of the Bank of England, on the under-mentioned Days, being those next before the Issue, from the Exchequer, of Money for the Payment of Dividends on Account of the National Debt; for each of the four preceding Quarters respectively— (Pursuant to 48 Geo. III. cap. 4.)

	On 5th April, 1811.			On 5th July, 1811.		
	L.	s.	d.	L.	s.	d.
Dividends due and not demanded	1,101,893	16	3	972,776	6	5
Lottery Prizes not claimed	98,190	0	0	99,606	0	0
			<hr/>			
N. B.—Advanced to Government pursuant to 31 and 48 Geo. III.	1,200,083	16	3	1,072,382	6	5
	876,739	0	9	876,739	0	9
Remains in the hands of the Bank	323,344	15	6	195,643	5	8
			<hr/>			
	On 10th Oct. 1811.			On 4th Jan. 1812.		
	L.	s.	d.	L.	s.	d.
Dividends due and not demanded	1,030,324	2	8	1,011,848	8	4
Lottery Prizes not claimed	100,894	0	0	166,341	0	0
			<hr/>			
N. B.—Advanced to Government pursuant to 31 and 48 Geo. III.	1,131,718	2	8	1,478,189	8	4
	876,739	0	9	876,739	0	9
Remains in the hands of the Bank	254,979	1	11	301,450	7	7

BANK OF ENGLAND,
24th Jan. 1812.

WILLM. DAWES, Acct.-General,

PRICE OF STOCKS FOR EACH MONTH IN 1812.—Lowest and Highest.

1812	{ Bank } Stock	{ 3 p. ct. 3 p. ct. } red. cons.	{ 4 p. ct. 5 p. ct. } cons. Navy.	5 p. ct. 1797	Long Ann.	India Stock.	In di Bonds.	Exchequer Bills.	S. Sea Stock.	Old Ann.	New Ann.	Omni. 5 p. ct. 5 p. ct.	Irish. 5 p. ct. 5 p. ct.	Imp. p. ct. 5 p. ct.	Lottery Tickets.
Jan.	{ 220½ } { 232½	{ 62½ } { 63½	{ 78½ } { 79½	{ 99½ } { 100½	{ 16½ } { 16½	{ 181½ } { 182½	{ 15 a 16 pr. } { 17 a 18 pr.	{ 2 a 4 pr. } { 3 a 6 pr.	{ 67½ } { 67½	{ 62½ } { 63½	{ 62½ } { 63½	{ 1 dis. } { pr.	{ 98 } { 98½	{ 60½ } { 61½	
Feb.	{ 229½ } { 232½	{ 62½ } { 63½	{ 78 } { 79½	{ 100½ } { 100½	{ 16½ } { 16½	{ 179½ } { 182	{ 14 a 16 pr. } { 18 a 17 pr.	{ 2 a 6 pr. } { 13 a 11 pr.	{ 66½ } { 67½	{ 62 } { 62½	{ 62 } { 62½	{ 1½ dis. } { 2 dis.	{ 92½ } { 92½	{ 60½ } { 61½	
March.	{ 229½ } { 231	{ 59½ } { 62½	{ 73½ } { 76½	{ 101 } { 101	{ 15½ } { 16½	{ 177½ } { 178	{ par. 1 d. } { 16 a 17 pr.	{ par. 1 d. } { 7 a 6 pr.	{ 68½ } { 68½	{ 61½ } { 63½	{ 60½ } { 61½	{ 5½ dis. } { 1½ dis.	{ 92 } { 92½	{ 57½ } { 60½	
April.	{ 221 } { 227½	{ 58½ } { 60½	{ 75½ } { 76½	{ 98½ } { 98½	{ 15½ } { 15½	{ 176½ } { 178½	{ par. 1 d. } { 9 a 10 pr.	{ par. 1 d. } { 5 a 6 pr.	{ 68½ } { 68½	{ 58½ } { 59½	{ 58½ } { 60½	{ 5½ dis. } { 3½ dis.	{ 87½ } { 87½	{ 58½ } { 59½	
May.	{ 223 } { 230½	{ 59½ } { 61½	{ 74½ } { 75½	{ 98½ } { 99½	{ 15½ } { 15½	{ 179½ } { 176½	{ par. 1 d. } { 3 a 4 pr.	{ 2 dis. par. } { 2 a 3 pr.	{ 65½ } { 66½	{ 59½ } { 60½	{ 60½ } { 61½	{ 9½ dis. } { 1½ dis.	{ 87½ } { 88½	{ 57½ } { 59½	
June.	{ 214 } { 224	{ 55½ } { 60½	{ 71½ } { 75½	{ 87½ } { 92½	{ 14½ } { 15½	{ 175½ } { 176	{ 8 a 12 d. } { par. 1 pr.	{ 4 a 5 d. } { par. 1 pr.	{ 65½ } { 66	{ 55½ } { 60½	{ 60½ } { 61	{ 17 dis. } { 1½ dis.	{ 88½ } { 88½	{ 59½ } { 59½	
July.	{ 214½ } { 218	{ 55½ } { 56½	{ 71½ } { 75½	{ 86 } { 88½	{ 14½ } { 15½	{ 163 } { 164½	{ 4 dis. } { 16 dis.	{ 3 dis. } { 5 pr.	{ 59½ } { 60	{ 55½ } { 61½	{ 59 } { 59	{ ½ pr. } { 2½ pr.	{ 86 } { 86½	{ 54½ } { 56½	
Aug.	{ 212½ } { 222	{ 56½ } { 59	{ 73 } { 76½	{ 88½ } { 90½	{ 15½ } { 15½	{ 169½ } { 169	{ 10 dis. } { 5 dis.	{ 6 dis. } { 1 pr.	{ 60½ } { 62½	{ 57½ } { 59½	{ 56½ } { 56½	{ 2 pr. } { 6½ pr.	{ 89½ } { 89½	{ 55½ } { 58½	
Sept.	{ 226 } { 226	{ 59½ } { 60½	{ 76 } { 76½	{ 87½ } { 92	{ 15½ } { 15½	{ 170 } { 172	{ 5 dis. } { 9 dis.	{ 2 dis. } { 1 pr.	{ 64½ } { 64½	{ 59½ } { 60½		{ 3 pr. } { 8½ pr.		{ 57½ } { 57½	
Oct.	{ 212½ } { 216½	{ 57½ } { 58½	{ 72½ } { 73½	{ 87½ } { 90½	{ 14½ } { 15	{ 163 } { 165	{ 12 dis. } { 1 dis.	{ 4 dis. } { 4 pr.	{ 62 } { 62½	{ 57 } { 58½		{ 3½ pr. } { 5½ pr.	{ 85½ } { 85½		
Nov.	{ 215 } { 217	{ 57½ } { 58½	{ 73 } { 74½	{ 89½ } { 91½	{ 14½ } { 15½	{ 169½ } { 169½	{ 3 dis. } { 1 pr.	{ 2 dis. } { 3 pr.	{ 62½ } { 62½	{ 57½ } { 58½		{ 5 pr. } { 6½ pr.	{ 88½ } { 88½	{ 56½ } { 56½	
Dec.	{ 216 } { 223½	{ 57½ } { 58½	{ 72½ } { 77½	{ 89½ } { 89½	{ 14½ } { 15½		{ 10 dis. } { 4 dis.	{ pr. } { 2 pr.		{ 59½ } { 59½		{ 8½ pr. } { 10½ pr.		{ 57½ } { 59½	

LIST OF PATENTS IN 1812.

John Plasket and Samuel Brown, for a method of making or manufacturing of casks and other vessels by improved machinery.

Mr Edmund Griffith (Bristol) for an improvement in the manufacture of soap, for the purpose of washing with sea-water, hard-water, and other water.

Mr James Cuparn (Leicester) for preventing chimneys from smoking.

Mr Thomas Willes Cooper (Old-street) for an apparatus to be fixed at the naves of wheels and beds of axletrees of carriages, so as to prevent accidents from the axletrees breaking, &c.

Mr Peter Joseph Brown (Henrietta-street) for an improved construction of buoys for ships or vessels, and for mooring chains.

Mr Joseph Bagnal (Walsal) for a method of making bridle-bits, snaffles, &c. of iron, steel, or other metal.

Sir Howard Douglas (High Wycomb) for an improved reflecting circle or semi-circle.

Mr Joseph Bastone (Bridgewater) for improvements applicable to bedsteads and various other things.

Mr Thomas William Sturgeon (Howland-street) for improved castors.

Sir Saml. Bentham (Hampstead) for an invention for a secure and economical mode of laying foundations applicable to the projections of wharfs and piers into deep water.

Mr William Good (London) for an improvement in valves for various purposes.

Mr Ralph Sutton (Birmingham) for an improved self-acting curtain or window-blind rack.

Mr John Craigie (Craven-street) for improvements on carriages, by which friction may be saved, labour facilitated, and safety obtained.

Mr Joseph Baker (Cuckfield, Sussex) for kneading dough by means of machinery.

Mr Thomas Pearsall (Willsbridge, Gloucester) for a method of constructing iron-work for certain parts of buildings.

Mr William Fothergill (Greenfield, Flintshire) for a method of making copper-rollers for printing.

Mr John Miers (Strand, London) for a method of accelerating evaporation, of destroying the noxious effluvia from spent lees, and of generating an increased degree of heat, without additional fuel.

Mr John Hudson (Cheapside, London) for a composition for printing or painting on paper, linen, stuccoed walls, boards, &c.

Mr Jacob Zink (Mile-end) for a method of manufacturing verdigris.

Mr Richard Withy (Kingston-upon-Hull) for improvements in his invention for the construction of steam-engines.

Mr George Dodd (Vauxhall-place) for machinery and the application of

steam to communicate heat and motion to wines, porter, &c. in cellars, storehouses, and other places.

Mr Henry James and John Jones (Birmingham) for an improvement in the manufacture of barrels of all descriptions of fire-arms.

Mrs Sarah Guppy (Bristol) for tea and coffee urns, &c.

Mr Thomas Marsh (King-street, Clerkenwell) for improvements in the construction of watches.

Mr Robert Giles (London) for the invention of a cap or cowl to be placed on the top of chimneys.

Mr Michael Logan (Paradise-street, Rotherhithe) for an instrument for the generation of fire, and various purposes in chemical and experimental operations.

Mr Andrew Patten (Manchester) for a discovery and improvements in the tanning of leather, by the use of pyroigneous or wood-acid.

Mr William Strachan (Chester) for a method of preparing the ore of cobalt for trade, manufacture, and painting.

Mr Jeremiah Steel (Liverpool) for a new apparatus, and for distilling and rectifying spirits.

William Everhard Baron Von Doornik (Wells-street) for an improvement in the manufacture of soap to wash with sea-water, with hard-water, and with soft-water.

Mr James Adams (Pitkellony, in the county of Perth) for a method of drying malt and all kinds of grains and seeds.

Mr George Smart (Westminster) for an improved method of preparing timber so as to prevent its shrinking.

Mr Blenkinsop (Middleton, Yorkshire) for mechanical means by which the conveyance of coals, minerals, and other articles is facilitated, and the expence attending the same is rendered less than heretofore.

Messrs Peter Moore and Co. (London) for a vertical bond in buildings, &c.

Mr Lawrence Drake (Cloaklane, London) for a method of preparing the various sorts of isinglass from river and marine fish.

Sir Saml. Bentham (Hampstead) for a new mode of excluding water of the sea, of rivers, or of lakes, during the execution of under-water works of masonry, or for the security of foundations, applicable to the construction of sea-walls, wharfs, piers, &c.

Mr William Hardcastle (Abingdon) for improved cranes, to prevent accidents from the goods attached to the pulley overpowering the person at the winch, or in the walking wheel.

Mr George Dolland (London) for an improved method of lighting the binnacle compass, used for steering ships at sea.

Mr Benjamin Milne (Bridlington) for an improved double bell and gun alarm.

Mr Frederic Albert Winsor (Shooter's Hill) for a method of employing raw or refined sugars in the composition of certain articles of great demand.

Mr John Justice (Dundee) for an improvement in the construction of stove-grates calculated to prevent the smoking of chimnies, or to effect their cure.

Mr John Simpson (Birmingham) for improvements in the construction of lamps.

Mr Robert Bill (Rathbone-place) for an apparatus to facilitate the operation of washing clothes, and other processes necessary in family and other establishments.

Mr Richard Waters (Fore-street, Lambeth) for a new method of manufacturing pottery-ware.

ARGUMENTS ON THE CORN LAWS.

To provide for the subsistence of a great nation, independently of a foreign supply of grain, must be a leading object in every wise system of legislation. Without the wealth which an extended commerce affords, a people may be great and free; without the refinements of their more polished neighbours, they may be virtuous and warlike; but without an independent supply of the means of subsistence, they must for ever be at the mercy of any great combination of their enemies. The government of a country which is exposed to scarcity and famine, must have perils to encounter which no energy will overcome: the assaults of a people goaded on by want, and animated by despair, will not be easily repelled. As every great state which is dependent on the precarious aid of its neighbours for a supply of the necessaries of life must count on occasional disappointment, and as a scarcity of corn will always affect with the greatest severity those who are the most impatient of privations, and the most prompt to avenge their real or supposed wrongs, that power, of whose influence alone they are sensible, will, in such extremities, have cause to dread their resentment. It will not avail their rulers, in the hour of distress and danger, to charge the sufferings of the people on foreign powers, or to impute to the unrelent-

ing policy of their enemies the grievances of which they complain. Such a justification will be addressed to men prejudiced by habit and deaf from despair.—These weighty considerations have long fixed the attention of the most enlightened statesmen of this country on the subject of the Corn Laws; and it is a singular circumstance, that notwithstanding the numerous discussions which this great question has undergone, even its elementary principles should yet be involved in doubt and contradiction.

Whether any interference of legislative power for regulating the corn trade be justifiable on sound and liberal views of policy, has been often questioned by speculative enquirers; but on the supposition that some restraints may be beneficial, there can be little doubt as to the objects which should be kept in view in imposing them.—The leading object must be to secure, at all times and in all circumstances, an abundant supply; since it will hardly be disputed, that the dangers of dependence on foreign and hostile powers for the corn with which the people are to be fed, and the occasional recurrence of scarcity and famine, must greatly overbalance all other inconveniences. Moderation and steadiness of prices are also objects of high importance, in so far as they can be reconciled with national secu-

rity and independence.—An important distinction, however, must be made among these different objects, the one being wholly within our power; the other but partially attainable; and the last depending on a variety of circumstances, the effect of which it is difficult to estimate with accuracy. By adequate encouragement, we can secure abundance until the population shall have increased beyond the numbers which the actual or possible produce of the soil can maintain; but the vicissitudes of the seasons must always present an insurmountable obstacle to any system which aims at a perfect uniformity of prices. Yet although the evils attending considerable fluctuations cannot be altogether remedied, they may be greatly mitigated; and in this, as well as in all other questions of practical policy, it is the duty of the legislature, out of evils which cannot be wholly avoided, to choose the least.—The high or low price of corn again is not absolute, but relative; not a fixed, but a varying quantity; not susceptible of determination upon abstract principles, but to be estimated with reference to the actual price of labour, and the variable circumstances of the community.—In this very general view of the leading principles of all corn laws, it may be affirmed, therefore, that an ample and independent supply is demanded by the high consideration of national safety; that steadiness of prices is required for the comfort of the lower orders; while the cheapness of corn must be eminently subservient to the prosperity of commerce.—An opportunity will occur afterwards for the illustration of these propositions; but if there be any truth in them, we may well ask, What *ought* to be the answer of the people of a great country, if they are called upon to sacrifice in part one or other of these advantages? Must they not confess, that as an extended

commerce is an object of worthy ambition only as it contributes to the happiness of the people and the power of the state, it ought for ever to be kept in due subordination to the higher interests of the community?—There is no reason to believe, however, that the people of this country will soon be called upon to make so painful an election; but in considering the general principles of the Corn Laws, these important distinctions must never be disregarded.

To ensure a plentiful supply of corn in unfavourable seasons, it is necessary to have a *surplus* in ordinary years. Those who think that the deficiency of a bad season will be compensated by the frugality of the consumers, must forget some of the most striking phenomena in political economy. It was long ago proved, that a very small deficiency in the supply of corn will be sufficient to occasion an enormous rise of price; and as the vicissitudes of the seasons render such deficiencies unavoidable, no country can be said to be independent of foreign supply as to the necessary article of grain, which does not, in ordinary years, raise a surplus beyond the wants of its domestic consumption.

How is this surplus to be obtained? It is a principle of common sense, as well as a maxim of political philosophy, that all the products of human industry will be brought to market in proportion to the demand for them; and that the prospect of reward is the only sure incitement to toil. If the home market alone be accessible to the farmer, he will proportion his supply to the demand which it presents. He may not be able indeed exactly to calculate its wants in so many quarters of wheat; but he will readily ascertain, by an infallible criterion—the state of prices—whether there be a general excess beyond the natural and accustomed limits.—You will in vain, in such circum-

stances, expect that surplus which is to provide against the inconveniences of deficient crops; the farmer acts on the same principles with all other labourers and capitalists, and will accommodate his operations to the state of the demand.—But an enlarged supply can be secured only by extending the demand; by opening the markets of foreign nations to the enterprise of the farmer; and by assuring him of a reward for his labour.

The foreign market may be accessible to the farmer without any encouragement except that which is implied in the entire freedom of the corn trade. The comparative fertility of the soil, the cheapness of labour, and many other circumstances, may enable him successfully to compete with the foreign grower, without any incitement or reward from his own country. But, excepting in these favourable circumstances, the foreign market must be inaccessible to him; no surplus will be raised to meet the exigencies of unfavourable seasons; the country will be exposed to great fluctuations of price, to dependence on her neighbours for corn, and to occasional visitations of scarcity, perhaps of famine, unless the enterprise of the farmer is sustained by special encouragement, and the disadvantages under which he labours are compensated to him by the bounty of government.

Different expedients have been suggested for giving this artificial encouragement to agriculture. A bounty on the *production* of corn would, we have been told, be the most natural and efficient stimulus; since by increasing the quantity of corn, and lowering the price to the purchasers, it would not only secure an abundant supply for our own consumption, but would open foreign markets to the surplus which would be created—But those who think thus misapprehend the object which the corn laws are intended to accomplish. To give

an *absolute* encouragement to the growth of corn, to bestow a preference on agriculture over all other branches of industry, would be at once capricious and unavailing. To increase not the *absolute*, but the *relative* quantity of corn produced—to insure a supply always, or at least generally, beyond the wants of the population, is the only legitimate object of legislative interference. Now, what would be the effect of a bounty on production? It would enable the farmer to bring his corn to market at a cheaper rate; and, by a reduction of the price of grain, would give a great and immediate encouragement to population.—It is a maxim of political economy, that labour, like every thing else, is produced in proportion to the demand for it; in proportion to the comfort and opulence which are secured for the labourer. Any measure, therefore, by which his wages are increased, or by which his command over the necessaries of life is extended, adds to his power of rearing a family, and of increasing the population. A bounty on the *production* of corn would thus increase the population till it bore again the same proportion to the produce of the land, which it had done before the bounty was granted. The legitimate objects of the bounty therefore would not be attained; the *absolute* quantity of corn would indeed be increased, but its *relative* abundance would remain as before; and the same danger of scarcity and famine which had formerly existed would still recur.

But a bounty on *exportation*, while it bestows no encouragement to produce corn for home consumption, offers a powerful incitement to produce it for foreign nations. It is free, therefore, from some of the most prominent objections to a bounty on production; for, as it affords no encouragement to the growth of corn for the home market, it communicates no

impulse to population. What then are the advantages of this measure? and what is the precise manner in which it operates?

It is assumed of course, that the bounty to be granted is the result of mature deliberation and exact knowledge of the state of the corn-markets both at home and abroad. If the price of corn be higher in Great Britain than among the nations of the continent, the bounty must be such as to compensate to the farmer the whole difference of price, together with the expence of carriage to the foreign market. If it be inadequate for these purposes, the law will remain a dead letter, and can never occasion the exportation of a single quarter of wheat. If it be more than adequate, it must be attended with serious inconveniences; since by giving the foreign an *advantage* over the home market, it will carry off more than the surplus, and very unnecessarily raise the price to the domestic consumer. But if the bounty be such as to give neither market an advantage over the other, its operation will resemble an *extension* of the home market; but with this great and striking advantage, that the surplus destined for foreign countries can always in years of scarcity be retained as a provision against distress. A bounty, therefore, so regulated as to give the British farmer the same, or nearly the same, advantages in the foreign as in the home market, is alone defensible on any sound principles of policy.

What are the advantages of such a bounty? By extending the market to the British grower, it will induce him to raise corn sufficient for the supply of this extended market; to provide a supply beyond what is required for domestic consumption. The same de-

sire of gain which induced the farmer to labour for the limited market, will tempt him to labour and improve for the new and more extended demand which is opened for his produce; so long, at least, as there remains a capacity of further improvement in the country.—A bounty on exported corn will not encourage population at home; as the bounty applies only to the corn which is raised for the foreign market, there will be no fall of price to the domestic consumer; the condition of the labourer and of the people at large will, therefore, remain unchanged. Prices will be kept steady and uniform; a surplus will be created, which, in years of scarcity, may, by withdrawing the bounty, or prohibiting exportation, be thrown into the home market, and the evils of scarcity will be avoided. The prices of corn, even for a series of years, will be kept steady, as the violent fluctuations which are occasioned by a small deficit in the supply can never occur under such a system.

In further illustration of the effects of the bounty, the words of a great author may be quoted, who has shown the most profound knowledge of this subject.*

“Let the effects of the bounty,” says Dr Johnson, “be minutely considered. The state of every country, with respect to corn, is varied by the chances of the year.

“Those to whom we sell our corn, must have every year either more corn than they want, or as much as they want, or less than they want. We likewise are naturally subject to the same varieties.

“When they have corn equal to their wants, or more, the bounty has no effect; for they will not buy what they do not want, unless our exube-

* Considerations on Corn by Samuel Johnson, L.L.D. p. 244. *et seq.* Appendix to Hamilton's Part. Logic.

rance be such as tempts them to store it for another year. This case must suppose that our produce is redundant and useless to ourselves; and, therefore, the profit of exportation produces no inconvenience.

“ When they want corn, they must buy of us, and buy at a higher price; in this case, if we have corn more than enough for ourselves, we are again benefited by supplying them.

“ But they may want, when we have no superfluity. When our markets rise, the bounty ceases; and, therefore, produces no evil. They cannot buy our corn but at a higher rate than it is sold at home. If their necessities, as now has happened, force them to give a higher price, that event is no longer to be charged upon the bounty. We may then stop our corn in our ports, and pour it back upon our own markets.

“ It is in all cases to be considered, what events are physical and certain, and what are political and arbitrary.

“ The first effect of the bounty is the increase of agriculture, and by consequence the promotion of plenty. This is an effect physically good, and morally certain. While men are desirous to be rich, where there is profit there will be diligence. If much corn can be sold, much will be raised.

“ The second effect of the bounty is the diminution by exportation of that product which it occasioned. But this effect is political and arbitrary; we have it wholly in our own hands; we can prescribe its limits, and regulate its quantity. When we feel want or fear it, we retain our corn, and feed ourselves upon that which was sown and raised to feed other nations.

“ It is perhaps impossible for human wisdom to go farther, than to contrive a law of which the good is certain and uniform; and the evil, though possible in itself, yet always

subject to certain and effectual restraints.

“ This is the true state of the bounty upon corn; it certainly and necessarily increases our crops, and can never lessen them, but by our own permission.”

Such is the mode of operation, and such are the advantages of the bounty on exported corn. But has it not also its inconveniences? Unquestionably it has, and they shall here be fairly stated and appreciated.

It is a maxim among political economists, that any trade which requires special encouragements,—which demands the aid of drawbacks, bounties, or prohibitions, must necessarily be a losing trade, since the capital which it absorbs might be otherwise employed with a profit, and without artificial aid. If a bounty be necessary, the trade cannot support itself by its own profits; and to sustain such a trade by artifices of any kind, is to depress others which demand not such extraordinary assistance. The loss thus incurred is precisely the loss of the bounty; and, to this extent, it must be admitted, that a foreign trade in corn, with the assistance of a bounty, is, indeed, a losing trade.

The question therefore is, whether an abundant supply of corn is not an object of so much consequence to every great state, as to justify the sacrifice of a few thousand pounds a-year out of the public treasury, that the evils of scarcity may be prevented; that the spirit of discontent and turbulence, which scarcity never fails to occasion, may be restrained; and that a great empire may be rendered independent of its neighbours in that article on which it depends for its very existence.—Let it be remembered, that corn is not an ordinary commodity; not a common article of merchandise with which the people can easily dispense. It has an

absolute and pre-eminent value as the great article of subsistence over every thing which ministers only to convenience or luxury; and the prosperity of agriculture may well be considered, for this single reason, as deserving of special encouragement. The evils of scarcity, the dangers of popular insurrection, the hazards of dependence, in so essential a point; on foreign powers, cannot be questioned. Security must for ever be of greater importance than wealth; and when the question is about establishing the national security on the firmest basis, with the sacrifice of a comparatively small proportion of wealth, who can hesitate as to the decision? The prosperity of commerce is greatly to be desired; but the progress of agriculture is of still higher importance; and if the alternative were put to us, that we should either import the whole of the manufactures, or the whole of the corn which we consume, little difficulty could be felt in making the election. We are not, indeed, approaching this extremity; but the justice of the principle is not less obvious,—that, if a sacrifice is to be made in part, it will be wiser to make it of the national wealth, than of the public security; of our commerce and manufactures, than of our agriculture. Small states, which excite no envy, may be allowed to depend on their neighbours for subsistence; but a great nation can never be secured by such policy. It has been observed by an eloquent writer, that “a great state is too much envied, too much dreaded, to find safety in humiliation;” and it may be added, that neither can it find safety in dependence on its neighbours for that which is necessary not only to its prosperity, but to its very existence.

The author of the *Wealth of Nations* has remarked, that “* bounties, it is allowed, ought to be given to those branches of trade only which cannot be carried on without them. But every branch of trade on which the merchant can sell his goods for a price which replaces to him, with the ordinary profits of stock, the whole capital employed in preparing and sending them to market; can be carried on without a bounty. Every such branch is evidently upon a level with all the other branches of trade which are carried on without bounties, and cannot, therefore, require one more than they. Those trades only require bounties in which the merchant is obliged to sell his goods for a price which does not replace to him his capital, together with the ordinary profit; or in which he is obliged to sell them for less than it really cost him to send them to market. The bounty is given in order to make up this loss, and to encourage him to continue, or perhaps to begin, a trade of which the expence is supposed to be greater than the returns; of which every operation eats up a part of the capital employed in it, and which is of such a nature, that, if all other trades resembled it, there would soon be no capital left in the country.” —In this passage, Dr Smith has accurately summed up the objections to bounties; and if he had stopped here, the soundness of his argument could not have been impeached. According to the above statement, the loss sustained is *precisely that of the bounty*; and when the advantages of having an export trade in corn are considered, few will doubt the expediency of making so trifling a sacrifice.

But Dr Smith has offered various other objections to bounties which are not so well founded.† “In years of

* *Wealth of Nations*, B. iv. c. v. p. 262.

† *Wealth of Nations*, B. iv. c. v. p. 264, *et seq.*

plenty," says he, "it has already been observed, the bounty, by occasioning an extraordinary exportation, necessarily keeps up the price of corn in the home market above what it would naturally fall to. To do so was the avowed purpose of the institution. In years of scarcity, though the bounty is frequently suspended, yet the great exportation which it occasions in years of plenty, must frequently hinder more or less the plenty of one year from relieving the scarcity of another. Both in years of plenty, and in years of scarcity, therefore, the bounty necessarily tends to raise the money price of corn somewhat higher than it otherwise would be in the home market.

"That, in the actual state of tillage, the bounty must necessarily have this tendency, will not, I apprehend, be disputed by any reasonable person. But it has been thought by many people that it tends to encourage tillage, and that in two different ways; first, by opening a more extensive foreign market to the corn of the farmer, it tends, they imagine, to increase the demand for, and consequently the production of, that commodity; and, secondly, by securing to him a better price than he could otherwise expect in the actual state of tillage, it tends, they suppose, to encourage tillage. This double encouragement must, they imagine, in a long period of years, occasion such an increase in the production of corn, as may lower its price in the home market, much more than the bounty can raise it, in the actual state which tillage may, at the end of that period, happen to be in.

"I answer, that whatever extension of the foreign market can be occasioned by the bounty, must, in every particular year, be altogether at the expense of the home market; as every bushel of corn which is exported by means of the bounty, and which would not have been exported without the

bounty, would have remained in the home market to increase the consumption, and to lower the price of that commodity. The corn bounty, it is to be observed, as well as every other bounty upon exportation, imposes two different taxes upon the people; first, the tax which they are obliged to contribute, in order to pay the bounty; and, secondly, the tax which arises from the advanced price of the commodity in the home market, and which, as the whole body of the people are purchasers of corn, must, in this particular commodity, be paid by the whole body of the people. In this particular commodity, therefore, this second tax is much the heaviest of the two. Let us suppose that, taking one year with another, the bounty of five shillings upon the exportation of the quarter of wheat, raises the price of that commodity in the home market only sixpence the bushel, or four shillings the quarter, higher than it otherwise would have been in the actual state of the crop: Even upon this very moderate supposition, the great body of the people, over and above contributing the tax which pays the bounty of five shillings upon every quarter of wheat exported, must pay another of four shillings upon every quarter which they themselves consume. But, according to the very well-informed author of the Tracts upon the Corn Trade, the average proportion of the corn exported to that consumed at home, is not more than that of one to thirty-one. For every five shillings, therefore, which they contribute to the payment of the first tax, they must contribute six pounds four shillings to the payment of the second. So very heavy a tax upon the first necessary of life, must either reduce the subsistence of the labouring poor, or it must occasion some augmentation in their pecuniary wages, proportionable to that in the pecuniary price of their subsist-

ence. So far as it operates in the one way, it must reduce the ability of the labouring poor to educate and bring up their children, and must, so far, tend to restrain the population of the country. So far as it operates in the other, it must reduce the ability of the employers of the poor, to employ so great a number as they otherwise might do, and must, so far, tend to restrain the industry of the country. The extraordinary exportation of corn, therefore, occasioned by the bounty, not only in every particular year diminishes the home, just as much as it extends the foreign market and consumption, but, by restraining the population and industry of the country, its final tendency is to stint and restrain the gradual extension of the home market; and thereby, in the long run, rather to diminish, than to augment, the whole market and consumption of corn."

In this passage, Dr Smith has committed many obvious errors.—“It was the avowed purpose of the bounty,” he says, “to raise the price of corn in the home market;” but this its enlightened advocates firmly deny. The bounty is intended to place the foreign in circumstances *equally favourable* with the home market; and it is inconceivable how the price, to the domestic consumer, (who will always, for many obvious reasons, have the preference) should thus be *increased*.—When Dr Smith affirms, that the extraordinary exportation in years of plenty keeps up the price of corn in the home market, he assumes that the bounty occasions *no increase* in the quantity of corn produced, and forgets that but for the bounty, the corn exported would never have been raised.—It is a mistake, therefore, to say, that the exportation is at the expence of the home market.—The fallacy in that part of his argument in which he supposes

that even in years of scarcity the bounty is injurious, by hindering the abundance of one year from relieving the scarcity of another, is not less apparent; for the abundance of which he speaks would not have existed but for the bounty:

It is singular that Dr Smith should, in the second paragraph quoted above, have anticipated and immediately overlooked this very objection to his whole argument. In the beginning of the paragraph, which follows, he remarks, that “every bushel of corn which is exported by means of the bounty, and which would not have been exported without the bounty, would have remained in the home market to increase the consumption, and to lower the price of that commodity.” But, if it be true, that the bounty, by enlarging the market, increases the quantity of corn produced, this argument, with all the inferences deduced from it, must be erroneous.—If again it be an error to suppose that the bounty does increase the quantity of corn produced, it follows, of course, that by no encouragement *can* the growth of corn be increased, and that the business of the farmer stands in a different predicament from all others, and is not susceptible either of encouragement or depression—of growth or of decay. But as this is an hypothesis, which reason, no less than experience, contradicts, the whole of Dr Smith’s argument, as to the double tax on the people, and the necessity thence arising of either limiting the subsistence, or increasing the wages of the poor, must fall to the ground.

But Dr Smith takes yet another view of the subject, which, if it were sound, might help to support his general conclusion.* “The enhancement,” says he, “of the money price of corn, however, it has been thought, by rendering that commodity more pro-

* Wealth of Nations; Book IV. Chap. V. p. 267, &c.

fitable to the farmer, must necessarily encourage its production.

“ I answer, that this might be the case if the effect of the bounty was to raise the real price of corn, or to enable the farmer (with an equal quantity of it) to maintain a greater number of labourers in the same manner, whether liberal, moderate, or scanty, that other labourers are commonly maintained in his neighbourhood. But neither the bounty, it is evident, nor any other human institution, can have any such effect. It is not the real, but the nominal, price of corn, which can in any considerable degree be affected by the bounty; and although the tax which that institution imposes upon the whole body of the people, may be very burdensome to those who pay it, it is of very little advantage to those who receive it.

“ The real effect of the bounty is, not so much to raise the real value of corn, as to degrade the real value of silver; or to make an equal quantity of it exchange for a smaller quantity, not only of corn, but of all other home-made commodities; for the money price of corn regulates that of all other home-made commodities.

“ It regulates the money price of labour, which must always be such as to enable the labourer to purchase a quantity of corn sufficient to maintain him and his family, either in the liberal, moderate, or scanty manner, in which the advancing, stationary, or declining circumstances of the society oblige his employers to maintain him.

“ It regulates the money price of all the other parts of the rude produce of land, which, in every period of improvement, must bear a certain proportion to that of corn, although this proportion is different in different periods. It regulates, for example, the money price of grass and hay, of butcher

meat, of horses, and the maintenance of horses, of land carriage consequently, or of the greater part of the inland commerce of the country.

“ By regulating the money price of all other parts of the rude produce of land, it regulates that of the materials of almost all manufactures. By regulating the money price of labour, it regulates that of manufacturing art and industry; and by regulating both, it regulates that of the complete manufacture. The money price of labour, and of every thing that is the produce either of land or labour, must necessarily either rise or fall in proportion to the money price of corn.

“ Though in consequence of the bounty, therefore, the farmer should be enabled to sell his corn for four shillings the bushel instead of three and six-pence, and to pay his landlord a money rent proportionable to this rise in the money price of his produce, yet if, in consequence of this rise in the price of corn, four shillings will purchase no more home-made goods of any other kind than three and six-pence would have done before, neither the circumstances of the farmer, nor those of the landlord, will be much mended by this change. The farmer will not be able to cultivate much better; the landlord will not be able to live much better. In the purchase of foreign commodities, this enhancement in the price of corn may give them some little advantage. In that of home-made commodities, it can give them none at all; and almost the whole expense of the farmer, and the far greater part even of that of the landlord, is in home-made commodities.”—Dr Smith then proceeds to draw a parallel betwixt the British bounty on the exportation of corn, and the prohibition in Spain and Portugal to export the precious metals; after which he says;*

* Wealth of Nations, Book IV. Chap. V. p. 274.

“The bounty upon the exportation of corn necessarily operates exactly in the same way as this absurd policy of Spain and Portugal. Whatever be the actual state of tillage, it renders our corn somewhat dearer in the home market than it otherwise would be in that state, and somewhat cheaper in the foreign ; and as the average money price of corn regulates more or less that of all other commodities, it lowers the value of silver considerably in the one, and tends to raise it a little in the other. It enables foreigners, the Dutch in particular, not only to eat our corn cheaper than they otherwise could do, but sometimes to eat it cheaper than even our own people can do upon the same occasions ; as we are assured by an excellent authority, that of Sir Mathew Decker. It hinders our own workmen from furnishing their goods for so small a quantity of silver as they otherwise might do ; and enables the Dutch to furnish theirs for a smaller. It tends to render our manufactures somewhat dearer in every market, and theirs somewhat cheaper than they otherwise would be, and consequently to give their industry a double advantage over our own.

“The bounty, as it raises in the home market, not so much the real, as the nominal price of our corn, as it augments, not the quantity of labour which a certain quantity of corn can maintain and employ, but only the quantity of silver which it will exchange for, it discourages our manufactures, without rendering any considerable service either to our farmers or country gentlemen. It puts, indeed, a little more money into the pockets of both, and it will perhaps be somewhat difficult to persuade the greater part of them, that this is not rendering them a very considerable service. But if this money sinks in its value, in the quantity of labour, provisions, and home-made commodities of all different kinds which

it is capable of purchasing, as much as it rises in its quantity, the service will be little more than nominal and imaginary.

“There is, perhaps, but one set of men in the whole commonwealth to whom the bounty either was or could be essentially serviceable. These were the corn merchants, the exporters and the importers of corn. In years of plenty, the bounty necessarily occasioned a greater exportation than would otherwise have taken place ; and by hindering the plenty of the one year from relieving the scarcity of another, it occasioned, in years of scarcity, a greater importation than would otherwise have been necessary. It increased the business of the corn merchant in both ; and in years of scarcity, it not only enabled him to import a greater quantity, but to sell it for a better price, and consequently with a greater profit than he could otherwise have made, if the plenty of one year had not been more or less hindered from relieving the scarcity of another. It is in this set of men, accordingly, that I have observed the greatest zeal for the continuance or renewal of the bounty.

“Our country gentlemen, when they imposed the high duties upon the importation of foreign corn, which, in times of moderate plenty, amount to a prohibition, and when they established the bounty, seemed to have imitated the conduct of our manufacturers. By the one institution, they secured to themselves the monopoly of the home market ; and by the other, they endeavoured to prevent that market from ever being overstocked with their commodity. By both they endeavoured to raise its real value, in the same manner as our manufacturers had, by the like institution, raised the real value of many different sorts of manufactured goods. They did not, perhaps, attend to the great and essential dif-

ference which nature has established between corn and almost every other sort of goods. When, either by the monopoly of the home market, or by a bounty upon exportation, you enable our woollen or linen manufacturers to sell their goods for somewhat a better price than they otherwise could get for them, you raise, not only the nominal, but the real price of those goods. You render them equivalent to a greater quantity of labour and subsistence, you increase, not only the nominal, but the real profit, the real wealth and revenue of those manufacturers, and you enable them either to live better themselves, or to supply a greater quantity of labour in those particular manufactures. You really encourage those manufactures, and direct towards them a greater quantity of the industry of the country, than what would probably go to them of its own accord. But when, by the like institutions, you raise the nominal, or money price, of corn, you do not raise its real value, you do not increase the real wealth, the real revenue either of our farmers or country gentlemen. You do not encourage the growth of corn, because you do not enable them to maintain and employ more labourers in raising it. The nature of things has stamped upon corn a real value, which cannot be altered by merely altering its money price. No bounty upon exportation, no monopoly of the home market, can raise that value. The freest competition cannot lower it; through the world in general that value is equal to the quantity of labour which it can maintain, and in every particular place it is equal to the quantity of labour which it can maintain in the way, whether liberal, moderate, or scanty, in which labour is commonly maintained in that place. Woollen or linen cloth are not the regulating commodities by which the real value of all other commodities must be finally measured and

determined; corn is. The real value of every other commodity is finally measured and determined by the proportion which its average money price bears to the average money price of corn. The real value of corn does not vary with those variations in its average money price, which sometimes occur from one century to another. It is the real value of silver which varies with them.

“ Bounties upon the exportation of any home-made commodity are liable, first, to that general objection which may be made to all the different expedients of the mercantile system; the objection of forcing some part of the industry of the country into a channel less advantageous than that in which it would run of its own accord; and, secondly, to the particular objection of forcing it, not only into a channel that is less advantageous, but into one that is actually disadvantageous; the trade which cannot be carried on but by means of a bounty being necessarily a losing trade. The bounty upon the exportation of corn is liable to this further objection, that it can in no respect promote the raising of that particular commodity, of which it was meant to encourage the production: When our country gentlemen, therefore, demanded the establishment of the bounty, though they acted in imitation of our merchants and manufacturers, they did not act with that complete comprehension of their own interest, which commonly directs the conduct of those two other orders of people. They loaded the public revenue with a very considerable expence; they imposed a very heavy tax upon the whole body of the people; but they did not in any sensible degree increase the real value of their own commodity; and by lowering somewhat the real value of silver, they discouraged, in some degree, the general industry of the country, and, u-

stead of advancing, retarded more or less the improvement of their own lands, which necessarily depends upon the general industry of the country.

“To encourage the production of any commodity, a bounty upon production, one should imagine, would have a more direct operation than one upon exportation. It would, besides, impose only one tax upon the people, that which they must contribute in order to pay the bounty. Instead of raising, it would tend to lower the price of the commodity in the home market, and thereby instead of imposing a second tax upon the people, it might at least in part repay them for what they had contributed to the first. Bounties upon production, however, have been very rarely granted. The prejudices established by the commercial system have taught us to believe, that national wealth arises more immediately from exportation than from production. It has been more favoured accordingly, as the more immediate means of bringing money into the country. Bounties upon production, it has been said too, have been found by experience more liable to frauds, than those upon exportation. How far this is true, I know not. That bounties upon exportation have been abused to many fraudulent purposes, is very well known. But it is not the interest of merchants and manufacturers, the great inventors of all these expedients, that the home market should be overstocked with their goods; an event which a bounty upon production might sometimes occasion. A bounty upon exportation, by enabling them to send abroad their surplus part, and to keep up the price of what remains in the home market, effectually prevents this. Of all the expedients of the mercantile system, accordingly, it is the one of which they are the fondest. I have known the different undertakers of some par-

ticular works agree privately among themselves to give a bounty out of their own pockets, upon the exportation of a certain proportion of the goods which they dealt in. This expedient succeeded so well, that it more than doubled the price of their goods in the home market, notwithstanding a very considerable increase in the produce. The operation of the bounty upon corn must have been wonderfully different, if it has lowered the money price of that commodity.”

It may be remarked, in general, of this celebrated argument, which Dr Smith has thus carefully expanded and illustrated, that, if it were sound, it would prove the utter impossibility of giving, in any circumstances, the slightest encouragement to agriculture. Such encouragement can be given only by adding to the profits of the farmer; but Dr Smith maintains, that it is impossible to add to these profits,—to accomplish any thing more than a nominal rise in the price of corn, or to confer more than a nominal advantage on the farmer. If this opinion were just, cultivation must for ever be at a stand; for to what does Dr Smith's argument amount? That neither the bounty, nor any other human institution, can have the effect of rendering corn more profitable to the farmer, and of encouraging its production. But the rapid progress of agriculture in this island, affords a sufficient practical refutation of this doctrine, and creates a strong suspicion, that there is something fundamentally erroneous in the whole of the author's train of reasoning.

The price of labour enters materially into the value of all commodities; but it does not form the sole criterion of this value. The profits of stock and the rent of land are also important ingredients; but neither of them are chiefly or directly influenced by the price of corn. The profits of stock

are regulated, as every one knows, by the relative proportions of the supply and demand; and thus we have one considerable ingredient in the price of all articles which is not influenced by the price of corn.—But the value of labour itself is not entirely regulated by the price of corn. If the labourer required or consumed nothing but corn there might be some truth in Dr Smith's position, although even in this case we should only have an approximation to accuracy.—It is well known, that in different periods of the history of this and of all other countries, the rewards of labour have been very differently proportioned; that they have sometimes been so ample as to enable the lower orders to live in comparative affluence, and at other seasons so scanty, as to render it difficult for the poor even to subsist. We speak at present not of the *nominal* but of the *real* price of labour; of its price not in money but in corn; and the truth of the observation may be illustrated by reference to what has often occurred, both in the remote and in the recent periods of our annals. The truth is, that the price of labour, like that of all other commodities, is chiefly regulated by the proportion betwixt the supply and demand; and must for ever be thus regulated until the reward shall sink beneath the necessary wants of man. Even if the labourer, therefore, required nothing but unmanufactured corn to subsist upon, his wages would not be entirely regulated by the price of this article; for while, in a season of universal prosperity, he might be able to command a large surplus, a thousand circumstances, which it is impossible to controul, may entirely change his condition and prospects. Dr Smith's argument proceeds on the erroneous assumption, that the wages of labour are entirely expended on

corn, from which he infers, that their amount must be regulated by the price of that article; but as *horses* seem to be the only class of labourers to whom his hypothesis strictly applies, his conclusions can be extended no farther, and can never embrace those who require something more than unmanufactured corn for their subsistence.—The British labourer, in the present state of society, consumes many things besides corn, and requires many articles on which the price of British corn can have no possible influence. The profits of stock, for example, which are not regulated by the price of corn, yet enter into the prices of all sorts of merchandize; while there are many articles in universal demand even among the lower orders, of which the raw material or the finished manufacture comes from distant countries, upon the price of which it will not be said, that the price of British corn can have any influence. It has been supposed by some very accurate enquirers, that two only of the five parts into which the wages of the British labourer may be divided, are expended in the purchase of corn, the remaining three being required to procure other articles of necessity or convenience. Dr Smith's argument, therefore, is just only to a very limited extent, and does not warrant the sweeping conclusions which he has deduced from it.

Some excellent observations, which tend very much to illustrate and confirm the opinions which have just been stated, have been made in a pamphlet lately published by Mr Malthus, the author of the *Essay on Population*.*

“The substance of his (Dr Smith's) argument is, that corn is of so peculiar a nature, that its real price cannot be raised by an increase of its money price; and that, as it is clearly an ip-

* Observations on the Corn Laws, by the Rev. T. R. Malthus, p. 4, *et seq.*

crease of real price alone which can encourage its production, the rise of money price, occasioned by a bounty, can have no such effect.

“ It is by no means intended to deny the powerful influence of the price of corn upon the price of labour, on an average of a considerable number of years; but that this influence is not such as to prevent the movement of capital to, or from the land, which is the precise point in question, will be made sufficiently evident by a short enquiry into the manner in which labour is paid and brought into the market, and by a consideration of the consequences to which the assumption of Dr Smith’s proposition would inevitably lead.

“ In the first place, if we enquire into the expenditure of the labouring classes of society, we shall find that it by no means consists wholly in food, and still less, of course, in mere bread or grain. In looking over that mine of information for every thing relating to prices and labour, Sir Frederick Morton Eden’s work on the Poor, I find, that in a labourer’s family of about an average size, the articles of house-rent, fuel, soap, candles, tea, sugar, and clothing, are generally equal to the articles of bread or meal. On a very rough estimate, the whole may be divided into five parts, of which two consist of meal or bread, two of the articles above-mentioned, and one of meat, milk, butter, cheese, and potatoes. These divisions are, of course, subject to considerable variations, arising from the number of the family, and the amount of the earnings. But if they merely approximate towards the truth, a rise in the price of corn must be both slow and partial in its effect upon labour. Meat, milk, butter, cheese, and potatoes, are slowly affected by the price of corn. House-rent, bricks, stone, timber, fuel, soap, candles, and clothing, still more slow-

ly; and, as far as some of them depend, in part or in whole, upon foreign materials, (as is the case with leather, linen, cottons, soap, and candles,) they may be considered as independent of it; like the two remaining articles of tea and sugar, which are by no means unimportant in their amount.

“ It is manifest, therefore, that the whole of the wages of labour can never rise and fall in proportion to the variations in the price of grain. And that the effect produced by these variations, whatever may be its amount, must be very slow in its operation, is proved by the manner in which the supply of labour takes place,—a point which has been by no means sufficiently attended to.

“ Every change in the prices of commodities, if left to find their natural level, is occasioned by some change, actual or expected, in the state of the demand or supply. The reason why the consumer pays a tax upon any manufactured commodity, or an advance in the price of any of its component parts, is because, if he cannot or will not pay this advance of price, the commodity will not be supplied in the same quantity as before, and the next year there will be only such a proportion in the market as is accommodated to the number of persons who will consent to pay the tax; but, in the case of labour, the operation of withdrawing the commodity is much slower and more painful. Although the purchasers refuse to pay the advanced price, the same supply will necessarily remain in the market not only the next year, but for some years to come; consequently, if no increase take place in the demand, and the advanced price of provisions be not so great as to make it obvious that the labourer cannot support his family, it is probable that he will continue to pay this advance till a relaxation in the rate of the increase of population

causes the market to be under-supplied with labour; and then, of course, the competition among the purchasers will raise the price above the proportion of the advance, in order to restore the supply. In the same manner, if an advance in the price of labour has taken place during two or three years of great scarcity, it is probable that, on the return of plenty, the real recompence of labour will continue higher than the usual average, till a too rapid increase of population causes a competition among the labourers, and a consequent diminution of the price of labour below the usual rate.

“ This account of the manner in which the price of corn may be expected to operate upon the price of labour, according to the laws which regulate the progress of population, evidently shews, that corn and labour rarely keep an even pace together, but must often be separated at a sufficient distance, and for a sufficient time, to change the direction of capital.

“ * Dr Smith was evidently led into this train of argument, from his habit of considering labour as the standard measure of value, and corn as the measure of labour. But that corn is a very inaccurate measure of labour, the history of our own country will amply demonstrate, where labour, compared with corn, will be found to have experienced very great and striking variations, not only from year to year, but from century to century, and for ten, twenty, and thirty years together. † And that neither labour nor any other commodity can be an accurate measure of real value in exchange, is now considered as one of the most incontrovertible doctrines of political economy; and indeed follows, as a necessary consequence, from the very definition of

value in exchange. But to allow that corn regulate the prices of all commodities, is at once to erect it into a standard measure of real value in exchange; and we must either deny the truth of Dr Smith's argument, or acknowledge, that what seems to be quite impossible is found to exist; and that a given quantity of corn, notwithstanding the fluctuations to which its supply and demand must be subject, and the fluctuation to which the supply and demand of all the other commodities, with which it is compared, must also be subject, will, on the average of a few years, at all times, and in all countries, purchase the same quantity of labour, and of the necessaries and conveniences of life.

“ There are two obvious truths in political economy which have not unfrequently been the sources of error.

“ It is undoubtedly true, that corn might be just as successfully cultivated, and as much capital might be laid out upon the land, at the price of 20 shillings a quarter, as at the price of 100 shillings, *provided* that every commodity, *both at home and abroad*, were precisely proportioned to the reduced scale, in the same manner, as it is strictly true, that the industry and capital of a nation would be exactly the same, (with the slight exception, at least, of plate,) if in every exchange, both at home and abroad, one shilling only were used where five are used now.

“ But to infer from these truths, that any natural or artificial causes, which should raise or lower the values of corn or silver, might be considered as matters of indifference, would be an error of the most serious magnitude. Practically, no material change can take place in the value of either, with-

* Observations on the Corn Laws, by the Rev. T. R. Malthus, p. 11. *et seq.*

† From the reign of Edward III. to the reign of Henry VII. a day's earnings in corn, rose from a peck to near half a bushel; and from Henry VII. to the end of Elizabeth, it fell from near half a bushel to little more than half a peck.

out producing both lasting and temporary effects, which have a most powerful influence on the distribution of property, and on the demand and supply of particular commodities. The discovery of the mines of America, during the time that it raised the price of corn between three and four times, did not nearly so much as double the price of labour; and while it permanently diminished the power of all fixed incomes, it gave a prodigious increase of power to all landlords and capitalists. In a similar manner, the fall in the price of corn, from whatever cause it took place, which occurred towards the middle of the last century, accompanied as it was by a rise, rather than a fall, in the price of labour, must have given a great relative check to the employment of capital upon the land, and a great relative stimulus to population;—a state of things precisely calculated to produce the reaction afterwards experienced, and to convert us from an exporting to an importing nation.

“It is by no means sufficient for Dr Smith’s argument, that the price of corn should determine the price of labour under precisely the same circumstances of supply and demand. To make it applicable to his purpose, he must shew, in addition, that a natural or artificial rise in the price of corn, or in the value of silver, will make no alteration in the state of property, and in the supply and demand of corn and labour;—a position which experience uniformly contradicts.

“Nothing then can be more evident, both from theory and experience, than that the price of corn does not immediately and generally regulate the prices of labour and all other commodities; and that the real price of corn is capable of varying for periods of sufficient length to give a decided sti-

mulus or discouragement to agriculture. It is, of course, only to a temporary encouragement, or discouragement, that any commodity, where the competition is free, can be subjected. We may increase the capital employed either upon the land or in the cotton manufacture, but it is impossible permanently to raise the profits of farmers, or particular manufacturers, above the level of other profits; and, after the influx of a certain quantity of capital, they will necessarily be equalized. Corn, in this respect, is subjected to the same laws as other commodities; and the difference between them is by no means so great as stated by Dr Smith.”

It were superfluous, after what has been already said on the subject of a bounty on *production*, to enter into any analysis of Dr Smith’s reasoning on that point. A bounty on production could never attain the objects of a bounty on exportation, and could, in no circumstances, serve any good purpose. Sounder views, therefore, influenced the legislature to confer a bounty on exportation than that preposterous regard for the mercantile system, which is imputed to them by the author of the *Wealth of Nations*. But if the bounty on exported corn, which Dr Smith reprobates with so much severity, be, in truth, a branch of this exploded system, it affords perhaps the only instance in which the principles of that system can be recognised with advantage.

A very elaborate paper on the subject of *bounties* appeared some time ago in a well-known periodical publication. After a minute account of the effects of a bounty on *production*, the following observations were made as to the nature of a bounty on exportation.

“* A bounty granted out of the public revenue upon the exportation only

* Edinburgh Review, vol. V. p. 196, *et seq.* Observations on the Bounty upon Exported Corn.

of corn, will operate according to the same principles; but, from the different manner in which the bounty is then applied, its effects will be considerably different. It will produce no *immediate* change of prices in the home market. The national consumer will continue to pay what he did before; no part of this payment being made for him by the public, there will be no diminution to him of the real price of corn, consequently no enlargement of consumption and demand, and therefore no new encouragement on this side to agricultural investments. But every foreigner, who shall purchase part of the exported grain, will pay so much less for it as the bounty amounts to, than he otherwise would have paid. Whether he will purchase any part of it or not, will, of course, depend upon this condition, that the price of the exported grain, reduced as it is by the bounty, is, at the most, not greater than the price of other grain in the market. Now, the price at which the exported grain could be sold in the foreign market, independently of a bounty, may either be equal, or less, or greater, compared with the price of other grain in that market. If equal, the bounty will enable the exporter to undersell the foreign dealer by the whole amount of that bounty. If less, he would be able, without a bounty, to undersell him by the whole difference of the prices; and the bounty will enable him to undersell by the sum of that difference and the bounty added together. If the price at which the exported grain could be sold in the foreign market, independently of a bounty, is greater than the price of other grain in that market, then, to enable the exporter to undersell the dealer in that other grain, the bounty must be more than sufficient to compensate the difference of the prices; and a bounty may no doubt be made large enough to do

more than compensate that difference. In all these cases, too, it is to be observed, the exporter will actually undersell the foreign dealer by very nearly the whole difference by which he can afford to undersell him. He would be willing enough to do it by as small a portion of that difference as possible, in order that the remainder might be added to his profits; but the force of competition, as upon all other occasions, will restrict his profits very nearly to the lowest rate at which he can afford to trade. They will not be brought quite down to this rate, however; the exporter will not be forced to undersell the foreign dealer by quite the whole difference by which he could afford to do it, in consequence of a competition that will act in the opposite direction; for, by the reduction of the real price to the foreign consumers, their effective demand will be enlarged, and this enlarged demand will prevent that reduction, which the bounty has a tendency to effect, from being wholly completed. The difference will be received by the exporter in an addition to the adjusted rate of his profits; and the extension of foreign demand being communicated to the home market, will raise at home both the price of corn and the profits of farming. By raising the profits of farming, it will operate as an encouragement to husbandry; by raising the price of corn to the consumers at home, it will diminish, for the time, their power of purchasing this necessary of life, and thus abridge their real wealth. It is evident, however, that this last effect must be temporary: the wages of the labouring consumers had been adjusted before by competition, and the same principle will adjust them again to the same rate, by raising the money-price of labour, and, through that, of other commodities, to the money-price of corn. The bounty upon exportation, there-

fore, will ultimately raise the money-price of corn in the home market; not directly however, but through the medium of an extended demand in the foreign market, and a consequent enhancement of the real price at home; and this rise of its money-price, when it has once been communicated to other commodities, will, of course, become fixed.

“The fixed advance of the money-price at home, will necessarily affect the price at which the exported corn can afterwards be sold in the foreign market. It will of course diminish that difference, whatever it is, by which the exporter can undersell the dealer in foreign grain. That difference, however, may still be large enough, with the assistance of the bounty, to allow the exporter still to undersell that dealer; and to occasion, in the same manner as before, a farther extension of demand. This will be followed as before by a series of effects, ultimately terminating in a farther advance of the money-price at home. And this series will be constantly renewed, until the advance of that money-price becomes so high as to cover the whole difference by which the exporter was before able to undersell other dealers abroad. By a new bounty, however, granted in addition to the former, a new range may be created for the repetition of another series of the same effects. But, whatever limits we suppose to the amount of the bounty, its complete and ultimate effect will always be found to be a corresponding rise of the money-price in the home market, both of corn, of labour, and of all commodities. In the interval that must each time elapse before wages are equalized with each successive rise in the price of corn, there will be a certain degree of new encouragement held out to husbandry, and some diminution in the wealth and comfortable subsistence of

the labouring consumers. That encouragement to husbandry will not be followed by any increase of the number of the people, because the additional production is excited by a foreign demand. And this diminution of the comforts of the labouring people, from being temporary, may become almost a permanent diminution, if the successive advances of the price of corn shall follow each other without interruption, and so keep always a-head of the successive advances in the wages of labour.

“If it should be felt expedient to remove such a bounty as this upon exportation, and to restore the commerce and production of grain to their natural order, such a repeal would be attended with some temporary inconveniences. The sudden destruction of that part of the foreign demand, which had been forced by the bounty, would throw an excess upon the home market, and would reduce the profits of farming for a time below their actual and just rate. The national consumers would for a time be more easily and plentifully supplied; until, by the abstraction of capital from tillage, the supply of corn was once more accommodated to the real demand, and the profits of the farmer raised again to their natural rate.”

Those who have followed this very elaborate analysis with attention, will be at no loss to discover the fallacy on which the whole reasoning turns.—“The price,” it is said, “at which the exported grain could be sold in the foreign market, independently of a bounty, may either be equal or less, or greater, compared with the price of the grain in that market. If equal, the bounty will enable the exporter to undersell the foreign dealer by the whole amount of that bounty. If less, he would be able, without a bounty, to undersell him by the whole difference of the prices; and the bounty

will enable him to undersell by the sum of that difference and the bounty added together. If the price at which the exported grain could be sold in the foreign market, independently of a bounty, is greater than the price of other grain in that market, then, to enable the exporter to undersell the dealer in that other grain, the bounty must be more than sufficient to compensate the difference of the price."—All this parade of distinctions, however, is unnecessary, since in practice we can have no other case to consider, except that which is last put by the writer. If the British exporter can, without a bounty, sell his corn for less in foreign markets than the foreign merchants can do, it were absurd of course to think of granting him a bounty; if he can even afford to sell at the same price, the aid of a bounty can scarcely be required. If a bounty in such a case were bestowed at all, it could never exceed the sum required to compensate to the British exporter the small reduction of price, which would be necessary to give him an advantage over the foreign merchant in his own market; an advantage evidently attainable by a very trifling sacrifice.—What would be the result of this measure? The British merchant would in the foreign markets receive *exactly the same price* for his corn which he obtains at home; since the bounty, by the hypothesis, would merely compensate to him the slight difference by which he might undersell foreigners. But how could this raise the prices in the home market, as the author has supposed? It will require a very ingenious argument to prove, that the British corn merchant, by receiving precisely *the same gains* in a foreign market, which he can obtain at home, will prefer the remote to the contiguous market, and thus narrow the supply of corn required for the con-

sumption of his own country.—On the supposition again, that the price at which the exported corn can be sold in the foreign market is *greater* than the price of other grain in that market, the bounty must be such as to compensate the difference of price betwixt the foreign and home markets—the expence of carriage—and the slight difference also by which it will be necessary for the British exporter to undersell the foreign merchant. Yet the British exporter could not, even in this case, put more in his pocket by exporting his corn, than by selling it at home; and he would of course carry abroad only that surplus, which could not be disposed of in his own country.—When the author says, that "the exporter will actually undersell the foreign dealer by very nearly the whole difference by which he can afford to undersell him," he assumes that the bounty is so preposterously large, as to give the British merchant a great latitude in this respect, and to communicate to the foreign a great advantage over the home market. The whole of his reasoning, therefore, applies to bounties, which are fixed without regard to the circumstances of the country; not to those which have been accurately calculated with reference to the state of the British and foreign markets, the details of which may at all times be well known to the legislature. Nor is it necessary to give the foreign this assumed *advantage* over the home market, with the view of encouraging the growth of a surplus of grain; for the *same* temptation—the *same* profits which induced the farmer to raise corn for the home market, will tempt him to raise the surplus required to answer a more extended demand.—The inferences deduced in the above passage as to the increase of prices in the home market—the rise in the wages of labour—and all the other imaginary evils so carefully

enumerated, proceed upon an assumption, therefore, which is wholly erroneous, and which implies in the legislature the most careless waste of the national resources, and great ignorance of the natural limits and real objects of a bounty on exported corn. What could tempt any statesman to propose a bounty, which should give foreigners so great an advantage, as the author's argument supposes, in the purchase of British corn, it is difficult to conjecture; yet, without bestowing on the foreign market this unnatural and unnecessary preference, it is impossible that its demand should ever interfere with the reasonable interests of the British consumer, or lead to the unhappy consequences which are anticipated by the reviewer.

Such then is the nature, and such the operation of a bounty on exported corn. The country which grants the encouragement suffers a loss purely commercial to the extent of the bounty; and this is the real amount of the inconvenience which it sustains. The other evils, which have been enumerated by different writers, are imaginary.—The loss, however, which is inevitably sustained by granting a bounty, may in some circumstances become a subject of the most serious consideration. National security and independence are objects of the first importance; but if the danger of scarcity be not imminent, and there exist other means by which it may be averted, the policy of granting a bounty on exported corn will become more than questionable, where the general circumstances of the country are unpropitious to the measure.—In the present state of this country and of Europe, it seems impracticable to re-establish the bounty; for it has been proved by the evidence before the committees of both houses of parliament, that Polish wheat may be brought to market at one half the price at which British wheat can be sold. To give a

bounty which might compensate this difference, and enable the British grower to undersell the foreign merchant, would involve this country, which already incurs so great an annual expenditure, in a waste of money which the most urgent necessity alone could justify. Till some important change take place in the relative situation of this country to the rest of Europe, or the danger of scarcity become more immediate and alarming, there can be no hope, therefore, of the re-establishment of the bounty.—There are other expedients, however, which have already been adopted with great advantage. We cannot, indeed, secure all the benefits of a bounty by means of these expedients; we have, therefore, but a choice of difficulties.—But as an opportunity may recur in which it will be politic to re-establish the system of bounties on exportation, it is of importance to vindicate that system from the numerous objections which it has become fashionable to array against it. As the regulations, besides, which are under the consideration of the legislature, have a reference to the great principles of the corn-trade, and as these principles cannot be better discussed, than in considering the question respecting the bounty, the foregoing enquiry must have prepared the way for the reflections which are now to be offered on the line of policy of late recommended to parliament.

Those who think that exportation cannot be encouraged, will admit, however, that it ought to be free.—But this is not enough; and in contending that more may and ought to be done, we advance to that controversy which has of late excited so strong a sensation throughout the country. The question is, whether entire freedom of *importation* shall be allowed; whether the agriculture of this country shall be exposed by foreign competition to great hazard, if not to utter destruction?—It is almost unnecessary to repeat, that the object

of restraints on importation is the same with that which the bounty aims more completely to attain—to ensure as far as may be possible the independence of the country on foreign supplies—to avoid the evils of scarcity, and thus, in some measure, to equalize the price of grain.

These objects can be accomplished only by keeping up the prices in the home market to a certain extent during years of plenty; by securing to the farmer an adequate return for his capital and labour; and thus affording a regular and steady encouragement to agriculture.—Those who, while contending for restrictions, deny that in ordinary years they will keep up prices, involve themselves in contradictions by which their enemies know well how to profit. Let it be confessed at once, therefore, that it is the object of the proposed regulations to encourage British agriculture, and that this encouragement can be given only by securing to the farmer profits which might be endangered by foreign competition.—Such are the objects of the proposed regulations; and there seem to be many reasons in support of such a system of policy.

But here we are met by the general argument—that if you allow foreign grain to be freely imported, you will always find as much as you require from foreign countries, at the lowest prices; that if you thus secure the cheapness of corn, the wages of manufacturing labour will be low; your manufactures will be able to preserve their superiority in foreign markets; and although you may import foreign grain in large quantities, you will export your manufactures in abundance to pay for it.—It may be answered, however, that although such reasoning be quite consistent with the general principles of political economy, the question, how far it is expedient at present to act upon such views, depends on the actual circumstances of

the country, and the peculiar nature of the trade in corn. If no wars had existed for the last twenty years; if no new taxes had been imposed; if commercial intercourse with the continent had been uninterrupted; if the prices of grain, and of other commodities in this country, were on a level with those of the rest of Europe, it might be difficult, although not impossible, to find a good reason for imposing restraints on the importation of foreign grain, since the expence and difficulty of transporting so bulky an article would probably afford sufficient protection to our farmers. But now that we are in a state so very different in all respects from that which has just been described—a state perfectly artificial with regard to prices, we shall do well to pause before recommending an immediate freedom of importation. The events of the late war,—the operation of the Berlin and Milan decrees, and of our orders in council, put such restrictions on the importation of corn during the last five years, as were nearly equivalent to an act of parliament imposing very high duties, and gave the British farmer the benefit of nearly the whole demand of the British market. The consequences have been—high prices in the first instance—an increased supply, and ultimately a fall in the price of corn, proceeding from the great encouragement given to its production. A large additional capital has been invested in agriculture, and more agricultural industry has been employed under the stimulus of this accidental protection.

The result of this singular combination of circumstances has been—that in the years 1811 and 1812, a surplus of corn was exported to the value of nearly 300,000*l.* each year; and there is reason to believe that the surplus was not of less value during the following year, although the destruction of the documents to prove it, by the fire at the Custom-house, renders it

impossible to ascertain the precise amount. The domestic supply of corn, therefore, is quite abundant, and the agriculture of the kingdom has been brought almost to a state of perfection. Nor is the price too high, when considered with reference to the general circumstances of the country.—“Under all these circumstances it has been asked, Is it expedient suddenly to allow a free importation of corn? Will such a proceeding ensure to the country the continuance of that prosperous state of agriculture which to this moment has existed, and that extent of supply and moderation of price which we now enjoy? Or will it not throw every thing back, and directly lead, first, to a diminished supply of corn?—secondly, to a high price?—and, lastly, to scarcity and famine?”—“The state of the agriculture of the country at present has been compared to that of the silk manufactures; and it has been asked, whether, “if the duty on the French manufacture of this article were repealed, the manufacture at home would not be ruined? So in respect of corn; if, after agriculture has been brought to its present state of perfection by the restrictions which have been accidentally imposed on importation, now that these restrictions are removed by the peace, no law should pass, in some degree to supply their place, foreign corn would be imported, and a sudden stop put to cultivation?”*

In illustration of this opinion it has been observed, that the Poles can afford to bring their corn to Danzig at 82s. a quarter; that the quality of their wheat is excellent; that if the importation were left free, vast quantities of it would immediately be imported, and the price of grain would be lowered so much as to deprive the British farmer of all profit on his stock, and to compel him to reduce the num-

ber of his farm servants and labourers. The immediate effects, therefore, of a free importation would be—ruin to the British farmer—the diversion of the capital employed in agriculture to other channels—the diminution of agricultural produce, and the same deficient supply which this country so lately experienced. If foreign corn can be brought to market at less than one half the price at which British corn can be produced, the agriculture of the country must not only languish, but perish entirely. If the Poles can send their wheat into the British market at less than 40s. a quarter, while the English farmer, to pay his expenses and afford him a reasonable profit, must charge 80s. it is evident that our own farmers must be ruined by a system of free importation.

Some of the advocates for restrictions on importation have no doubt endeavoured to prove too much, and have seriously injured the cause which they are so anxious to sustain. They have asserted, that even if a sufficient supply of corn could be obtained from abroad, the price would not be so low, upon the whole, as if we were to subsist entirely on corn of our own growth.—“Although, if to the stock we have now on hand, (it has been said,) of our own growth, a quantity of foreign growth were added, the market price would be lower than it now is; and if to the quantity of corn which we shall derive from the next harvest, a quantity of foreign corn were added, the price of corn for the next year would be lower than it otherwise would be; yet if in the next sowing season much less grain should be sown than was sown last year, and the crop in consequence should fall much short of that quantity which is sufficient for our own consumption, then the market price would be governed by a different principle

* Vide Sir H. Pannell's speech on the Corn Laws.

from that which governed it till that time; it would be regulated, not by the cheapness of corn abroad, but by the dearness of it at home, which would be the inevitable effect of a short supply."—But this argument supposes that foreigners who are accustomed to grow corn for the British market, will be guided by different principles from those which influence our own farmers.—The same author remarks, "that the motives which must govern the conduct of the importing merchants are—that they may bring corn to the country with the utmost possible profit; that to do this they leave the deficiency of our own supply to run up prices very high before they will come into the market; that the established traders will take care so to manage as not to let the price, however, get so very high as to encourage new speculators to come into competition with them; but having got the prices as high as they can, without incurring such a hazard of competition, then they will begin to feed the market with foreign corn, but only in such quantities as shall keep down competition against themselves, but not to an extent which would have any great effect in lowering the price of corn." Nothing can be more unsatisfactory than this reasoning. The foreign merchant, who is supposed to provide in part for the wants of our market, will act upon the same principles with the farmers at home, and will bring his corn into the British market as soon as he can do it with advantage. To talk of his waiting till the prices have attained the utmost limit, is to suppose that he is regulated by different principles from those which guide other farmers and merchants in similar circumstances. It is quite unreasonable, therefore, to contend that any restrictions upon importation will *keep down* the price of corn in the British market. The encouragement of agri-

culture is in fact the object of all such regulations; but agriculture can never be encouraged except by raising the price of grain to a higher rate than it would have attained without legislative interference.

It is an error also to suppose, as some writers have done, that "after a great deal of capital has been withdrawn from agriculture, and our average production shall be less than it now is, that is, less than our average consumption, if we should have a bad harvest; and if, at the same time, the harvest abroad should also be a bad one, then we should be in this critical state—that, just in proportion as we stood in need of a greater supply of foreign corn than usual, foreign countries would be the less able to let us have it, and that we should then not only feel the effects of a system of free importation by very high prices, but also by the pressure of scarcity and famine."—Surely the respectable persons who maintain such opinions, display an indiscreet anxiety to magnify the evils of a free importation. If this country were to become regularly dependent on foreign nations for a supply of corn, that supply would be regularly produced to meet the wants of the British market; and although it might be *equally*, it could not be *more* exposed than the produce of our domestic agriculture, to the varying influence of the seasons. There might be a failure in foreign crops as well as in the crops of this country; but this is an evil to which, under any circumstances, we must remain exposed.

As a limitation on Dr Smith's argument—"that the expence of transporting corn must be sufficient to give our own farmers a decided protection," it has been well remarked, that "when Dr Smith wrote his work it might have been sufficient, because the price of corn and other commodities of this country, was on a level with that of

the rest of Europe. But to say that it is now sufficient, is to betray a want of due consideration for the peculiar circumstances which belong to this period; and which ought to direct us in our application of the general principles of political economy. Every one who has at all attended to the system of prices which has been established for many years, and to the price of foreign corn, must allow, that the expence of bringing corn now from Dantzic to Leith, Hull, or London, affords no sort of protection to our farmers”*

The general arguments of the author of the *Wealth of Nations*, and other enlightened political economists in favour of a free trade, have been often resorted to in discussing the question of free importation, as well as that of the bounty. That, as general principles, the doctrines of these eminent men are perfectly just is admitted; but in applying them to particular cases, it is necessary to consider the *object* with a view to which such maxims have been established, and to reflect whether that object be the only one which an enlightened legislature ought to contemplate, when regulating the trade in corn.—That entire freedom of trade is favourable to *national wealth* admits of little doubt; and it is indisputable that the maxims of Dr Smith have been established with reference to *this object alone*. But if in legislating on the corn trade, different views ought to influence parliament, then the general maxims will not apply to this particular case, since it were absurd to adhere to the *mere terms* of any general proposition, without considering the whole views of its authors.

Upon this subject Sir Henry Parnell has made some very sound observations.—“But the greatest stress is

placed by the advocates of a free trade,” says he, “upon that general principle of Dr Smith’s, which lays down the expediency of a perfect freedom in all trades whatsoever.

“It is well worthy of observation, that, though Dr Smith has repeatedly urged the policy of a free corn trade, he has not supported his doctrine by applying this principle to it. It is, therefore, fair to infer, that he did not think it could be applied; and it is also fair to make this farther inference, that those who now bring it forward, as applicable to the present question, have not well considered it.

“A noble lord, who argued upon this maxim, asked why the principle of buying where we could buy the cheapest was to be considered as a fallacious principle? and urged the policy of buying corn from foreigners, rather than of attempting to grow it at home, because they are able to grow it cheaper than we can grow it. But this question proved he had taken a superficial view of Dr Smith’s argument, and of the peculiar nature of the corn trade.

“When Dr Smith recommends a free trade, he has in view, not merely to point out how we can buy what wheat we want at the cheapest rate, but the most direct way of adding to the stock of industry, annual produce, and general wealth of the country. His whole object is to shew what course of policy will most contribute to the riches of the community:

“Before, then, the principle of a free trade can be urged, as that principle which ought to govern us, when legislating on the corn trade, it ought to be made appear to be a trade, concerning which no other consideration should have weight, besides the limited consideration of what plan of dealing with it will, in the end, give us

* Vide Sir H. Parcell’s Speech on the Corn Laws.

the greatest amount of national wealth. But this has not been done; and, therefore, if any other great objects of public interest are involved in the question, those who urge the policy of a free corn trade, do so subject to the charge of inadvertence, and of neglecting to attend to matters of still greater moment, than the mere wealth of the state.

“ But even if it should be correct, to argue the point as one in which wealth alone should be considered, will the effect of an immediate free importation produce in its operation an addition to our industry, our annual produce, and our total amount of general wealth ?

“ It is clear its first effect will be that of ruin to our farmers; its next consequence will be that of taking away, to a great amount, from the demand for agricultural industry; and its farther operation, to diminish agricultural capital. It will take something considerable away from the revenues of the labourers, the farmers, and the landlords, and thus produce a decrease of that portion of the national wealth, which depends on our general agricultural prosperity.

“ In the meantime, while this course of loss and ruin is running, will the prosperity of our manufactures be advancing? Whatever may be said of the great importance of foreign demand, the demand for our own consumption is by far the greatest, and infinitely more to be relied upon, as the best support of them. But this demand being, for the most part, for the supply of those who are employed in agriculture, it will in a great measure cease to exist, if the system of a free importation of corn is now adopted.

“ Under, then, the peculiar circumstances of the artificial state of the

prices of corn and other commodities, which have been established in this country, and which have been wholly overlooked by those who say we ought now to establish a free trade, such a policy would not be attended with any increase of our wealth, but must be followed by a great diminution of both our agricultural and manufacturing industry and capital. It is, therefore, not a policy at this time applicable to the present circumstances of the country, or at all calculated to advance the public interest, though certainly, a policy which ought not to be lost sight of, whenever that period shall arrive, when the price of corn, in this country, shall be on a level with the price of it in the rest of Europe.”

The proposed restrictions on the importation of corn are not intended to *enhance* prices, but to provide against the rapid decay of agriculture. They will not, therefore, throw capital, as some persons have supposed, out of its natural course, and thus violate all sound principles. They will, in fact, scarcely counterbalance the various regulations, as to other commodities of British manufacture, which have so long formed a branch of our national policy. The wisdom of such regulations is not the subject of enquiry at present; they have been long established, and there is no proposal to remove them.—The price besides of 80s. per quarter of British wheat, which has been proposed as the regulating price for importation, is not higher, making an allowance for the difference in the value of money and for the depreciation of our currency, than the actual price of wheat twenty years ago.

It has been well observed, that “ those who argue against this supposed attempt to take capital out of manufactures, that it may be employ-

* Sir H. Parnell's Observations on the Corn Laws, p. 26.

ed in agriculture, should recollect what the legislative system of this country has been in respect to manufacturing capital. Is the capital of the country now vested in its natural occupation? Has our system of legislation been so completely free from all meddling with and forcing of capital, that the whole amount of it is now divided in those just proportions, between manufactures and agriculture, as it would have been, if no legislative interference had ever existed? The contrary is the fact. The system of legislation has at all times been actively operative in taking capital from agriculture. The navigation act; the colonial monopoly; the multitude of laws for prohibiting the importation of foreign manufactures, and thus establishing a monopoly in favour of our own, at the expence and loss of the agricultural consumers; the law prohibiting the exportation of wool; the tythe system; the effect of the public loans on agricultural credit; have each and all of them contributed, in a great degree, to diminish agricultural capital. If, therefore, the proposed regulation did in reality give a bounty on the return of capital from manufactures to agriculture, it would be a measure in no ways at variance with sound political principles."

To those who contend that a free importation of corn will encourage the export of our manufactures, the following triumphant answer has been made.*—"The advocates of a free importation of corn have said, the proposed plan of restriction is a mere project; that the true system for the country to act upon, is to import foreign corn in great abundance, and thus secure a proportionally abundant export of manufactures. But this project, as it is called, is the offspring of what has been the established practice of

the legislature for 144 years, and forms a part of a system, to which the term is not perhaps quite so applicable, as it is to the other system of abundant importation, which, it is proposed, for the first time, to substitute in its place. But is it correct to say, in order to have our manufactures very flourishing, we must have a great importation of corn? On the contrary, is it not plain, that, as to the immediate benefit to manufacturers, it is the same thing whether the demand for them is established by importation from Poland, or by buying corn in the British and Irish markets? If the corn that is wanted for our food is bought in an English market town, or in Ireland, it enables the farmer who sold it to buy a greater quantity of manufactures than he could have done, if the same corn was bought in a foreign country. That this is true, is proved by the custom-house returns, which shew that Ireland has imported British manufactures in a quantity progressively increasing, in the proportion in which she has exported greater quantities of corn for the supply of the British market. The difference between the two systems is, that in the one instance we form and depend upon a foreign market for the sale of our manufactures, and in the other, we secure a home market, besides affording all the benefits of our own demand for corn, to our own farmers. The system of importing corn is, in fact, a system which places us at the mercy of foreigners, both for a market for our manufactures and for a supply of food; while the opposite system goes to establish a home market for our manufactures, and a home supply for those who are concerned in making them."

There is one qualification of these opinions, however, which seems to

* Sir H. Parnell's Observations, p. 31.

have escaped the author, but which will of course be strenuously urged by his opponents.—We can buy corn cheaper abroad than at home; the manufacturer will therefore be able to obtain, by a free importation, a *greater* quantity of corn for his goods, than he can expect under a system of restrictions.—This inconvenience, however, will be but temporary; the encouragement of agriculture will ultimately produce an abundant supply and low prices; and the question is—whether, to avoid a temporary inconvenience, we are to sacrifice the security of our manufactures as well as the stability of our agriculture?

The warm opposition which has been made to the proposed restraints on the importation of corn, has arisen in some measure from a notion almost universally prevalent, that this country is unable to support itself independently of foreign aid. But that this notion is wholly erroneous, the researches of the committee of the House of Commons have fully proved;—for not only has it been shown that the exports of grain in 1811 and 1812 considerably exceeded the imports, but, by a careful enquiry into the state of Ireland, it has been proved, that the capacity of the sister kingdom is so great, as under a proper system and with due encouragement, to insure at all times a supply to answer the demands of the empire. The committee examined respectable and intelligent witnesses, who concurred in stating their deliberate opinion, that, under a proper system of corn laws, not only might the agriculture of Great Britain be prodigiously extended, but that of Ireland might, without a figure of speech, be yet created.—These facts are of great importance to the right understanding of this question; and a knowledge of them ought to dispel the groundless alarm which seeks for relief in foreign and perhaps hostile

countries, while an island, nearly and intimately connected with us, might afford, under proper management, not only a prospect but a certainty of complete independence.

It is the opinion of many well-informed men that, even without the bounty, but with a regulated importation, and a perfect freedom of exportation, a surplus will always be produced. It is their principle, that, when the whole demand of the home market is secured for the British farmer, the supply will always be more than adequate to meet the demand, as in every other branch of commerce; and the surplus will of course be exported. In proof of this, it has been remarked, that, in the month of May last, (1814) the average price of wheat in the twelve maritime districts of England and Wales, was about 68s. per quarter, which no one will consider as immoderate; that this price was *not* the result of *importations from abroad*, but was produced entirely by the abundance of our domestic supply; and there is no reason to believe, therefore, that the proposed regulations would at all enhance the price. If the whole demand of the home market were in future years secured for the British farmer by positive regulation, as it lately was in practice by the circumstances of Europe, an increase in the production of corn would naturally ensue, and this increase, arising from the improvements which might be expected in agriculture, would proceed till the price of British wheat was at last brought to a level with the price in other countries.

Those who imagine that the proposed regulations will keep up the price of wheat at 80s. a quarter, the *minimum* to be fixed for importation, commit a great error; and it is a fortunate circumstance that their mistake may easily be corrected by a reference to facts which are too well

established to admit of any dispute. The system of the Corn Laws is not new to this country,—it is not matter of experiment. From the reign of Charles the Second down to the year 1765, that policy, the proposed revival of which in part, now excites so much alarm, was invariably pursued by Great Britain. The act of 22d Charles II. chap. 13, which imposed a duty on the importation of corn amounting almost to a prohibition, was the law of the land down to the year 1765. The price fixed by this act, for regulating importation, was one-third higher than the average price of wheat for the preceding twenty years. It was 53s.; making, together with a duty of 8s. which was payable even after the price amounted to 53s., the actual regulating price 61s. The price which would now be equivalent to 61s. is 105s.—a sum greater than the average price of wheat for the last twenty years by one-third.—The law of Charles II. also established the entire freedom of exportation; and the act of King William gave a bounty of 5s. a quarter, when the price of wheat was lower than 48s.—These various expedients ought, according to the arguments which have recently been urged, to have raised the price of wheat to 61s., and to have prevented it from falling at any time below that sum; but what was the result in point of fact? The price of wheat fell considerably; the average price for sixty-eight years down to 1765, having, according to the tables of Eton prices, been 33s. 3d. the statute quarter.—It is a memorable and important fact also, that from 1696 down to 1765, when the ancient laws were in effect repealed, there was on an average of

every five years a very considerable excess of exports. It thus appears that the laws of Charles the Second, and of King William, had the practical effect of raising our agriculture to a very high state of improvement; of increasing the exportation of corn; and at the same time of lowering the prices in a very considerable degree.*—In 1765 and each of the seven following years, temporary laws were made, prohibiting the exportation of corn, and allowing importation duty free; and in 1773, the act of 13 George III. chap. 43, was passed, which prohibited exportation, when the price of wheat should exceed 44s. the quarter, and allowed importation when it should reach 48s.—The former system of Corn Laws was thus entirely overthrown.

What were the consequences of this great and radical change? The average price of wheat, for 68 years prior to 1765, of 33s. 3d., the quarter advanced to 44s. 7d. for 30 years, ending in 1795; to 68s. 5d. for 12 years, ending in 1804; and to 88s. 11d. for 10 years, ending in 1814. During this period also, England became an importing country; and for the 5 years ending in 1794, she imported upwards of one million of quarters. †—Let it be recollected that for 7 years succeeding 1764, exportation was altogether prohibited, while, by the act, 13th Geo. III., it was allowed only when wheat was under 44s. the quarter, and there will be no difficulty in accounting for the great change which took place in the corn trade.

The occurrences of the last 8 years have also been referred to as confirming these opinions. In 1806 and 1807, the Berlin and Milan decrees were issued by the French government; and,

* Vide Sir H. Parnell's Observations on the Corn Laws, p. 45, *et seq.* where this branch of the subject is very fully treated.

† Report of the Committee of the House of Commons, and Observations by Sir H. Parnell.

in the latter year our own Orders in Council began to operate. From 1808 down to the beginning of 1814, the Berlin Decrees, the Orders in Council, and the influence of Buonaparte on the continent, imposed very severe restraints on the importation of foreign goods into this country. Although the average price of wheat from 1807 to 1812 inclusive, was very high, and in the latter year amounted even to 125s. a quarter, foreign grain was not imported to meet the demand of the British market. The consequences of this state of things were—great profit to the farmer,—an increased supply of corn,—and an abundance which has established our independence of foreign aid, and ultimately produced the present low prices. The restrictions, therefore, which are now proposed, have in effect been operating for the last 5 years, and nothing is now demanded, excepting that the protection which circumstances have of late afforded to the British farmer, should not be immediately withdrawn, and the agriculture of the country exposed to ruin.

Lord Lauderdale, in a pamphlet which he lately published upon this subject, has thrown additional light on the operation of the law of Charles II., and of the measures subsequently adopted. As some persons have doubted whether that law afforded an effective monopoly of the home market to the British grower, his lordship has shewn, that the average price of wheat per quarter in the British market for the twenty years ending 1686, was 2l. 6s. 3d.; that the price at which it could be imported by law, was 53s. 4d., to which a duty of 8s. being added, the whole price at which foreign grain could be introduced to our markets, was 3l. 1s. 4d. As this sum considerably exceeded the average price in the home market, the regulations, excepting in years of extreme

scarcity, must have afforded a complete monopoly to the British farmer.—His lordship also proves, by comparing the value of the money of that day with the value of our present currency, that the price fixed by the law of Charles II., at which corn could be imported, would, including the duty, amount, in the money of our times, to 8l. 4s. a quarter.—With reference to the act of the 1st of William and Mary, which granted a bounty upon exportation, while the price of wheat was less than 48s. the quarter, he proves that when the bounty of 5s. was added to this price, the amount must have been considerably above the ordinary selling price of that day; and justly infers, that the bounty must have proved a very effectual encouragement, excepting in years of extreme scarcity. He shews also, by converting the money as before, according to the proportions established by Sir George Schuckburgh, that 48s. of the money of that period corresponded to 6l. of our present money; and that a bounty was thus, by the 1st of William and Mary, allowed upon exported corn, till the price became very high.

By the subsequent regulations, particularly by the statute 13th George III., the British farmer was not secured in the monopoly of the home market. By the above statute importation was allowed on paying a small duty when the price of corn amounted to 48s. a quarter; but the actual price, on an average of five years, immediately before the passing of the act, equalled the regulating price and the duty combined; so that the act, in reality, bestowed an unlimited freedom of importation. Yet this was only the *nominal* price in the depreciated money of 1773; but when the real value of this sum of 48s. in the money of the year 1675 is ascertained, it will be found not to have exceeded 1l. 6s. 3d.;

so that when the price of wheat in 1773, was 11. 6s. 3d. in the money of the preceding century, the ports were thrown open to foreigners.—By a similar conversion, it is proved that the bounty granted by the 13th of George III., ceased when the price of wheat rose to 11. 5s. 8d. in the money of 1688; and that by the regulations of 1804, a still greater discouragement was given to the exertions of the farmer; the price of 63s. in the money of 1804, at which importation was allowed on paying the low duties, being worth no more in the money of 1675 than 11. 3s. 6d.—Such, therefore, was the complete revolution which had been accomplished in the corn laws of Great Britain.*

Although Dr Smith, in his analysis of the corn laws, reprobates the policy which led to their enactment, yet there are some passages in his works which may be fairly quoted in support of it. He admits, for example, that if a particular product of domestic industry is essential to the defence of the country, protecting duties ought to be imposed for its encouragement; and he illustrates his views by the navigation act, which he describes as the wisest law in the statute book, although he proves it to be detrimental to the general wealth of the country.—It is true, indeed, that England has never been altogether at the mercy of her enemies for a supply of corn, yet she has sometimes been in a state which might have been considered as extremely critical and alarming.—In 1810, she imported large quantities of corn and flour even from France. It has been justly remarked, that “if † another confederacy of the northern powers should ever be formed to resist our claims to maritime

rights, and if America should become a party, as she most probably would do, they would only have to follow our own example in regard to Norway, if we should be pressed by scarcity, to secure the means of humbling and disgracing us.”

Dr Smith also admits, that, in cases in which we have taxed an article of our own production, it is but fair that a tax should be imposed, to an equal amount, on the importation of the same article from abroad; and in what degree soever agriculture may have been taxed in this country, his principles demand that a similar duty should of course be imposed on the importation of foreign grain. He admits also, that when any commodity of our own growth or manufacture has been encouraged for some time by high duties and protections, to restore a free importation of the same article suddenly, must be attended with fatal consequences. ‡ “Humanity,” says he, “in this case requires that the freedom of trade should be restored only by slow gradations, and with caution and circumspection. Were these high duties and protections taken away all at once, cheaper foreign goods, of the same kind, might be poured so fast into the home market, as to deprive, all at once, many thousands of our people of their ordinary employment and means of subsistence.”—Now, although no high duties and protections have of late existed by law in favour of the British farmer, restrictions on the importation of corn of the same efficacy have been established, during the last five years, by those measures which distinguished the close of the war. To allow at once a free importation, therefore, would be to restore the freedom of trade in that sudden

* Vide Letter on the Corn Laws by the Earl of Lauderdale, p. 32, *et seq.*

† Sir H. Parnell's Observations, p. 54.

‡ Wealth of Nations, vol. ii. p. 202.

manner, which, Dr Smith says, must be attended with extensive calamity.

But supposing the general question to be settled in favour of restrictions, an enquiry of some importance and delicacy remains—What are the principles by which the regulating price ought to be fixed, and what is the *minimum* which, in the present state of the country, it would be expedient to establish? On this subject many judicious reflections have been made by the worthy baronet, to whose tract frequent reference has already been made.

“ * The committee of last year,” says Sir H. Parnell, “ did not overlook this point. Having traced the operation of the law of Charles II., and that of the laws of 1773, 1791, and 1804, they recommended to the House of Commons to adopt the principles of the law of Charles II., in taking a new price of regulation; and they proposed 105s. as equivalent to 61s. in his reign; that is, a price one-third higher than the average price of the twenty preceding years, on the principle that 61s. was one-third higher than the average of the preceding twenty years to 1670, the date of the law of Charles II. It was not at all necessary, therefore, for them to make any enquiry into the price that would exactly afford a reasonable profit to the farmer, or secure a fair rent. They did not consider the question in the confined view of upholding profits and rents, but with the sole object of securing an independent supply at a moderate price; and, finding that the country had enjoyed both under the law of Charles II., they felt themselves safe in advising a recurrence to the successful practice of nearly a whole century.

“ But if they had not thus acted on principle and experience, and had un-

dertaken to recommend a price that would be sufficient to remunerate the grower, without being too high in respect to the consumer, they would not have taken the course that these gentlemen propose, of examining farmers and corn-factors about it; because such an attempt would only produce some sort of explanation of what the price should be to pay the recently contracted high rate of rent; for each witness would, of course, have formed his opinion on the rents and prices which were of late years current. Such an enquiry could not have led to the ascertaining of what the fair price ought to be, and it would most justly have exposed the committee to the charge of wishing to sustain high prices and high rents.

“ Besides, it is quite absurd to suppose, that any thing like a concurrence of opinion could have prevailed between any two witnesses who might have been examined.

“ There is such an endless number of circumstances belonging to the variety of considerations of soil, climate, means of transport, system of leasing, moral and agricultural habits, extent of capital, &c. &c. that bear on the question of the fitness of any given price as a standard for regulating the trade of the united kingdom, that a committee might become exceedingly puzzled by the evidence that would be given to them; but could not, by any chance, have advanced one step nearer the end of judging correctly on the question, after a laborious investigation, than they would have been at the commencement of it, if they were only acquainted with what the average price of corn had been for a certain long period of years immediately preceding.

“ As it is this general average of price that regulates and governs the

* Sir H. Parnell's Observations on the Corn Laws, p. 59.

profits of farming and the rents of land, no safe conclusion can be made upon what price will be a fit and proper price for protecting the farmer, except it is founded wholly upon this average. If taken for a period of twenty years, it will probably be the most correct *datum* of calculation that can be taken; and for this reason it is, that the price of 80s., which is about the average price of the quarter for the last twenty years, is so universally allowed to be that price which ought to be now adopted.

"In regard to the price of foreign corn, all that is necessary to be known is, that it is generally much lower than the price of our own corn; and if we provide that it shall not interfere till our own reaches a given price, which may and ought to be settled, without any consideration of what the exact price is of foreign corn, we shall do all that is fit to be done."

"* To the argument that some persons have urged, that we ought to wait till the state of the currency is improved, before we alter the corn laws, it is to be answered, in the first place, that there is as yet no appearance of any effort being made to restore it to its proper value; and, therefore, there can be no certainty of this period ever arriving; and, in the next place, it may be denied, that the probability of an amended currency is a circumstance in any way applicable to justify delay, if the future supply of corn is thereby put to hazard. If the theory of a depreciation, by an over issue of paper, is a sound one, as it certainly is, then the foreign exchange will alter in our favour as fast as our currency recovers its value. But this alteration in the exchange will be in favour of the importer of foreign corn, so far as an unfavourable exchange adds to the selling price of

it. This advantage, however, will be counteracted by a proportionate fall in the price of our own corn, and a higher duty. Till, then, the exchange shall come to par, or turn in our favour, the improvement of the currency would in no degree alter the efficacy of any regulating price now fixed for importation. As no one can expect that such an event as a complete system of cash payments by the bank, similar to that which existed prior to 1797, can be brought about in a very short space of time; whenever it does occur, it will then, and not till then, be a fit occasion to consider what is right to be done on this question of regulating the importation of corn, so far as the value of the currency bears upon it."

Much popular clamour has been raised, and many very weak arguments have been urged by the enemies of the proposed corn laws.—The following strictures on that part of the reasonings of the committee, which imputes the low price of corn during the first half of the last century to the act of Charles II., may afford a specimen of the knowledge and talents of those by whom the system of the corn laws is most strenuously opposed †

"Referring to the table in the report, which is herein inserted, marked A." says one author, "it will appear that up to the year 1765, the exports of corn, upon an average, exceeded the imports: whatever cause, therefore, operated to lower the price of corn from 1696 to 1765, which gradually fell to an average of 33s. 3d. per quarter of wheat, it could not be the law of the 22 Car. cap. 13, quoted by the committee as restricting importation; for, by the very table in their own report, there was not, upon an average of five years, any importation during the time the act existed; and, moreover, when any partial scar-

* Sir H. Parnell's Observations on the Corn Laws, p. 68.

† Observations on the Corn Laws, by Thomas Strickland, A. M. p. 5.

city did occur, from the years 1696 to 1765, the act was invariably suspended by proclamation, long before the price rose to 80s. per quarter, and its restricting power carried into effect; in fact, the restricting clause was always a dead letter. It appears, from Smith's Corn Tracts, page 133, that the average price of wheat, per quarter, was,—

From 1646 to 1686	L. 2	0	11
From 1686 to 1765.....	1	13	2
<hr/>			
Being a decline in England of 0	7	9"	

This is a singular piece of reasoning indeed; the author has evidently misunderstood the argument which he endeavours to refute. The committee assert, that the law of Charles II. which prohibited importation, gave an encouragement to the agriculture of the country, and by increasing the domestic supply, ultimately reduced the price of British corn. And how does this author prove their reasoning to be incorrect? By saying that this very law, which they commend, had a *complete and effectual operation*, no imports on an average having taken place while it was in observance: the very circumstance from which the committee had inferred its efficacy. If importations had taken place, the efficacy of the law might have been more than doubtful, and this author might have been justified in ascribing to some other cause the fall in the price of corn.

The same person further remarks, "It appears that, upon an average of five years, Great Britain has, from the year 1765 to this moment, regularly required the aid of importation to supply the subsistence necessary for its population; if, therefore, it did

not grow corn sufficient for its own inhabitants, what influence upon prices could any law respecting exportation possess, when exportation was absolutely impossible? or by what principle of commerce can the reasoning of the committee be directed, when they recommend, as a method of keeping prices moderate and steady, a prohibition of importing into any market an article, the supply of which is confessedly not adequate to the demand? It will only be necessary now to account for the different advances in the prices of wheat from the year 1765 to 1813, to complete the refutation of the positions maintained by the committee. From the documents adduced in their report, it appears, that from the year 1765 to 1794, the average price of a quarter of wheat rose from 33s. 3d. to 44s. 7d.; and to account for this advance, it must be recollected, that as long as a nation continues uniformly to export an article, the general price of the market of Europe, to which the same is exported, must exceed the home price by all the expences of transit. The average price of a quarter of wheat previous to the year 1765 was 33s. 3d.; the expence of carrying it to market could not fall far short of 8s. per quarter; this would make the market price of Europe 41s. 3d.; but as our merchant exporter here was allowed 5s. per quarter bounty, this 5s. per quarter must be deducted, and would leave the price of the market of Europe about 36s. 3d.

"Subsequent to the year 1765, Great Britain was an importing nation generally, and therefore had not only to pay the market price of Europe of 36s. 3d. per quarter, as before estimated, but also 8s. per quarter expences of transit, which makes the price 44s. 3d. per quarter; and this approaches so near to 44s. 7d. per

* Observations on the Corn Laws, by Thomas Strickland, A. M. p. 8.

quarter, as not to render it necessary to recur to the alteration of the law respecting importation and exportation for the cause of the advance. From the year 1792 (at which period only our Corn Laws first assumed a regular and effective shape) up to the present time, we have been continually engaged in a war the most unexampled in history, for a general derangement of the commercial system; we have also, during that interval, experienced some years of tremendous scarcity, and have, moreover, been in continual want of an average importation of more than 500,000 quarters.

“From this steady demand for importation, the market price of wheat never fell below the limiting price of 52s. 6d. per quarter, from the year 1792 to 1804, and when in this last-mentioned year the limiting price was raised from 52s. 6d. to 65s. 6d. per quarter, the same cause produced the same result; and should the recommendation of the committee be adopted, and the limiting price be raised to 105s., that price would be the standard point to which the home market might vibrate, but below which it would never pass, except the impolicy of the measure should so much impede the prosperity of our manufactures, as to starve our population down to the number that could find an adequate subsistence from the internal produce of the country.”

That this reasoning is extremely weak and erroneous it will be easy to prove. In the first place, the author has committed a mistake in point of fact, in assuming that this country does not at the present moment produce corn sufficient to supply the wants of its inhabitants,—an assumption disproved by the report of the committee, in which the fact is established, that in the years 1811 and 1812 the balance of exported corn was considerable. The absurdity, there-

fore, of prohibiting the importation of an article, of which our domestic production is inadequate to meet the demands of the market, exists in the imagination of this author alone, for we have at this moment a sufficient supply of British corn; and the object of the proposed legislative measure is to preserve this supply unimpaired, and to increase its amount in future years.—When he attempts to account for the rise in the price of wheat from the year 1765 downwards, he gets into confusion; for, after admitting that Great Britain was no longer, as formerly, an exporting country during that period, he triumphantly announces that the price of corn in the British market must, in such circumstances, have been regulated by the average price abroad, together with the expense attending the importation. This may be very true; but the real question, which this author has ingeniously evaded, is, how did England become an importing country? how was she reduced to a dependence on the vicissitudes of foreign markets? The proposition of the committee, which Mr Strickland attempts to combat, is this—That the revolution in the corn laws was followed with the serious consequences which have just been mentioned. Now what is Mr Strickland's answer? He merely states the fact, that, after having become importers, our prices must have been regulated by the prices in foreign markets; and this is what he calls a refutation of the doctrines of the committee. He asserts, that so long as Great Britain is an importing country, and her produce is insufficient to supply the demands of her market, the price of corn must rise to the *minimum* at which by law it can be imported; and, although the general proposition may be correct, the practical inference, which he deduces from it, is altogether erroneous. He forgets the argument

upon which all the conclusions of the committee are founded,—an argument which is probable from theory, and confirmed by experience,—that additional encouragement will be followed by an additional production of corn; and that by steadily refusing to import, we shall soon become independent. If this principle be ill founded, then, and only then, are Mr Strickland's views entitled to regard. But the opinions of a person, who, by involving himself in the mysteries of calculation, without any thing like principle to guide him, can announce to his fellow citizens, that the effect of the proposed corn laws will be to tax them to the amount of about sixty millions annually, to gratify the avarice of the landholders,—how mischievous soever they may be in their effects upon uninstructed minds, can deserve no regard from those who understand any thing of this important subject.*

An author of a different class, whose opinions are entitled to great respect, hesitates about the policy of the proposed measure, but assigns rational and enlightened grounds for his sentiments. Before proceeding, however, to notice his doubts, we cannot refuse ourselves the satisfaction of laying before the reader the following excellent remarks, to prove that Great Britain, in her present circumstances, will not naturally, *and without the aid of special encouragements*, grow an independent supply of corn.

“† Of this first point it may be observed, that it cannot, in the nature of things, be determined by general principle, but must depend upon the size, soil, facilities of culture, and demand for corn, in the country in question. We know that it answers to almost all small, well-peopled states, to import their corn; and there is every rea-

son to suppose, that even a large landed nation, abounding in a manufacturing population, and having cultivated all its good soil, might find it cheaper to purchase a considerable part of its corn in other countries, where the supply, compared with the demand, was more abundant. If the intercourse between the different parts of Europe were perfectly easy, and perfectly free, it would be by no means natural that one country should be employing a great capital in the cultivation of poor lands, while, at no great distance, lands, comparatively rich, were lying very ill cultivated, from the want of an effectual demand. The progress of agricultural improvement ought naturally to proceed more equally. It is true, indeed, that the accumulation of capital, skill, and population in particular districts, might give some facilities of culture not possessed by poorer nations; but such facilities could not be expected to make up for great differences in the quality of the soil, and the expences of cultivation. And it is impossible to conceive, that under very great inequalities in the demand for corn in the different countries, occasioned by a very great difference in the accumulation of mercantile and manufacturing capital, and in the number of large towns, an equalization of price could take place without the transfer of a part of the general supply of Europe, from places where the demand was comparatively deficient, to those where it was comparatively excessive.

“According to Oddy's European Commerce, the Poles can afford to bring their corn to Dantzic at 32s. a quarter. The Baltic merchants are said to be of opinion, that the price is not very different at present; and there can be little doubt that if the

* Vide p. 27.

† Observations on the Corn Laws, &c. by the Rev. T. R. Malthus, p. 16.

corn growers in the neighbourhood of the Baltic could look forward to a permanently open market in the British ports, they would raise corn expressly for the purpose. The same observation is applicable to America; and under such circumstances it would answer to both countries, for many years to come, to afford us supplies of corn in much larger quantities than we have ever yet received from them.

“ During the five years from 1804 to 1808, both included, the bullion price of corn was about 75s. per quarter; yet, at this price, it answered to us better to import some portion of our supplies, than to bring our land into such a state of cultivation as to grow our own consumption. We have already shown how slowly and partially the price of corn affects the price of labour, and some of the other expenses of cultivation. Is it credible then that if by the freedom of importation the prices of corn were equalized, and reduced to about 45s. or 50s. a quarter, it could answer to us to go on improving our agriculture with our increasing population, or even to maintain our produce in its actual state?

“ It is a great mistake to suppose that the effects of a fall in the price of corn or cultivation may be fully compensated by a diminution of rents. Rich land, which yields a large nett rent, may indeed be kept up in its actual state, notwithstanding a fall in the price of its produce; as a diminution of rent may be made entirely to compensate this fall, and all the additional expences that belong to a rich and highly taxed country. But in poor land, the fund of rent will often be found quite insufficient for this purpose. There is a good deal of land in this country of such a quality that the expences of its cultivation, together with the outgoings of poor's rates, tithes, and taxes, will not allow the farmer to pay more than a fifth or

sixth of the value of the whole produce in the shape of rent. If we were to suppose the prices of grain to fall from 75s. to 50s. the quarter, the whole of such a rent would be absorbed, even if the price of the whole produce of the farm did not fall in proportion to the price of grain, and making some allowance for a fall in the price of labour. The regular cultivation of such land for grain would of course be given up, and any sort of pasture, however scanty, would be more beneficial both to the landlord and farmer.

“ But a diminution in the real price of corn is still more efficient, in preventing the future improvement of land, than in throwing land, which has been already improved, out of cultivation. In all progressive countries, the average price of corn is never higher than what is necessary to continue the average increase of produce. And though in much the greater part of the improved lands of most countries there is what the French economists call a disposable produce, that is, a portion which might be taken away without interfering with future production, yet, in reference to the whole of the actual produce, and the rate at which it is increasing, there is no part so disposable. In the employment of fresh capital upon the land to provide for the wants of an increasing population, whether this fresh capital be employed in bringing more land under the plough, or in improving land already in cultivation, the main question always depends upon the expected returns of this capital; and no part of the gross profits can be diminished without diminishing the motive to this mode of employing it. Every diminution of price not fully and immediately balanced by a proportional fall in all the necessary expences of a farm; every tax on the land, every tax on the necessaries of farmers, will tell in

the computation; and if, after all these outgoings are allowed for, the price of the produce will not leave a fair remuneration for the capital employed, according to the general rate of profits, and a rent at least equal to the rent of the land in its former state, no sufficient motive can exist to undertake the projected improvement.

“It was a fatal mistake in the system of the economists to consider merely production and reproduction, and not the provision for an increasing population, to which their territorial tax would have raised the most formidable obstacles.

“On the whole then, considering the present accumulation of manufacturing population in this country compared with any other in Europe, the expences attending inclosures, the price of labour, and the weight of taxes, few things seem less probable, than that Great Britain should naturally grow an independent supply of corn; and nothing can be more certain, than that if the prices of wheat in Great Britain were reduced by free importation nearly to a level with those of America and the continent, and if our manufacturing prosperity were to continue increasing, it would answer to us to support a part of our present population on foreign corn, and nearly the whole probably of the increasing population, which we may naturally expect to take place in the course of the next twenty or twenty-five years.”

These considerations are decisive of the question to which they relate, and go far towards supporting the conclusions of the committee.—When Mr Malthus afterwards enlarges on the policy of a free trade in general, and on the advantages, in a *mercantile point of view*, of buying corn where it can be had cheapest, he will meet with no opposition from those who understand the principles of political economy. Nothing indeed can be

more erroneous than the opinion, that the large balances which this country has for some years had to pay for imported corn were injurious to her interests on principles merely commercial, while the inconveniences of an unfavourable exchange produced in years of scarcity, by large importations of corn, are of comparatively small importance in a question of this nature. Such inconveniences must, at all events, be more than compensated, on the narrow principles alluded to, by any misdirection of capital towards an unprofitable agriculture, and the diversion of it from manufactures, which might be sold abroad with advantage.—When Mr Malthus declares, that the argument in favour of the restrictions, deduced from their supposed tendency to lower the price of corn, is untenable, and that it is only by sustaining the price above the average of the rest of Europe, that we can hope to raise enough for our own consumption, he reasons justly; and every enlightened advocate of the restrictions will concur in his conclusion. But when he says that a greater *steadiness* of price will not be produced, his opinion is not entitled to the same praise; for although it be true that when, by the additional encouragement given to agriculture, the domestic supply shall become equal to the demand in ordinary years, a plentiful season must occasion a sudden fall; yet this is not the unsteadiness which is most to be deprecated; while it is beyond dispute that the growth of a surplus in ordinary years, which may always be kept at home in years of scarcity, is the only way in which the aggravated mischiefs of such a state can be avoided.

Mr Malthus states, and concurs in the general proposition, that security is of more importance than wealth; but he does not seem to be fully aware of its decisive influence with reference to the question of restrictions. He ad-

mits indeed, that we have lately witnessed some striking instances in which governments have acted from passion rather than from policy; but he does not seem to be completely aware of the dangers, in this point of view, to which the elevated station and peculiar circumstances of this country expose it. The high claims of maritime right, for example, which we maintain against all nations, have raised a pretty strong feeling of jealousy both in Europe and America; and if, according to the supposition of Mr Malthus, we should be indebted, in a season of general warfare, to foreign countries for the subsistence of two millions of our population, the dangers to which we might be reduced could hardly be compensated by any accession of wealth which we could expect by importing corn from the cheapest market for a century to come. He fairly admits, indeed, that nothing like an experiment has yet been made to ascertain the amount of the distress which we might then suffer; and it is to be hoped that the firmness and wisdom of the legislature will for ever save the country from the dangers of such an experiment.

With respect to the excess of manufacturing population, to which this country is visibly approaching, Mr Malthus makes the following observations:—* “It may be said, that an excessive proportion of manufacturing population does not seem favourable to national quiet and happiness. Independently of any difficulties respecting the import of corn, variations in the channels of manufacturing industry, and in the facilities of obtaining a vent for its produce, are perpetually recurring. Not only during the last four or five years, but during the whole course of the war, have the

wages of manufacturing labour been subject to great fluctuations. Sometimes they have been excessively high, and at other times proportionably low; and even during a peace they must always remain subject to the fluctuations which arise from the caprices of taste and fashion, and the competition of other countries. These fluctuations naturally tend to generate discontent and tumult, and the evils which accompany them; and if to this we add, that the situation and employment of a manufacturer and his family are, even in their best state, unfavourable to health and virtue, it cannot appear desirable that a very large proportion of the whole society should consist of manufacturing labourers. Wealth, population, and power are, after all, only valuable as they tend to improve, increase, and secure the mass of human virtue and happiness.—Yet though the condition of the individual employed in common manufacturing labour is not by any means desirable, most of the effects of manufactures and commerce, on the general state of society, are in the highest degree beneficial. They infuse fresh life and activity into all classes of the state; afford opportunities for the inferior orders to rise by personal merit and exertion, and stimulate the higher orders to depend for distinction upon other grounds than mere rank and riches. They excite invention, encourage science and the useful arts; spread intelligence and spirit; inspire a taste for conveniences and comforts among the labouring classes; and, above all, give a new and happier structure to society, by increasing the proportion of the middle classes, that body on which the liberty, public spirit, and good government of every country must mainly depend.

* Observations on the Corn Laws, by the Rev. T. R. Malthus, p. 28.

“ If we compare such a state of society with a state merely agricultural, the general superiority of the former is incontestable ; but it does not follow that the manufacturing system may not be carried to excess, and that beyond a certain point, the evils which accompany it may not increase farther than its advantages. The question, as applicable to this country, is not whether a manufacturing state is to be preferred to one merely agricultural, but whether a country, the most manufacturing of any ever recorded in history, with an agriculture, however, as yet nearly keeping pace with it, would be improved in its happiness, by a great relative increase to its manufacturing population and relative check to its agricultural population ?

“ Many of the questions both in morals and politics seem to be of the nature of the problems, *de maximis et minimis*, in fluxions ; in which there is always a point where a certain effect is the greatest, while on either side of this point it gradually diminishes.

“ With a view to the permanent happiness and security from great reverses of the lower classes of people in this country, I should have little hesitation in thinking it desirable that its agriculture should keep pace with its manufactures, even at the expence of retarding, in some degree, the growth of manufactures ; but it is a different question, whether it is wise to break through a general rule, and interrupt the natural course of things, in order to produce and maintain such an equalization.”

It may be doubted, however, whether this picture, accurate and impartial as it may seem, is not on the whole too favourable to manufacturing industry. In the present state of the world security and power appear to be objects of a higher and wiser ambition than

the increase of that wealth in which England already so much abounds. But if no limitations are to be imposed on the importation of corn, the agriculture of this country must greatly and rapidly decline ; and it is difficult to conceive a state of greater imbecillity than that which would be exhibited by a country, with a crowded population of mechanics and manufacturers, from whom even the means of subsistence may be withdrawn by the caprice of their enemies, or the events of an uncertain and precarious policy. Yet such is the state to which Great Britain must inevitably be reduced, if measures are not adopted to extend the cultivation of her soil, and ensure the stability of her agriculture.

To those who affect to lament over the condition and prospects of the British labourer, the following passage may be recommended :—

* “ If the labourers in two countries were to earn the same quantity of corn, yet in one of them the nominal price of this corn were 25 per cent. higher than in the other, the condition of the labourers, where the price of corn was the highest, would be decidedly the best. In the purchase of all commodities purely foreign ; in the purchase of those commodities, the raw materials of which are wholly, or in part foreign, and therefore influenced in a great degree by foreign prices, and in the purchase of all home commodities which are taxed, and not taxed *ad valorem*, they would have an unquestionable advantage : and these articles altogether are not inconsiderable even in the expenditure of a cottager.

“ As one of the evils, therefore, attending the throwing open our ports, it may be stated, that if the stimulus to population, from the cheapness of grain, should in the course of 20 or 25 years, reduce the earnings of the

* Observations on Corn Laws, p. 30.

labourer to the same quantity of corn as at present, at the same price as in the rest of Europe, the condition of the lower classes of people in this country would be deteriorated. And if they should not be so reduced, it is quite clear that the encouragement to the growth of corn will not be fully restored, even after the lapse of so long a period."

Mr Malthus sums up the evils attending restrictions on the corn trade as follows:—

I. "A certain waste of the national resources, by the employment of a greater quantity of capital than is necessary for procuring the quantity of corn required.

II. "A relative disadvantage in all foreign commercial transactions, occasioned by the high comparative price of corn and labour, and the low value of silver, as far as they affect exportable commodities.

III. "Some check to population, occasioned by a check to that abundance of corn, and demand for manufacturing labour, which would be the result of a perfect freedom of importation.

IV. "The necessity of constant revision and interference, which belongs to almost every artificial system."

The first of these disadvantages has already been admitted; and as to the third and fourth, it is obvious that they can be of little importance. It is surprising that Mr Malthus, who has already so well illustrated the subject of population, should hazard the opinion, that a check to it must, in any circumstances, be a serious evil.—The necessity of frequent revision and interference, which Mr Malthus justly says belongs to every artificial system, cannot be an object of great dread, when the constitution of our government is duly considered, under which

the security of the people against capricious or arbitrary regulations is ample and undoubted.

The second in order, therefore, of the evils which he enumerates, is that which chiefly deserves attention, viz. the disadvantage to which we shall be exposed in all foreign commercial transactions, by the high comparative prices of corn and labour, and the low value of silver in this island, so far as these circumstances affect the price of exportable commodities. But our decided superiority in capital, industry, and machinery must be more than sufficient to compensate inconveniences of this kind at least for many years, after which the encouragement given to our agriculture may be expected to restore the price of British corn to an equality with that of other nations. As the question seems to be, which of the two is to be sacrificed to a certain extent—our manufactures and commerce, which have already attained to such a height of prosperity—or our agriculture, which must for ever be the basis of our national greatness,—there can be little room for hesitation.

The difficulties arising out of the present state of our currency cannot be considered as of much importance. The depreciation is already well ascertained; and when the currency shall again be raised to its proper value, an ordinary operation of figures will be sufficient to fix with accuracy the price at which importation is to be permitted.

Mr Malthus seems much afraid of the evils of a *glut* which the state of the European market may not enable the British grower to relieve by exportation. But the inconvenience which he apprehends can never be entirely removed by any system of regulations; and must under any circumstances affect the state of the British market in

* Observations on Corn Laws, p. 34.

common with the general market of Europe. In seasons of unusual fertility, no particular nation can relieve itself by exporting.—There can be no objection, however, to the proposal of this author to continue the old bounty, with the view of affording partial relief in such circumstances, although the efficacy of such an expedient, seems extremely questionable.—Neither does the proposal of Mr Malthus, to give to the restrictions the form of a constant duty upon foreign grain (“not to act as a prohibition but as a protecting, and at the same time profitable tax,”) appear to be unreasonable. But as the tax must necessarily be such as, when added to the original price of foreign grain, to raise the whole to the limiting price to be fixed by the proposed law, and as it will probably be found expedient when the price of British corn rises so high, to remove the duty altogether, there seems to be but little prospect of making the regulation in any way subservient to the in-

terests of the public revenue. But if the expedient can do little good, neither can it do any harm; the great object of any law on the subject being *protection* to the British farmer, which will be equally secured by either plan.

The inferences deducible from the preceding reflections seem to be,

1st, That the expediency of a bounty on the exportation of corn, in circumstances which may be expected to recur at no very distant period, is apparent from general principles, and has been proved by experience. And,

2ndly, That in the relative circumstances of this country, and of Europe, unless some efficient restraint be immediately imposed on the importation of foreign grain, the agriculture of Great Britain must experience a rapid and alarming decay, which it may be impossible to counteract by any future interference of legislative wisdom.

MEMOIR

OF THE

LIFE AND WRITINGS

OF THE

REVEREND JAMES GRAHAME.

ALTHOUGH the life of a modest and retiring man of letters affords, in general, scanty materials for the pen of a biographer, yet a record of the principal facts and events which constitute the chain of his history often forms a useful and curious commentary on his writings, and enables us to enter into those associations that guide his mind in the choice and embellishment of the subjects to which his attention is directed. It is an improving exercise to study the connection, in so far as its fugitive traces may be conjectured or ascertained, between the external situation and the intellectual and moral qualities which distinguish an individual, conspicuous for his talents and attainments, from the rest of his species. While such a study sometimes affords an explanation of, or an apology for, opinions and habits by which he is characterized, it enables us also to learn, from the experience of another, those lessons of practical wisdom from which we are but too apt to turn with indifference or aversion, when

they are presented to us under the stern aspect of precept or command.

But if long-cherished affection, mingled with recent emotions of unfeigned regret, blind not our eyes to the cold and accurate estimate of the merits of him, a sketch of whose life we now propose to offer to the public, we are inclined to think that he has a peculiar claim to be remembered and honoured; and that the public have a right to expect even a larger and fuller memorial of his mind and manners, than the limits prescribed for such compositions in a work like this permit us to attempt. In an age when the multitude of candidates for poetic fame renders originality, without eccentricity or affectation, an almost hopeless effort, he has had the merit of having discovered and pursued an untrodden path, and of having adorned it with the simplest graces of nature and fancy, which formerly lay in a great measure unobserved or neglected. To him also belongs the higher praise of having rendered these graces subser-

vient to the noblest purposes, by connecting them with the charms of devotional and moral sentiment, and with the kindest sympathies of a feeling and benevolent heart.

We do not think it possible to peruse the works of Grahame without becoming wiser and better; and as he voluntarily devoted the choicest fruits of his genius to the service of the public, the readers and admirers of the author may reasonably expect to be favoured with some account of the man. Sincerely and deeply do we condemn the immoral and inhuman practice, which has of late years found too many abettors, of ransacking with unhallowed hand the sacred repositories of the departed, and exposing to vulgar gaze many private and confidential communications and transactions, which ought to remain for ever in oblivion. Such a practice tends to destroy the charm of private friendship and unreserved confidence, and to make men hypocrites and actors in the most retired intercourse of social life. We merely propose to give such an account of the life of this respected and lamented character as may introduce his readers to some acquaintance with himself, and without seeking either too minutely to disclose his individual merits, or "draw his frailties from their dread abode," to exhibit a faithful portrait to those who knew little or nothing of the original. To render this delineation the more interesting, we shall, in the course of the narrative, offer a general criticism on his works, in the order of their publication, and reserve to the close some reflections which could not elsewhere be so properly introduced. In laying our strictures before the tribunal of the public, it shall be our study to divest ourselves of all partial feeling, and to offer our

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opinions with as much freedom and candour as if the author were known to us by his works alone.

James Grahame was a native of the city of Glasgow, and was born on the 22d day of April, 1765. His father, Mr Thomas Grahame, who was a writer (or attorney) in that place, enjoyed the fullest confidence of those who committed the management of their affairs to his skill and integrity; while the gentleness of his manners, and the excellence of his character as a man, and a member of society, secured to him the affection and esteem of all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance. His mother was well qualified to be the partner of this worthy man, and was peculiarly fitted to cultivate in the minds of a numerous offspring those good dispositions and affections which flourish the most under the fostering hand of maternal care. A rare concurrence of circumstances calculated to form the temper, refine the taste, and expand the faculties of their son James, attended his early years. His nursery-woman, long a faithful domestic in the family, and regarded as one of its members, was endowed with so much good sense, united to so much gentleness and integrity, as to render her a most valuable guide of his infancy. It is to her grotesque appearance that he is supposed to allude in the amusing picture of the Harvest Home, or *Kirn Feast*, in his "British Georgics," when he describes a matron arrayed in

Her gown of silken woof, all figured thick
With roses white, far larger than the life,
On azure ground,—her grannam's wedding garb,
Old as that year when Sheriffmuir was fought.

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Several of his near relations were persons of cultivated minds and literary habits. Of these we shall only presume to particularize a female relative of the most fascinating manners, agreeable temper, and lively humour; and also his elder brother, Robert, who afterwards succeeded to the business of his father in Glasgow, where he still resides. He was several years older than James, who cherished for him the most tender affection, and who received from him perhaps his earliest relish for the charms of poetry. The two brothers used frequently to accompany each other along the romantic banks of the Cart, in the vicinity of which their father had a summer residence. To this retirement Robert used frequently to repair, at the close of the week, from Glasgow, where he was pursuing his academical studies, bringing along with him his favourite poetical authors, for the purpose of perusing them amid scenes peculiarly congenial to the sentiments which their works were fitted to inspire. James, who was at that time a boy of nine or ten years of age, felt himself honoured in being his confidant and associate on such occasions, and the youthful enthusiast would listen with delight to the finest passages of Milton, Thomson, Beattie, or Cowper. The language and sentiments of poetry thus became early familiar to him; and that habit of nice observation of nature was imperceptibly formed, which his writings so remarkably evince.

To his residence near the banks of the Cart, in his boyish years, he alludes in an interesting passage of the *Birds of Scotland*, which, as it marks also the early sympathy of his heart with the joys and sufferings of the feathered race, we shall gratify our-

selves, and, we hope, our readers too, by transcribing them.

Even in a bird, the simplest notes have charms

For me: I even love the Yellow-Hammer's song.

When earliest buds begin to bulge, his note,

Simple, reiterated oft, is heard
On leafless brier, or half-grown hedge-row tree;

Nor is he silent until autumn's leaves
Fall fluttering round his head of golden hue.

Fair-plumaged bird! cursed by the causeless hate

Of every school-boy, still by me thy lot
Was pitied! never did I tear thy nest:
I loved thee, pretty bird! for 'twas thy nest

Which first, unhelped by older eyes, I found.

The very spot I think I now behold!
Forth from my low-roof'd home I wandered blythe

Down to thy side, sweet Cart, where cross the stream

A range of stones, below a shallow ford,
Stood in the place of the now spanning arch;

Up from that ford a little bank there was,
With alder copse and willow overgrown;
Now worn away by mining winter floods;

There, at a bramble root, sunk in the grass,
The hidden prize, of withered field-straws

formed,
Well lined with many a coil of hair and moss,

And in it laid five red-veined spheres, I found.

The Syracusan's voice did not exclaim
The grand *Heureka*, with more rapturous joy,

Than at that moment fluttered round my heart.

Birds of Scotland, p. 21, 22.

James Grahame received his elementary knowledge of the classics at the grammar school of Glasgow, and during the period of his attendance, was chiefly remarkable among his juvenile associates for the gaiety of his temper, the activity of his habits, and

the frolicsome humours in which he sometimes loved to indulge. From the school he passed to the university of his native city, at which he studied during five successive sessions. After attending the literary and philosophical classes during the first three sessions, he entered as a pupil of the late professor Millar, and took great delight in listening to the public prelections on law and government, and enjoying the private conversation of that celebrated man. The lectures of this profound and scientific teacher were more calculated, perhaps, to form the accomplished legislator, than the adroit and successful lawyer. His well-known, avowed, and almost, we may say, excessive attachment to the cause of freedom, and to those principles of genuine liberty, under the happy influence of which Great Britain has attained to a height of political and moral greatness which renders her the admiration and ornament of the world, confirmed the impression which had been formerly made on the mind of the young student, and gave, we believe, a decided bias to his opinions on the politics of the times. A desire to unfold and illustrate the circumstances which tended to form his mind at an earlier period, induces us to mention an interesting fact which occurs to our recollection. A gentleman well known to us, who had resided a considerable time in North America, and who had suffered much in consequence of his enthusiastic loyalty to the parent country, at the time of the great contest with the colonies, was intimately acquainted with Mr Thomas Grahame, and, in speaking of him, he used these remarkable expressions:—"He was the best and most amiable of men. His only fault was, that he warmly espoused the

American cause." This testimony, the more honourable to him in whose behalf it was given, from the qualifying exception with which it was thus accompanied, will shew how naturally his son was predisposed to enter with generous, and even perhaps imprudent warmth, into the cause of France during the memorable period of the revolution, and to oppose with zeal the proceedings of the British administration, by whom its folly and extravagance were early withstood, and eventually defeated. It will appear, however, in the sequel, that his feelings of true patriotism prevailed over all the attachments of party, and that, unlike many *pseudo-patriots*, he did not make an unnatural transfer of his regard for the principles on which that great revolution was founded, to the unhappy individual, more to be envied in his fall than in the plenitude of his guilty power; who, trampling under foot all laws, human and divine, sought only to aggrandise himself, and cared not if the world were converted into a desert, so that he and his minions might sit enthroned amid its ruins.

Nothing tends, in general, more to destroy the undefined illusions of youthful hope and ambition, than the necessity of choosing a profession, and of descending from the dreams of fancy, or the theories of philosophy and science, to the sober realities of ordinary life. In some instances, indeed, it happens that the mind insensibly forms those predilections in early life, which determine the question long before it is fairly proposed to the understanding; and when the period arrives at which the decision must be made, the persons of whom we speak, seem, in making it, to be simply pursuing the natural

current of their inclinations. They appear to have been formed for the situations which it is their good fortune to fill, and those situations to have been intended for them. But how often, on the contrary, is the mind even of a virtuous and steady young man presented only with a choice of difficulties, and obliged to make an election of a trade or profession, of which all that he can say, is, that it seems to present the fewest inconveniences, or to be the least repulsive to his taste and feelings. The indulgent parents of young Grahame were disposed, as well from principle as from affection, to pay due regard to his wishes on so important a matter. They were regular and exemplary members of the church of Scotland; and from sincere conviction of the truth and excellence of Christianity, they regarded it a duty, and felt it a pleasure, to instil into the minds of their children those early impressions which constitute the most solid foundation for religious faith and virtuous conduct. They appear to have been extremely careful in rendering the lessons of Christianity attractive to their rising family; and, instead of fatiguing their minds by rigorously exacting from them the repetition of formal tasks, which often excite weariness and disgust, or engender prejudice, they led them to the genuine fountain of Christian instruction; and while they disclosed to them the treasures of the sacred volume, and the graces of the unparalleled character of the founder of our religion, they gave powerful effect to their admonitions by the example which they shewed to their children. The heart of James Grahame, nurtured in such a school, felt the charms of religion long before his understanding could estimate the value of the evidence on which its acceptance is recommended to the mind. The reflection and study of his more mature years confirmed the impressions of his childhood; and though in the intercourse of the world he might not always avow his convictions, there is no reason to think that he ever abandoned them, or gave way to that scepticism, which, among the youth educated at our universities, finds too many votaries. His attachment to the cause of liberty, which he had cherished from his infancy, and which his education had strengthened and confirmed; his love to his native land, which glows in all his writings; and his reverence for our brave and zealous ancestors, who underwent persecution with undaunted fortitude, and, ranging themselves under the banner of the reformed faith, achieved prodigies of valour in defence of civil and religious freedom;—all these circumstances concurred to give him a favourable impression of that simple and unostentatious establishment which Scotland enjoys. He seems to have early formed the wish of devoting himself to the service of religion, and to have desired to enter into the church of Scotland. For the profession of the law, on the other hand, he appears to have had a dislike. Of the routine of those employments which occupy the time of its practitioners he could not be ignorant, as he lived under the roof with those who were daily engaged in it. He was aware, however, that his father had designed to train him for his own profession, in which he knew he could promote his prosperity more than in any other. James was possessed of a gentleness and delicacy of mind, and even we might say of a tremu-

lous sensibility, which made him shrink from the idea of giving pain to any human being, and especially to a parent whom he regarded with mingled sentiments of gratitude, reverence, and love. There was also about him a degree of diffidence and hesitation, which made him slow in forming an opinion, when that opinion was to be followed by action, and which made it sometimes difficult for his friends to discover his real sentiments. He had also something of that melancholy which is so often the companion of genius and virtue, but which is nearly allied also to indolence and indecision. It is probable, that from these causes his father was in a great measure ignorant of the wishes of young Grahame; and that in placing him as an apprentice to a writer to the signet in Edinburgh, in the year 1784, he thought he was consulting not only his interest, but almost his inclinations. His first practical instructions in the law he received from his father, and from Mr Hill, writer in Glasgow, one of the numerous family of the Reverend James Hill, of the Barony parish in that city, who married a sister of his mother's. During this period an occurrence took place which had nearly cost him his life, and which, from its unhappy influence on his future health, ought not to be passed over in silence. He received a severe blow while he was in the open air, on the back of his head, from a thick cudgel, which was wantonly aimed at him, and he was carried home in a very dangerous state. This brought on a severe head-ache, and other complaints; and though he gradually recovered, his constitution received a shock which was never afterwards fully overcome, and which, in all probability, eventually brought his va-

luable life to a premature close. He had entered into his twentieth year, when he was indentured as an apprentice to his cousin Mr Lawrence Hill, writer to the signet, in Edinburgh. In the year 1790, or 1791, he passed the usual trials, and was admitted into the society of Writers to the Signet.

In consequence of the influence of his father, and other friends, rather than from his own exertions, he soon obtained a considerable share of employment; and there is no reason to doubt, that he might have found his profession open to him an easy path to affluence, had not the delicacy of his bodily constitution, and his growing dislike to the unintellectual details which form a considerable part of the occupation of a writer, made him appear, perhaps, somewhat careless and unsteady. The death of his father in Glasgow, about the close of the year 1791, inflicted a severe shock on his mind; and while it gave him a distaste for the pursuits of ordinary life, led him to feel the renewed force of those serious impressions, and to seek the enjoyment of those consolations, to the cultivation of which his professional employments were not peculiarly favourable.

The grief into which he, in common with every member of the family, was plunged, was the deeper from the circumstance of his not having been present to mingle his tears with theirs, and to witness the last moments of one so highly and so justly beloved. He addressed a letter, in consequence of this event, to his widowed mother, which was so remarkable for the seriousness of mind, and the pious devotion of soul, which appeared amidst the anguish it expressed for the loss of so excellent a father, that it is still remembered with melancholy plea-

sure by those who have read it. Another member of his family, alluding to him at the distance of seven or eight years after his decease, says,—“My father was the most worthy of men. When I remember the piety, the humility, the beautiful and uncommon simplicity of his character, united as these qualities were to an understanding the most liberal and enlightened, I wonder how we, his children, the objects of his tenderest affections, can cease to think of and deplore the irreparable loss we sustained by his death. Such is the effect of time,” &c. That the early tendencies of James’s mind for the sacred office, should have been renewed by the feelings that were excited in him on this occasion, will be readily supposed; and indeed so desirable, at this time, did it appear to him to engage in a profession in which his daily studies, and his daily occupations, might be in unison with his taste, his habits, and his final hope, that he would, in good earnest, and with heart-felt joy, have renounced the toils and profits of the law for the employment of a Christian minister, had he not yielded to the advice and entreaty of his friends, who naturally enough dreaded the effect of such a change, both on his estimation with the world, and on his fortunes in life. They reminded him, on the one hand, of the long period which the forms of our ecclesiastical law prescribed for theological students in the Scottish church, and of the very slender and limited provision which bounds the ambition even of those who obtain its best endowments. They reminded him, on the other hand, of the great number of candidates of every description for preferments in the English church, and of the diffi-

culty of rising above the situation of a curate, even should he be so fortunate as to obtain episcopal ordination. His inclination, therefore, again gave place to his judgment, and to the advice of his friends; and he delayed the execution of a favourite object, which he was still most unwilling to relinquish.

Averse, however, as he was, to act as a writer, and well knowing that, by an easy and natural gradation, he might, without the least appearance of fickleness or caprice, rise to a sphere in which his talents would find more suitable employment, and more agreeable exercise, he some time afterwards proposed himself to the Faculty for admission to the bar; and, after passing through the ordinary trials, was admitted advocate in March 1795. To the best of our recollection, the subject of his probationary thesis was the law of entail, which he discussed with considerable ingenuity and some humour. His success at the bar was not equal to the anticipations of his friends; for though his legal knowledge was both accurate and extensive, his moral sensibility was so great, and his abhorrence of oppression, injustice, and chicane, whether real or supposed, was so decided, that he was ill qualified for that ready and careless display of his talents on either side of a question, that chance might throw in his way, in which the loose casuistry of this profession forms, or finds, many willing adepts. There are, moreover, so many candidates for employment at the Scottish bar, that lawyers of real merit are frequently found adorned with the voluminous wig, and flowing robe of justice, who perform their daily and fatiguing march under the glittering canopy of

the Outer-Court-House, with few and infrequent interruptions from the claims of professional duty. Grahame was not a man who would accommodate himself to the means by which business is sometimes courted. If it came at all, it must have come to him unsought. Yet he was much and justly respected, and would have had his share of practice, had not the increasing delicacy of his injured constitution undermined his capacity for laborious exertion, and rendered him almost equally indifferent to disappointment or success. His law papers were acknowledged by his contemporaries to be written with judgment, temper, and elegance; and his *viva voce* pleadings at the bar, though delivered, at times, with an air of hesitation, that arose from a native diffidence which he could never overcome, were impressive and agreeable. We do not recollect to have heard that he ever made any very brilliant appearances at the bar, though occasions frequently arise to our lawyers for the display of their talents, by seizing which, persons of far inferior abilities to his, sometimes acquire a sudden and splendid, as well as a lasting fame.

He was at one time engaged in a cause which excited much mirth among his friends. A gentleman prosecuted a lady for damages, before the Court of Session, on the ground of an alleged breach of promise of marriage. Mr Grahame was retained as one of the pursuer's counsel. He did ample justice to the cause of his client; but the counsel of the fair defender gave a humorous and artful turn to the discussion, which rendered the eloquence of his opponent abortive. He admitted the promise of marriage to have been given to the pursuer by his client;

then expatiated on her loyalty to the king, and her dislike to all republican principles. In the hours of love he had so kept his opinions in the shade, as to make her suppose they were congenial with her own. But how was she astonished, after her plighted faith had made him bolder, to find that she had been deceived, and that, in truth, his political sentiments were diametrically opposite to her own. There arose a struggle in her breast, the seat at once of tender and of patriotic feelings. The patriot prevailed over the woman; and fearing that either her principles might be endangered by such a union, or that her domestic peace might be lost in the vortex of political contention, she resolved to renounce the object of her affection, and, therefore, was brought into this dilemma. In vain was this statement attempted to be rebutted or explained away. The court, indeed, sustained the action; but gave the pursuer sixpence in name of damages! As the oddity of the case drew together a considerable auditory of both sexes to hear the pleadings, the affair was much talked of, and Grahame was exposed to a good deal of railery on his ungallant attack upon a fair lady. He bore it with great and characteristic good humour, yet his native modesty was evidently put to the test, and he would sometimes beg of his friends to say no more about it.

In truth, his mind was more attracted by the interesting and momentous topics which agitated the world during the whole period of his active life, than by the dry details of his profession. It may be proper, however, for the sake of arrangement, to anticipate the order of events, and to mention, in this place, that he published a lively and elegant pamphlet

in the year 1806, on the subject of the proposed introduction of juries into our civil processes in Scotland, to determine questions of fact. This design formed part of a plan proposed by Lord Grenville, during the short period of the administration at the head of which he was placed, for improving the forms and expediting the business of our civil courts. Mr Grahame entered with great warmth into that part of the plan to which we have particularly alluded; and published a very able and well-written pamphlet, entitled "Thoughts on Trial by Jury." There is much sound argument and pleasant illustration in this production. He is particularly successful in pointing out the pernicious consequences of the anomalous practice of our civil courts, of referring questions of fact regarding property, privilege, &c., on which their judgments may entirely depend, to the investigation of a writer, or some other person, who lives at or near the place where the parties reside, and who is often intimately connected with one or all of the parties concerned. The person thus invested with the office of a commissioner, is authorised to call witnesses before him, and to make a full report in writing to the court of the evidence adduced, with such remarks as he may think proper to adduce. Against this practice our author directed able and convincing arguments, winged with humour, and pointed with sarcasm.

The pamphlet appeared anonymously, and was read and admired by many who were ignorant of the name of the author. A friend, living in a retired part of the country, having accidentally met with it, without having had the most distant idea by whom it was written, was so

struck with the marks of his mind in its perusal, that he at once pronounced it to be the production of Grahame. A gentleman, who heard this declaration, thought it so unlikely that a man who had never owned any prose work should be known by his style and sentiments, that he considered this a very unlikely guess, and a literary bet was taken on the spot, which was referred to Mr G.'s own decision. A written reference was accordingly made, and this, together with his answer, written and subscribed by himself, are now before us. In this answer, he confesses himself to be the author of the above-named publication. The change of ministry in 1807 put an end to the project, and disappointed the wishes of the people of Scotland, who were deeply and generally sensible of the necessity for some alteration, and who thought the complicated plan proposed would be so improved in passing through the two houses of parliament, as to diminish, at least, if not wholly to remove, the evils of which they complained.

Another plan for reforming the exterior constitution of the Court of Session, in a manner more congenial to the spirit of the Scottish people, and the analogy of Scottish law, was proposed by the new ministry, under the immediate auspices of the Lord Chancellor Eldon. A bill modelled upon it, after having passed through the Houses, received the royal assent, and became a part of the law of the land in July 1808. Of the two plans, and the principles on which they were founded, as also the apparent tendency of each, an account is given in the second part of volume first of this work for 1808. It is entitled, "View of the Changes proposed and adopted in the Administra-

tion of Justice in Scotland." This act, though it has completely fulfilled the anticipation of its supporters, in so far as expedition was its object, made no provision whatever for the introduction of trial by jury in civil causes, except this prospective and contingent one, that it empowered his majesty to appoint commissioners to enquire, among other things, how far it might be of evident utility to introduce it into the Court of Session or any other civil court in Scotland; and in what manner of form that mode of trial would be best established.

While engaged in the profession of an advocate, previously to the time of his marriage, Mr Grahame commonly lived in furnished lodgings in Edinburgh, during the terms of the court, and mingled at his intervals of leisure with a small circle of literary friends, whom he tenderly attached to him by the gentleness of his manner, the delicacy of his taste, and the elegance of his conversation. During the summer recess he used to be much in the country, where he enjoyed the society of his early friends, and revisited the scenes of his early years.

We do not know the exact time at which his first poetical compositions were written; but from the circumstances we have stated, it may be supposed that his addresses to the muses were among the earliest productions of his pen. This supposition is confirmed by the fact, that a small volume was printed and circulated among his friends, probably about the time of his studying at the university of Glasgow. This juvenile collection of pieces, written on different occasions, some of which we believe had been previously inserted in the periodical publications of the day, he was himself in his more mature years de-

sirous to suppress. We retain a very faint remembrance of its contents, and it is with much doubt that we hazard the statement, that we believe it contained the first rough draught of those interesting sketches of the different seasons of the year to which he gave the name of the "Rural Calendar," and of which we shall have occasion to speak more particularly. We were amused by one of the little poems in the volume, of which the subject was the acknowledged and proverbial propriety of putting "the best foot foremost" in life. From this he inferred the propriety of putting "the best foot" foremost in poetry, and accordingly the rhymes were formed by the first syllables of every two lines, instead of the last.

In April 1797, a respectable provincial newspaper, published twice every week, was commenced under the name of the "Kelso Mail." In the second number of that journal was inserted a very beautiful descriptive poem under the title of "April," and having the signature of "Matilda." The editor announced the receipt of it in his first number, and requested a continuance of the favours of his fair unknown correspondent. In a small rural circle it may easily be supposed, that the appearance of this poem excited much interest, and awakened great curiosity. Every tea-table party exercised their critical skill on the merit of the performance, and their sagacity in endeavouring to discover the real name of the author. It happened that at this time Mr Grahame was visiting a friend who resided at Kelso; and as the weather was fine, he enjoyed with a peculiar relish, under the reviving influence of Spring, the charms of a part of the country, of which he had heard much, but which he never till

then had an opportunity of seeing. He heard with apparent indifference the criticisms and conjectures of the new acquaintances to whom he was now introduced, and though he declined to give any decided opinion of the production of Matilda, he threw in a remark now and then calculated to keep alive the debate. One morning, a few days after the publication, a note was delivered to a gentleman, who had himself been conjectured to be the author, but who was in truth as much in the dark as the rest of his neighbours. The following is a copy:—"Matilda wishes to see — in Cupid's Grove at three o'clock.

Monday, 12 o'clock."

As there is a place in the vicinity of Kelso, sometimes called by this whimsical name, which was then a favourite evening walk, his friend, though more than half suspecting a hoax, shewed the note to Grahame, and asked if he thought he ought to go. He strongly advised him to go, and said he would await the result of the interview with great impatience. The hour of meeting approached, and away went the simple youth, flattered by this distinction, to the appointed retreat: Having walked for a considerable time under the shade of the overhanging trees, and given his solitary sighs to the passing breeze, he returned chagrined and disappointed, and on his way home he was met by Grahame, who, with marvellous simplicity of face, and curiosity of manner, enquired if the secret were now disclosed, and if the real Matilda had appeared. Being informed that the lady proved false, he expressed his condolence with an ill simulated gravity. This led to suspicion that he was the writer of the note, and the person to whom it was addressed

afterwards learned that he had owned it at the same time to one or two members of the family, and that his mirth was excessive, when he saw his friend set out on this Quixotic expedition. This and some other circumstances induced a conjecture, that Grahame might himself be Matilda, and before he returned to Edinburgh, he acknowledged that the poem in question was written by him. His friend, though gratified by the discovery, was a little piqued by the practical joke of which he had been the subject, and smiling told him he would answer Matilda's note in due season.

As the real Matilda remained unknown to the public, her poetical "Calendar," which appeared monthly during the summer, continued to attract much notice, though the merits of the pieces of which it consisted, and of different parts of the same piece, were extremely unequal. About the end of September two poems, each entitled "September," and each subscribed "Matilda," were received by the editor of the same journal: he found himself placed in a somewhat awkward dilemma, and in the next paper he published that one, which happened not to be the production of Mr Grahame. As the *feigned* Matilda never appeared in any other publication, and is probably altogether forgotten, it may afford some amusement to our readers to see it inserted in this memoir. We shall also insert the real Matilda's September, that our readers may, if they choose, exercise their critical skill in the comparison, though we are fearful some of them may be disposed to exclaim, with Virgil's Palæmon, before they have finished them,

Claudite jam rivos, pueri: sat prata biberunt.

From the Kelso Mail of 2d October,
1797.

On the morning of Thursday last, one of the days on which this paper is published, we received a poem with the title of September, and the signature of Matilda. Being too late for publication on that day, we were under the necessity of postponing it. Another poem, with the same title and signature, has been since sent to us, which we are rather inclined to consider as the offspring of Matilda's muse, and which is therefore inserted in this day's paper.

SEPTEMBER.

O'er all his boundless realms beneath
the sky,
From parch'd Angola to the cheerless pole,
The partial sun now wields an equal sway,
And shares an equal empire with the night.
Lo, o'er the burning line, sublime, he bends
His radiant course to southern climes re-
mote ;
Where scarce a ray of science yet has
dawn'd,
Or Truth's majestic form emerged to view.
Soon shall his fiery orb the globe unbind,
And flowers and fruits profusely scatter
round ;
Fruits *here* untasted, flowers unknown to
song.
The savage mind, unconscious of the source
Whence sprung the gay, the beauteous, the
sublime,
By Nature only taught, shall raise the
strain ;
Shall, all-delighted, wander 'mid the scenes
Which beauty, grandeur, novelty adorn ;
And while with lighter foot he prints the
lawn,
And woos with lighter heart his favourite
fair,
Alternate shall he joy and grieve to think
Of sullen Winter's whirlwinds, now no
more,
And Europeshiv'ring 'mid his genial spring.
Unequal lot of man ! Ah, must it be,
That human joys from human sorrows rise ;
Must stern Vicissitude her course pursue,

The pointed thorn still blending with the
rose ?

Yet, thankful, let us hail the will of Hea-
ven,
Which wills for all, what is, what must be,
best !

The seasons circling in harmonious
round,
And one grand hymn of praise from every
heart
Tuned to the hand that guides them in
their course,
Now kindly call sharp chilling winds to
rave,
At morn and eve, along the withering
mead,
Gradual to lead the mind, the frame pre-
pare,
For Winter, storm-clad Winter's piercing
blast.
The winds, obedient, drive across the plain ;
Yet, mercy blending with severity,
Throw Nature's finest net-work gaily
round,
The silver rime, which, sparkling in the
sun,
Displays its mimic tints and varying forms,
Then, sudden as the dreams of childhood,
flies.

But hark ! what shouts of joy delight
mine ear,
And undulating swell sonorous far !
I see, I see, 'tis Nature's festival ;
The simple artless cry of Harvest Home !
In best array attired, and, better far,
In blooming, healthful face, serene and
gay,
Clear index of a heart unstain'd by guile,
Lo, each fond swain, her arm entwined in
his,
Conducts the maid he loves to yonder dome,
Where Nature's homely fare is plenteous
spread,
And Caledonia's strains from bagpipe's
throat,
Which oft have waked the hero's inmost
pulse
To ardour boundless in his country's cause,
Invite to lead the mazy, merry dance,
And claim, when o'er, the prize of gallan-
try,
Stolen gently from the blushing maiden's
lips.
The happy lord of this harmonious throng
Partakes, with grateful heart, the simple
scene ;

And while his glance of joy he beams a-
round,
Each gladden'd brow reflects a sober smile.

The hour of parting comes ; their linger-
ing feet,
Slow to their straw-roof'd cots convey
them home,
Where, lull'd in slumber's heart-reviving
trance,

Again they taste the fleeting joys now past,
Or, hope beguiled, anticipate the next.
The sympathetic Heaven is deck'd in
smiles,

All nature wears an aspect more serene ;
The Queen of Night ascends the throne of
Day :

Her orb majestic, rising from the South,
Like some great benefactor of his kind,
Shines only to illumine, not consume.
The starry firmament partakes her rays,
And in harmonious concert joins the song,
Which Reason catches, and glad echoes
back,
The Song of Piety and boundless joy.

MATILDA.

September 25th, 1797.

As the original copy of Mr Gra-
hame's Matilda in his own hand-writ-
tings is lost, we take his "Septem-
ber" (much enlarged, and infinitely
improved) from the 12mo. edition of
his poems, published in two volumes,
by Blackwood, at Edinburgh, 1807,
vol. I. p. 113. In the preface he says,
"Some of the months in the 'Rural
Calendar' appeared in a newspaper
(the Kelso Mail) about nine or ten
years ago ; I have since made several
additions and corrections ; but I lay
the poem before the public, rather as
a faithful sketch, than as a full or fi-
nished delineation of the progress of
the year."

Gradual the woods their varied tints as-
sume ;

The hawthorn reddens, and the rowan-tree
Displays its ruby clusters, seeming sweet,
Yet harsh, disfiguring the fairest face.

At sultry hour of noon, the reaper band
Rest from their toil, and in the lusty stook
Their sickles hang. Around their simple
fare,

Upon the stubble spread, blythesome they
form

A circling groupe, while humbly waits
behind

The wistful dog, and with expressive look,
And pawing foot, implores his little share.

The short repast, seasoned with simple
mirth,

And not without the song, gives place to
sleep :

With sheaf beneath his head, the rustic
youth

Enjoys sweet slumbers, while the maid he
loves

Steals to his side, and screens him from the
sun.

But not by day alone the reapers toil :
Oft in the moon's pale ray the sickle gleams,
And heaps the dewy sheaf ;—thy change-
ful sky,

Poor Scotland, warns to seize the hour se-
rene.

The gleaners wandering with the morn-
ing ray

Spread o'er the new-heaped field. Totter-
ing old age

And lisping infancy, are there, and she
Who better days has seen.—

No shelter now
The covey finds ; but hark ! the murder-
ous tube !

Exultingly the deep-mouthed spaniel bears
The fluttering victim to his master's foot :

Perhaps another, wounded, flying far,
Eludes the eager following eye, and drops

Among the lonely furze, to pine and die.

Our readers may have probably an-
ticipated the information we are now
to communicate, that the friend whom
Mr Grahame, under the name of Ma-
tilda, invited to meet him in the grove,
and who promised to answer his invi-
tation, took this opportunity of *meet-*
ing him in like manner, incognito, in
the precincts of Parnassus. Having
stolen his Doric reed to play one of
his own airs, he wrote to make an

obscure allusion to the affair, and to offer an ironical apology, and here the good-humoured retaliation terminated.

The last poem of the Rural Calendar which appeared in the Kelso Mail was "October." The year was not completed from the press till Blackwood's edition of his poems, as already mentioned, was published.

The plan of the "British Georgics," a poem, which was splendidly published in quarto, in 1809, appears to have been suggested by the Rural Calendar, and as the author has transplanted some of the choicest flowers of the one into the other, it may therefore be as well to consider the merits of both poems together.

In the autumn of this year (1797) he suffered considerably from the head-ache and other complaints. In a letter, dated Glasgow, October 20, he says, * * * * "I return to Edinburgh on Monday se'ennight. The prospect of your spending the Christmas holidays with me would brighten the gloom of the intervening period, which I must devote to disagreeable exertions. You will not refuse me. How shall I bring myself to write law papers, when I feel myself already exhausted by writing these few lines to a friend?" He continued, however, to attend to the duties of his profession, and to live alternately in town and country; nor did he, while engaged in business, fail to find consolation under the *ennui* produced by inaction, or the fatigue occasioned by excessive labour, in the hope of enjoying those rural scenes which exercised his powers, or soothed his heart. His health and spirits were generally improved by his residence in the country; and though he was by no means a *malade imaginaire*, as some of his acquaintances were wont

to suppose, yet his sensibility to all the charms of nature made him often experience a buoyancy of soul which carried him out of himself, and caused him to "partake of her rejoicing," with a degree of rapture only to be felt. But, "like the clouds returning after the rain," his intervals of complete health were soon succeeded by renewed indisposition. A letter of Mr Grahame's now before us, dated Edinburgh, August 14, 1799, contains these expressions:— "What law hath said, that when I write to my friend after a long interval, I must write a long letter? May not the continuance of regard be expressed in a few lines? I am just going to leave town for the west country." * * * * "I am so ill with rheumatism that I cannot sit without uneasiness in the posture which writing requires. I am ordered to take a long ride on horseback; a rough remedy you may think." * * * *

It was about this time that he was alarmed by symptoms of a somewhat singular nature, that gave rise to prophetic anticipations of an event, which, though it may be contemplated by the good without dismay, can scarcely be contemplated by any without banishing thoughtless gaiety, and giving a serious and solemn turn to the mind. The symptoms to which we allude were an occasional fluttering of the pulse, followed by its cessation for seven or eight seconds, attended sometimes with temporary absence of mind, or loss of recollection. This complaint recurred so frequently as to cease to alarm him in the degree which it did at first; and he makes some most affecting allusions to it in his poems. We shall only, at present, select one. After describing the haunts, the habits, and the self-devoting maternal tenderness

of the partridge, in a very fine passage, he adds,—

Fear not, ye harmless race,
In me no longer shall ye find a foe!
Even when each pulse beat high with
 bounding health,
Ere yet the stream of life in sluggish flow
Began to flag, and *prematurely stop*
With ever-boding pause, even then my heart
Was never in the sport; even then I felt,
Pleasure from pain was pleasure much al-
 loy'd.

Birds of Scotland, p. 10.

In the year 1801 he published the first edition of a dramatic poem, entitled "Mary Stewart, Queen of Scotland," which seems to have been a greater favourite of the author than of the public; for though it did not attract much notice, he made considerable and elaborate alterations, and republished it in 1807 in the 12mo. edition of his poems, which has been already mentioned. It forms the last piece of the second volume; and in placing it in company with his most popular productions, he gave it a fair chance of obtaining that attention which it could hardly be expected to attract when published separately by an author who was then unknown to public fame.

Exquisitely tragical as the subject of this drama is, and worthy as it is of the highest poetical embellishment, we do not think it a promising subject for a dramatist. The history is too well known to allow much exercise of invention, either in respect of incident or character, and the events are too affecting to require any addition from the aid of fancy. Though we cannot acquiesce in the maxim, "Rien n'est beau, que le vrai," if pushed beyond the region of morality, we must acknowledge that there is a degree of interest ex-

cited by the idea of truth, which renders a plain narrative of distressing events that really did happen, much more touching than a finely-wrought detail of imaginary woe. Hence it will follow, that when a true and interesting story is made the foundation of a poetical tale, the reader will be apt to compare the fiction with the history, and to reserve his sympathy for those things whose truth claims it, and for those alone. On this account, many who weep over the cruel fate of Scotland's lovely queen in the memoirs of her faithful Melvil, or in the flowing and perspicuous history of Robertson, will read with little emotion a finer fictitious delineation of her character and sorrows than has yet been drawn. Mr Grahame seems to have been sensible of this, for he chooses for his subject not the death of Queen Mary, every circumstance connected with which has been so minutely recorded, but her escape from Loch Leven Castle; her dubious fate at the battle of Langside; her subsequent flight into England; and her confinement in the castle of Lancaster by the command of the ungenerous and deceitful Elizabeth. In the preface to the second edition he acknowledges that he has not paid a scrupulous regard to facts or dates, but has introduced several fictitious characters, added many incidents, and misplaced many. Now, though it is both safe and necessary to make such additions when the story is derived from remote antiquity, where the provinces of fable and history are blended together, yet we should greatly prefer a subject which, though altogether fictitious, has verisimilitude to recommend it, to one in which we are every moment puzzling ourselves between truth and fiction, and constrained to think more

of the artist than of the production of his pen.

Grahame, both as a poet and an individual, is to be ranked among the defenders of our unfortunate queen; for his nationality, his admiration of the graces of her mind and person, and his indignation against those who betrayed and oppressed her, seem to have gained the ascendancy in his mind over those political and religious principles, which, had he lived in her day, would have made him a gentle but determined adversary to his Tory and Roman catholic sovereign. Though desirous to exculpate Mary from the accusations brought against her, the poet makes her feel pangs of conscience connected with Darnley's mysterious fate, which are hardly compatible with the idea of her total innocence, but he limits her culpability to her sufferance of the deed; and denies either her active agency, or even her consent to its perpetration. To palliate this sufferance, the worthlessness and ingratitude of this weak and spoiled minion of royal favour are repeatedly introduced. The story which forms the business of the piece is somewhat inartificial, and the characters often speak rather as it were to display themselves, than to conduct it to its completion. There is a want of true energy in the style, and in several of the speeches a misplaced sentimentality, which offends a reader of taste. Yet, with all these deductions, the piece contains many striking beauties; and the genius of the author shines forth both in some of the similies which he employs, in the nice observation of nature which he evinces, and in the knowledge of the human heart which he unfolds. If he does not unlock with the hand of a master the recesses of human passion, he knows at least how to touch

with thrilling effect the finest chords of human feeling.

As we have not room to enter on the detail of the pathetic story, we shall select a few passages rather as specimens of the poetical than the dramatic qualities of the piece.

The following description of Mary's person and warlike appearance is spirited, and, we think, unique. It is a happy illustration of the enthusiastic admiration of a young soldier, even of the adverse party.

In her right-hand, ungloved, a sword she bore,
While with her left she reined her pawing steed,
As passed the several clans. She knew the name
Of every chief; to each one's homage bowed.
Then kiss'd her hilt: But when the Douglases
Advanced, she stooped to low, her lovely locks,
Disordered with the wind, were seen to join
Her charger's flowing mane. When all had passed,
They formed a ring around this fair Bellona;
Then she harangued them with a modest boldness:
She spoke of English arts, and English gold;
And vowed she would not see her realm reduced
To be a province of a foreign queen.

Vol. II. p. 93.

The touches which display the maternal solicitude of the queen are numerous and tender; for instance,—

Look down, and see in circling flight that lark
Reflected in the bosom of the lake;
It has a home; it is allowed to stretch
Its pinions o'er its young.— P. 81.

On the hill, whence she is spectator
of the battle, the hope of seeing her

child is the first idea which the prospect of victory suggests to her.

Again shall I behold
 My child after this dreary gloom of absence?
 Ah me! he will not know me; my son will start
 As if he saw a stranger in his mother:
 But I will smile so fondly on my babe,
 I'll press him to my breast, with an embrace
 That only mothers give, and infants know,
 Then through his tears he'll answer smile for smile.—*Vol. II. p. 115.*

Her generous dissuasion of her friends from hazarding any thing for her rescue; such as—

Think not of serving me; I've now no power
 To give rewards; I am no more a queen.
 Look at yon lily through my window bars,
 'Tis withering apace; it has no root:
 I am that rootless flower;
 Think not of serving me;
 I have no recompense to offer you.

P. 81, 82.

And her deep regret for the sufferings both of friends and foes, in the contest on which her fate depends, gives a very amiable view of her character.—

How much is lost, how little gained by war!
 I'd rather lose my crown than see one child
 Made fatherless, one woman made a widow,
 One mother mourn a son, one maid a lover,
 Or even than a friendless man be missed
 By his poor dog. My crown, I care not for thee!
 Poor bauble, go and grace my baby's brow.—*Vol. II. p. 108.*

The last extract which we shall make from this poem, is Mary's description of the dreary sameness of the life of a prisoner, which, as far as we can judge of such a doleful condition, appears as accurate as it is minute.—

You seem to feel, as if you once had felt
 The misery of them who learn to note
 The dreary hours by the slow moving shadow
 Of stanchel-bars upon the chequered floor,
 To whom the cheerful sun shines but to tell
 That life and joy exist but not for them;
 Whose serenade is noise of closing bolts;
 To whom the sweetest sound that meets the ear
 Is the slow warden's morning-steps ascending,
 And then the ringing of the loosened hasps;
 Even the stern face, that seems to grudge a look
 And tongue returning mono-syllables
 To anxious questioning, even these
 Impart a kind of pleasure to the wretch
 Whose home's the prison house.

Vol. II. p. 176-77.

In spring 1802, Mr Grahame was united in marriage with Miss Grahame, the eldest daughter of a gentleman resident in the immediate vicinity of the town of Annan in Dumfriesshire, who, by profession, is a writer, and holds the office of town-clerk of that borough. The accomplishments and activity of this lady qualified her, in an eminent degree, to be the companion of his life, and the confidant of his heart; and the domestic peace and joy which resulted from this union gave new hope, cheerfulness, and energy to his mind. It was delightful to see him in the bosom of his family, enjoying the infantine prattle of his children, entering with ease and pleasure into their amusements, and sowing in them the seeds of knowledge and of virtue. His tall figure, his dark complexion, and grave expressive features, which rendered his first appearance somewhat formidable to a child, formed a curious contrast with the playfulness he was accustomed to indulge in with his own offspring. They listened with gladness to the words of a father who blended the looks and ex-

presions of kindness with the lessons of wisdom and experience; and who, they knew, rejoiced to see them happy, and to become a partner of their happiness.

It was, we believe, about the time of his marriage, that, without mentioning it to Mrs Grahame, he formed the plan of writing a poem on the Sabbath. This grand and simple idea was singularly worthy of a poet, a philanthropist, and a Christian; and though it is not without some diffidence in our own judgment that we pronounce "The Sabbath" to be the best, there can be no doubt that it is by far the most interesting and popular of his poetical works. His heart was in the task; and the pleasing occupation which its accomplishment afforded to the mind, must have rendered his literary leisure truly delightful.

Whether he may have been induced to conceal from his most valued and confidential friends this intellectual employment, from an apprehension that they would consider its prosecution unfavourable to his success in life, by withdrawing his thoughts from the duties of his profession; or whether he was desirous of making another experiment on the public, by giving them his production without his name, and leaving them without prejudice or partiality to decide its fate; or what other motive may have swayed his mind, cannot perhaps be precisely determined. But he kept his secret so well, that, if we except perhaps the printer and publisher, we do not suppose any individual had the least suspicion of the author's name, when his work made its appearance in Edinburgh, toward the close of 1804. It was printed in a small and unpretending duodecimo volume; and it quickly appeared that it could

make its way without the recommendation of adventitious circumstances, for the whole impression was sold off in a few days. The poem was read by persons of all ranks with feelings of warm approbation; and curiosity regarding the author gave rise to a variety of conjectures, which supplied the public appetite till the truth was discovered. With great patience he awaited the time when he might make the disclosure, and was rewarded for the self-denial he exercised by listening to the criticisms which he heard, unbiassed as they were by favour or friendship; and by anticipating the pleasure which, when his name should be known, he should alike confer and enjoy. The unbought praises which poured in from all quarters must have been the more cheering to him, because the most beneficial moral consequences might be expected to result from the popularity of a performance, the avowed object of which was to revive the decaying reverence of all classes for one of the most ancient, venerable, and excellent institutions that ever was established for the comfort, the civilization, and the improvement of mankind. None of the numerous criticisms which the author heard could convey to him such heartfelt satisfaction as that of his wife. She read the poem without the least idea that he was the author, and then spoke of it to him in terms of the highest approbation, earnestly recommending it to his attention. We can but faintly picture the pleasure which Grahame would experience from this eulogium, and from the explanation to which it led.

If, however, the mask behind which he concealed himself, enabled him to hear many gratifying things, it also exposed him to some sneers

and censures which he might otherwise have escaped. Of these, the most galling was, undoubtedly, a piquant and dashing critique in the tenth number of the Edinburgh Review, the author of which mingles a considerable portion of judicious praise, with a large infusion of harsh and contemptuous sarcasm. He sets off by remarking that he does not know whether to ascribe the rapid success of this little volume to the love of poetry, or the love of religion; and after giving some pleasing quotations, and acknowledging that many other parts of the poem bear marks of genius, he makes some very cutting remarks, and continues thus:—"If he (the author) be a young man, we think there are considerable hopes of him; but if this be the production of maturer talents, we cannot, in our conscience, exhort him to continue in the service of the muses." But the bitterest censure is reserved for the notes. "The work," he observes, "contains a good deal of doctrine and argumentation both in the text and in the notes, but nothing that is not either very trite or very shallow and extravagant. The author talks very big about the inhumanity and injustice of imprisonment for debt, and about the cruel monopolies by which the Highland shepherds are driven from their mountains. He dogmatizes, in the same presumptuous style, on the character of Buonaparte, and on the most adviseable plan for recruiting the British army; and seems as perfectly persuaded of his own infallibility upon all these subjects, as his readers, we apprehend, must be of his insufficiency."

We must acknowledge that Mr Grahame's feelings for unfortunate debtors, appear to have strangely clouded his recollection and warped

his judgment; and that he has drawn a very exaggerated picture of their hardships and oppressions in Scotland. His errors on this subject are pointed out with great accuracy and good sense, by a writer who subscribes himself J. S. in the Scots Magazine for 1806, p. 127. But we really see nothing that wears the air of presumption, far less lays claim to infallibility. And whatever be the theory of the Scottish law, we fear there are practical evils connected with the treatment of debtors, which not only justify, but demand the interposition of the powerful and humane. We have had occasion to visit persons of this unfortunate class, in a gaol intended for the detention of the insolvent debtors of a populous county, and have seen, with mingled emotions of sorrow and indignation, eight or ten persons confined, during the heat of summer, to an apartment not exceeding fourteen or sixteen feet square, with no permission for the poor captives to breathe the fresh air, and no place for occasional exercise. We have heard of a larger number being lodged in such a place, and sometimes even of debtors of different sexes being cooped up in the same miserable cell. These things require attention; and we trust the example which the English are shewing us of increasing care for the health and comfort not only of debtors, but of persons suspected, and even convicted of crimes, will continue to be followed in this part of the united kingdom, where knowledge and humanity prevail, in at least as great a degree, as in the southern part of the island.

With regard to the horror which Mr Grahame has expressed for the crimes engendered by the French revolution, and for the odious charac-

ter of him who raised himself by every enormity which fraud could devise or force accomplish, to supreme dominion, and who, in the progress of his guilty career, trampled alike under foot the rights of foreign nations and of his own, we approve and respect the strong and unqualified language which the author assumes. We wish it had been imitated by many whose reluctant censure or covert palliations of the enormities of Buonaparte and his coadjutors, would seem to indicate a state of complete mental apathy, and a want of the power of moral perception,—did not their abuse of the measures of our own government, and of the persons of its leaders, sufficiently demonstrate their sensibility and zeal.

We before observed in substance, and we now with pleasure repeat, that Grahame was none of those who give up their moral judgment to party. The tone of virtuous indignation with which he reprobates the conduct of that people, who, boasting of their freedom, employed it in reducing the human race to bondage, proves him to be a sincere and *consistent* friend of liberty. Nor do we think that the picture he has drawn of the chief actor in this scene of mischief, is at all overcharged, though it may contain some expressions deficient in that dignity which the importance of the subject requires. No man less merited the charge of dogmatism than Mr Grahame, for no man listened with more attention to the opinions of others, treated them with more candour, or advanced his own with greater modesty. If, in the ardour of composition, he have in any instance assumed the manner of a dogmatist, let it be ascribed to the impulse of his feelings, and not to any overweening conceit

of his wisdom, of which he probably formed a more humble estimate, than any who had the pleasure of his acquaintance would have been inclined to approve. With regard to his “plan for recruiting the British army,” we shall only say, that it is expressly introduced by Mr Grahame as that of a statesman, of whom the critic professes uniformly as high an admiration as the poet does on the present occasion; that the plan of limited service is recommended by the Edinburgh Review itself, as a masterpiece of policy and wisdom; and that when it was carried by Mr Windham and his friends in 1806, it was regarded by the admirers of that administration, as, next to the glorious abolition of the slave trade, the most important public benefit they could confer, and by their keenest opponents, as an act that atoned for many errors, and gave them a claim to the gratitude of their country.

We are ready enough to admit, that the place into which these discussions were introduced was but ill calculated for their reception; and we should not have been so long prevented, by animadverting on them, from offering a few remarks on the poem itself, had they not met with so sharp a castigation.

It is but fair, however, to state, that the critic made some amends to the injured feelings of the poet. For in an able review of his poem entitled “British Georgics,” which appeared with the name of the author, praise is lavished on him with a skilful, but unsparing hand; censure is administered with parsimony and reluctance; and he is treated throughout in the most delicate and respectful manner. Yet it is admitted, we believe, by all candid judges, that the Sabbath is the most polished,

and the "British Georgics" the most unequal and prosaic of all his compositions.

To have been attacked by Lord Byron in a juvenile satire, almost as full of venom as it is of lines, could have given him little or no uneasiness; for that virulence which is directed against all can scarcely annoy any. But it is somewhat amusing to reflect on the ridiculous mistake which his lordship has committed in the choice of an epithet to designate him. He calls him in derision, "the Sabbath Bard, *Sepulchral* Grahame." Now if the epithet *sepulchral* was here intended to be applied to the man, and to point him out as morose, gloomy, and unsocial, nothing can be less descriptive of Mr Grahame; for he delighted in innocent mirth, and his expressive features glowed with benevolence, or beamed with cheerfulness and delight in the company of his friends. If it was intended to be levelled at the poem of the Sabbath, as the connection in which it stands obliges us to believe, it is, if possible, still more inapplicable. For that poem is full of associations and images which lead us beyond the sepulchre, and tend to deprive it of all its horrors. But "*mutato nomine de te fabula narratur.*" Of all modern poets, that noble person has himself the most indisputable, nay, almost we had said, the exclusive right to the distinguishing title which his self-denying modesty leads him to confer on another. For he truly delights to riot and revel amid the ruins of mortality; with a merciless hand he tears in pieces the veil which delicacy throws over our mouldering clay; and employs the most elaborate efforts of his splendid genius to represent the sepulchre as our final home, and to overwhelm with

scorn the faith and hope that would dare to look beyond it!

The merits of the Sabbath have been so generally admitted, and its finest passages are so familiar to persons of taste and feeling, that it is not necessary, and might not be safe, to enter much into detail in our commentary upon it. We were greatly surprised by a remark contained in the critique of which we have already spoken, "that the subject does not admit of much novelty, and that accordingly when the author sticks to it, he is far from being original."

With sincere respect and deference for the talents of this writer, we must be permitted to express a very different sentiment. It is true, indeed, that the Sabbath, its history, and its occupations, have been familiar to us from our earliest years, and that, in these respects, the subject may, strictly speaking, want the charm of novelty. But if we except the allusions to it in several of the Psalms, as well as in certain prophetic passages of the sacred writings, and some short occasional pieces in imitation of these, we believe that it was in a great measure new to poetry: and we will venture to say, that the subject was still more admirably adapted for poetry by its grandeur than by its novelty. The regular appropriation of the seventh part of our time to the purposes of devotion, rest, and mercy, is a wonderful appointment. It is an ordinance which could scarcely have sprung from human policy, for the rich and powerful would have grudged the loss of so large a portion of the time of their dependants; and the poor would still less have thought of asking, as a boon from their superiors, an indulgence which, to their limited and partial view, must have cost them

the seventh part of their little gains. The Sabbath, then, is an institution which is above the wisdom of man, and is worthy of the wisdom and goodness of his merciful Creator. We are accordingly instructed by the scripture to believe, that it is an institution almost as ancient as the world itself, and designed to continue as long as the world shall exist. Its observance is commanded by divine authority; and its professed design is to lead men to the contemplation and worship of God. The mercy of the institution is also very conspicuous. Men, and such of the lower animals as are employed in the service of men, are refreshed; an universal pause from labour and toil is enjoyed at once over the Christian world.

The giving of the law, and the special appointment of the Sabbath, from mount Sinai, amid the awful demonstrations of divine power; the resurrection of Christ, which was the signal for its change among Christians, from the seventh to the first day of the week; the varying modes of worship among men; the resurrection of the body, and a future state proved by the resurrection of our Lord, and his subsequent ascension; the allusions to the temple not made with hands, to the songs of celestial praise, and to the *rest* that remains in the abodes of bliss; these are topics which, in our apprehension, furnish full scope for the genius of a Milton, and would exhaust his highest powers. That they come recommended by popular and reverential belief, is a high additional advantage. Milton's machinery (if we may venture so to speak) is finer in itself, incomparably finer than that of Homer or Virgil. To Christians it comes home with awful solemnity, from the as-

sociation of truth with which it is presented to the mind. But Milton has been too much of an inventor; and by going beyond his limit, he has sometimes involved himself in perplexity, and sometimes shocked the pious feelings which he meant to purify and exalt. In the subjects connected with, or suggested by the Sabbath, this defect might be more easily avoided; and if avoided, the most beneficial results might be expected from enlisting fancy in the cause of religion and humanity. We are not at all surprised then, that Mr Grahame should have selected this subject for his sacred muse; but we are surprised that it should have remained so long unoccupied. He seems to have comprehended the grandeur of his theme; and though he has not availed himself of all the resources which it presented, nor attempted to give that unity and elevation to his plan of which we apprehend it was susceptible, he has presented a series of most agreeable and interesting descriptions and images to the mind, mingled with contrasts which heighten their effect, and has rendered the whole subservient to the comfort and melioration of human nature.

Although Mr Grahame was bred a presbyterian, and sat as an elder in the General Assembly of the Scottish Church during five or six successive years; and though he extols the Scottish reformers in somewhat extravagant praise, it is remarkable that in the first and second editions of the Sabbath, he gives an account only of the episcopalian service. We have good reason to suppose, that, feeling, as he did, a high respect for the institutions of the English church, and having his taste for music gratified by the organ, he

was willing to avail himself of it for poetical effect. In the later editions, however, he presents us with the simple service of our own church in the first instance, and then introduces "the lofty ritual of our sister land."

It has been alleged by some, that the fine opening of the poem may have been an unacknowledged imitation of the late Dr Leyden's beautiful sonnet "to the Sabbath," which, though not printed, had been previously handed about in manuscript among his friends. The only reason alleged in support of this opinion is, the superior stillness ascribed by both to nature on *the day of rest*, though there is, it seems, no physical reality in the supposition. We really wonder at this being given as any proof of the fact. It appears to us that this conclusion cannot be fairly drawn from any such resemblance. For though the sky is not more radiant, nor the music of the groves more sweet, in fact, on the Sabbath than on other days, it is quite plain, that to persons of taste, and even to the vulgar, they *appear* to be so, from the influence of a very powerful association, and actually become so from the reflected influence of moral nature. We might fairly doubt the claim of that man to be considered as a poet, who should overlook a circumstance so obvious and so impressive. This constitutes one feature of the description near the opening of the poem, which is characteristic of the tenderness of the poet's heart, and which is as remarkable for its beauty as its truth.

With dove-like wings Peace o'er the vil-
lage broods;
The dizzying mill-wheel rests; the anvil's
din
Hath ceased; and all around is quietness.
Less fearful on this day, the limping hare

*Stops and looks back, and stops and looks on
man,
Her deadliest foe. The toll-worn horse set free,
Unheedful of the pasture, roams at large;
And as his stiff unwieldy bulk he rolls,
His iron-arm'd hoofs gleam in the morning
ray.*

Amid the beauties of sentiment and description which spring up around us like April flowers, in every part of this exquisite poem, it is far more difficult to select than to find extracts. We shall present one or two, not because we think them the best, but because they give an idea of the variety and method of the work. The first is strictly connected with the subject, and must, we think, be felt and admired by every reader.

Did ever law of man a power like this
Display?—Power marvellous as merciful!
Which, though in *other* ordinances still
Most plainly seen, is yet but little marked
For what it truly is,—a miracle!
Stupendous, ever new, performed at once
In every region, yea, on every sea
Which Europe's navies plow; yes, in all
lands

From pole to pole, or civilized or rude,
People there are to whom the *Sabbath* morn
Dawns, shedding dews into their drooping
hearts.

Yes, far beyond the high-heaved western
wave,

Amid COLUMBIA's wildernesses vast,
The words which God in thunder from
the mount

Of Sinai spake, are heard, and are obeyed.
Thy children, SCOTIA, in the desert land,
Driven from their homes by fell monopoly,
Keep holy to the Lord the seventh day.
Assembled under loftiest canopy
Of trees primeval, soon to be laid low,
They sing, ' *By Babel's streams we sat and
wept.*'

Vol. I. p. 23.

The following allusion to his own delicate state of health, which introduces an apostrophe to Music, contains some fine, and, we are inclined to think, original images.

☉ Health! thou sun of life, without whose beam

The fairest scenes of nature seem involved
In darkness, shine upon my dreary path.
Once more; or, with thy faintest dawn,
give hope,

That I may yet enjoy thy vital ray!
Though transient be the hope, 'twill be
most sweet,

Like midnight music stealing on the ear,
Then gliding past, and dying slow away.
Music! thou soothing power, thy charm
is proved

Most vividly when clouds o'ercast the
soul;—

So light its loveliest effect displays
In lowering skies, when through the murky
rack

A slanting sun-beam shoots, and instant
limns

The ethereal curve of seven harmonious
dyes,

Eliciting a splendour from the gloom.
Vol. I. p. 41.

The "Sabbath Walks" for the different seasons of the year, have been justly and peculiarly admired. And the little poem called "The First Sabbath," though somewhat obscure in one or two places, is a noble specimen of the author's genius. Yet we cannot but regret that the chief ideas of these poems, which properly belong to the subject of "the Sabbath," were not introduced as a part of it.

The "Biblical Pictures" are well named, for a painter might draw from most of them, and steal from them also Promethean fire, to infuse life and beauty into the creations of his pencil. We speak not, however, so much of the language, for Mr Grahame is often careless, as of the description and sentiment. They display the minute acquaintance of the author with scriptural facts, and his profound reverence for scriptural truths.

It is now incumbent on us to offer a few remarks on "the Birds of

Scotland," a poem which, next to the "Sabbath," we think the best of his long productions. It is divided into three parts, the first of which contains a description of our woodland songsters; the second, of those which migrate in the winter; and the third, of birds of prey. But though the poet has followed this general arrangement, from the nature of the subject he is desultory in the details; and it is by no means easy always to trace the principle of association by which his transitions are conducted. This is a defect in some degree attached to all descriptive poetry. It is also extremely difficult to render a composition of this nature interesting. Yet Mr Grahame has done much to overcome the difficulty, and has been so successful in the moral and historical allusions and references which he has introduced, that we wish he had introduced them more frequently. When the author was hesitating about a name for his poem, we recommended to him the title of "Caledonian Ornithology;" and indeed, though he does not profess the accuracy of a natural historian, we have not found any natural history of the tenants of our woods and heaths more particular in its observations, or more correct in its statements. To the genuine lovers of nature this poem will furnish an exquisite treat, for the author, in happy accordance with his theme, displays ease, grace, and rapidity, in his delineations of the habits and haunts of the feathered tribes.

The lovers of variety will find abundant gratification. There is as little similarity between the habits of a hawk and a red-breast, as there is between those of a highwayman and an honest housewife; and as

little resemblance between the characters of an owl and a cock-sparrow, as there is between those of a senator and a recruit with his new cockade. If Mr Grahame then, like a bird, appears to hop from tree to tree, his plumage sometimes irradiated by sun-beams, sometimes obscured in marshes or thickets, it must be remembered, that he is following a devious subject, and that he is bound to describe the humbler and less interesting, as well as the more lofty and elegant of the winged race. We have pleasure in extracting the following highly-wrought description of the Eagle bearing her prey to her young, together with a fine passage about our patriot Wallace, which it very naturally introduces.

Viewing the distant flocks, with ranging eye

She meditates the prey; but waits the time
When seas of mist extend along the vale,
And, rising gradual, reach her lofty shore;
Up then to sunny regions of the air
She soars, and looks upon the white-wreathed summits

Of mountains, seeming ocean isles; then down

She plunges, stretching through the hazy deep;

Unseen she flies, and, on her playful quarry,

Pounces unseen. The shepherd knows his loss,

When high o'erhead he hears a passing bleat,

Faint, and more faintly dying far away.

And now aloft she bends her homeward course,

Loaded, yet light; and soon her youngling pair

Joyful descri her buoyant wing emerge
And float along the cloud; fluttering they steep

Upon the dizzy brink, as if they aimed
To try the abyss, and meet her coming breast;

But soon her coming breast, and out-stretched wings,

Glide shadowing down, and close upon their heads.

It was upon the eagle's plundered store
That WALLACE fared, when hunted from his home,

A glorious outlaw by the lawless power
Of freedom's foiled assassin, England's king.

Along the mountain-cliffs, that ne'er were clomb

By other footstep than his own, 'twas these
His eagle-vision'd genius, towering, planned

The grand emprise of setting Scotland free.
He long'd to mingle in the storm of war:

And as the eagle dauntlessly ascends,
Reveling amid the elemental strife,

His mind, sublimed, prefigured to itself
Each circumstance of future hard-fought fields,

The battle's hubbub loud, the forceful press,

That from his victim hurries him afar;

The impetuous, close, concentrated assault,
That, like a billow broken on the rocks,

Recedes, but forward heaves with double fury.

Vol. II. p. 62, 63.

Mr Grahame and his family spent a considerable part of the summer, 1807, at the beautiful village of Roslin. Here he was chiefly employed in the composition of a poem on the abolition of the slave trade, an event which will render that year for ever memorable. No one who was not actively engaged in the accomplishment of that great work, was animated with more zeal in the cause; and no man rejoiced more sincerely than he in the glorious triumph by which the struggle was terminated. A plan was formed by Bowyer of Pall Mall, London, for perpetuating the remembrance of this consummation, in a manner worthy of this enlightened age and country. He proposed to publish what might be considered as a national work, consisting of three original poems on the abolition, with splendid embellishments. The per-

sons who undertook the poetical part of the work were, James Montgomery, Mr Grahame, and Elizabeth Benger.

This splendid work made its appearance in 1809, and was never much circulated. In Scotland it is very little known. Our limits forbid us to offer our intended criticism on this elaborate work. We shall only observe, that the amiable Montgomery's poem was afterwards published separately in a 12mo volume, and is called the "West Indies;" that it met with very great and justly merited success, and that it will transmit his name with honour to posterity.

In the mean time Mr Grahame, who found the pursuits of literature the more delightful from the fame which he had already acquired, and from the power which he possessed of relaxing or increasing his diligence, as his health declined or improved, became more and more averse from his professional labours, and gradually discontinued his connection with the bar. He was quietly employed in preparing himself for the duties of a clergyman, in which it had been his wish at first to engage, and to which his heart, amid all the vicissitudes of life, had been more or less attached. He said to a friend, "I love peace," and both his conversation, and many of his poetical allusions, shew how much he hated contention, and how unfit he was for mingling in the strife of tongues and the jarring of selfish interests. He now, therefore, thought, with redoubled pleasure, of becoming a minister of the religion of peace; and not only his predilection, but his early studies, rendered his preparation for the change easy and pleasant.

In 1808, Mr Grahame published

and avowed a small poem in rhyme, entitled, "The Siege of Copenhagen." He describes the apparently pacific approach of our fleet to the Scandinavian coast, the friendly welcome with which it was cheered as it passed the Sound, and approached the capital; the amazement, dismay, and resistance of the Danes, the horrors of the bombardment, and its dismal success; and concludes by a remonstrance with his countrymen on the alleged injustice and impolicy of the painful expedition. We shall only observe, in reference to this afflicting topic, that as its secret causes have never yet been fully explained, so the measure seems more questionable in point of morality, as some of its details were more afflicting to humanity, than any in which England has for many years been engaged. The calamities of warfare, however, are of themselves no proof of its iniquity, and certainly Mr Grahame has too much identified both. The following most exquisitely drawn picture will atone by its beauty, perhaps, for the pain which its perusal must give.

And now on every side rise sights of
woe,
Here instant death, there lingeringly slow.
In yonder roofless dwelling mark the blaze,
That round the cradled infant lambent
plays;
And see the little arms outstretched for
aid;—
Alas! thy watchful mother low is laid
Meantime the father, in the hottest fight,
Oft backward looks upon the dreadful
light,
Which still he trusts surmounts some lofty
dome,
As yet far distant from his humble home;
And still he hopes to see the infant smile,
Whose wicker couch is now its funeral
pile.

P. 6.

We have much more satisfaction in

extracting the closing passage of the poem.

What, Britons, if the Gaul had seized the prize,
 And stowed each ship with sword-compelled allies!
 Ere long they had been yours in open war,
 And triumph hailed a second Trafalgar;
 Or had they reached with stealthy sail the coast,
 No cause had we to fear, or they to boast.
 Should slavery's foot the land of freedom soil,
 Who but would burn to join the bloody toil!
 Yes! let them now their boasted legions pour!
 They'll find each British field an AZIM-COUR.

P. 10, 11.

He passed the winter, as usual, in Edinburgh, and resided, during the greater part of the summer, 1808, with his family, at a pleasant villa in the neighbourhood of Annan. Here his active mind was occupied in the composition of the "British Georgics," a poem which, together with long and tedious notes, was printed about a year afterwards in a splendid quarto. If we may judge from the style in which the volume appeared, and from the price at which it was sold, we should be led to conclude, that, like many a fond parent, he was most attached to the least promising of his offspring.

The title, we think, of this agricultural poem is somewhat rashly chosen. The mind of a scholar is thus forced to recal, and to bring into comparison with it, the *Georgics* of the Mantuan Bard, a poem distinguished for its beauty and elegance, and which has sometimes been pronounced to be the most exquisitely polished and complete of the compositions of Virgil. Certain critics who have treated Mr Grahame's *Georgics* with marvellous indulgence, have

imputed its faults to its didactic nature; but this apology will avail little with those who find it completely inapplicable to his great prototype. At the same time, success in such an attempt is certainly difficult. We are indeed disposed to receive lessons in morality, or the fine arts, from the muses; but cannot relish their instructions about ploughs and harrows unless they are delivered with exquisite address; nor can we readily understand how they should be qualified to discuss the comparative merits of drill and broad-cast turnip husbandry.

Agriculturists have in general been deemed

A rough-shod race, who fancy's flowrets scorn,
 And trample down, astares, amid the corn;
 Who still in mind man's loftier functions keep,
 To fatten calves, and mend the breed of sheep;
 The Muses' hill reclaim as useless waste,
 Parnassus' plough, and rake the field of taste.

Though we are not disposed to give much weight to this charge, we can hardly expect that a practical farmer should go to a poetical calendar for instruction about manuring or tilling his land; and, if men of polished taste are to be interested in the art, great skill and delicacy are indispensably necessary on the part of the poet.

In consequence of the greater facility with which blank verse may be constructed, than that which is bound in the trammels of rhyme, we are disposed to be the more rigid in our claims upon it; and great is our disappointment on this occasion. Though there are many fine passages scattered through the twelve divisions of the work, yet we are compelled to say,

that there are very few which we have perused with approbation, that refer to the proper business of the poem. Mr Grahame, in the best of his poems, is not nice about the rules of English prosody, nor is he careful to consult the ear in his deviations. We have often two superfluous syllables in a line, which spoil the sound without adding any thing to the sense; and sometimes by the simple change of a word from one place of a line to another, we bring out a melodious, instead of a grating and discordant verse.

Whether to impute this glaring fault to carelessness, to the want of a correct ear for poetical numbers, or to the example of Cowper, who seems to have been his chief favourite, and who sometimes offends in a similar way, we know not. But in the British Georgics we do not so much complain even of this, as of the bald and unadorned precepts in which the art of farming is often taught.

The following may serve as specimens.

The seed 'time closed, the fences, hedge,
and ditch,
Demand your tendance: first the ditches
clear,
And then with cautious hand the hedges
lop,
Round at the bottom, tapering by degrees,
As to the top the shears or bill ascends.

Again,

Oft times, 'tis true, a single row of thorns
Is found a feeble fence, but to destroy
That row is not the mode to give it strength.
The error lies in planting single rows;
And heedless of variety of soil,
Clay, sand, or gravel, dry or wet or cold.

P. 74, 75.

But let us now attend a little to the beauties of this volume.

Various reviewers have so ransack-

ed it, that many who have never seen it, are familiar with its episodes and descriptions. The account of beehives, sent to the moors in July, deserves, perhaps, to be remembered as much as any other, for the microscopic observation of nature which it evinces, and for those delicate and unlooked-for touches of good-natured sentiment (if we may so express our meaning) in which we are inclined to think Mr Grahame unique.

When summer's blow of flowers begins
to fade,
Some to the moorlands bear their hives, to
cull
The treasures of the heath-bell; simple
flower!
That still extends its purple tint as far
As eye can reach, round many an upland
farm:
There still, of genuine breed, the colly
meets,
Barking shrill-toned, the stranger rarely
seen;
While near some rushy ricks of meadow
hay
The startled horse stands gazing, then a-
round
His tether-length of twisted hair full
stretched,
He snorting scours; a toothless harrow
serves
For garden gate,—where, duly ranged, the
hives
Stand covered till the evening shades de-
scend.
But when the sun-beams glisten on the
dew,
Forth fly the stranger tribes, and far and
near
Spread o'er the purple moor, cheering the
task
Of him who busy digs his winter fuel;
For 'mid these wilds no sound gives sign
of life
Save hum of bee, or grasshopper's hoarse
chirp;
Or when the heath-fowl strikes her dis-
tant call;
Or plovers lighting on the half-buried tree,
Scream their dire dirge where once the
linnet sung.

P. 123, 124.

"December" is the month which we have read, on the whole, with the most uniform gratification; and on investigating the cause, we suspect that it arises from the frost-bound earth admitting no culture, and therefore giving no occasion for admonitions to farmers and cow-herds.

There is an amiable peculiarity about Mr Grahame which we ought not to omit, and which we do not think has been noticed by any of the commentators on his writings. The things which have once pleased him, never fail to please him when they recur; and his having sung the lark or the redbreast at great length, and in various places in the Birds of Scotland, and the Rural Calendar, is no reason why he should not have the pleasure of recognising these familiar friends when he meets them again on the daisied leas, and winter hearths of the Georgics. Robin, indeed, is such a favourite, that he is sure to run away with him, meet him where he may; and he describes his confiding sociality, and his winter song, with as unvarying enthusiasm as any child could do, who for the first time has had his heart melted over the compassionate bird which covered with withered leaves the forsaken Babes of the Wood. We may apply the same remark to his favourite wild-flowers. A very beautiful passage in the "April" of the Rural Calendar is transplanted nearly *verbatim* into the Georgics. The following is the close, and we think the concluding image exquisitely beautiful and tender. Speaking of the trout, he says

Exhausted, soon
Ashore he's drawn, and on the mossy bank,
Weltering, he dyes the primrose with his
blood.

The time now arrived when Mr

Grahame's long-cherished and anxious wish was to be accomplished, and he left Scotland in spring, 1809, to endeavour to obtain episcopal ordination. In the prosecution of this object he met with greater obstacles than he had expected; and he was refused ordination by several bishops, for this reason alone, that he had not studied at an *English* university. He had at length the good fortune to apply to that learned and excellent prelate, Dr Bathurst, bishop of Norwich, who, having made trial of his qualifications, and obtained the most satisfactory evidence of the respectability of his character, ordained him on Trinity Sunday, May 28th, 1809. Though Mr Grahame was known to this distinguished character only by his writings, and came to him without any formal introduction, he received from him the most polite and friendly attention, for which he was deeply grateful. The good bishop even invited him to remain in his diocese. Nothing could exceed his desire to comply with this invitation, so honourable to both parties; but the prevalence of agues and intermitting fevers in that district, induced him most reluctantly to decline it.

Mr Grahame and his family resided for several weeks, from this date, in the city of Chester, where he lived in retirement. Here he was unexpectedly visited by a friend from Tweedside, who was seated with his family when he returned from a walk, bowed down with rheumatism, and with a countenance expressive of languor and dejection. On entering the room he stopped short as soon as he cast his eyes on the stranger, gazed for a few seconds in silence, and at length his countenance kindling into an expression of satisfaction and joy, he rushed forward and welcomed him with heart-

felt exclamations of delight. They passed that and the following day together, during which time he expressed conscientious solicitude about the discharge of his clerical duties. He also reprobated the slovenly practice so prevalent in the English church, of clergymen delivering to their people sermons composed, and even printed, by others; and he expressed his determination to deliver no sermons that were not his own.

It was his earnest desire, on account of his health, to be settled in the south-west of England, and he had the satisfaction of being invited to officiate as curate at Shipton Moyne in Gloucestershire, for a very respectable young clergyman who was rector of the parish. He began to exercise his clerical functions here on the last Sunday of July, and continued till the month of March following, when, for family reasons, he was obliged to return to Scotland. Here he remained during the summer, and was a candidate for supplying a vacancy in St George's chapel, York-place, Edinburgh. Though he was admired as a preacher, and much beloved as a man, owing to particular circumstances he was disappointed. He was employed as sub-curate to the chapelry of St Margaret, Durham, in August, 1810. The church in which he officiated was almost destitute of an audience when he was appointed to it, but such was his growing popularity, that persons of all descriptions flocked thither, and listened with edification and pleasure to his instructions. From this place he removed on May-day, 1811, to Sedgely, a parish in the same diocese. This situation was tendered to him by Mr Barrington, the nephew of the venerable Bishop of Durham. His health, however, now became so bad as to disqualify him for the easy du-

ties of this quiet station. We have pleasure in extracting the following interesting anecdote, printed in a periodical publication, a short time after his death, in a review of Wilson's *Lines sacred to the Memory of James Grahame*. "The same sentiments and feelings which caused him to be so tenderly beloved by his friends, accompanied him in active duties of life, and led him to be indefatigable in acts of charity and benevolence. Mr Grahame, during his residence at Durham, had frequently remarked a poor cobbler, whom he found constantly in his little stall labouring diligently for his subsistence. One day, however, as he passed along the street, he was surprised to see the stall shut up, and on making enquiry, was informed that the poor man was sent to prison for debt. The industrious and inoffensive habits of this simple mechanic had interested Mr Grahame's feelings in his favour, and he went to the jail for the purpose of enquiring into his situation, and procuring, if possible, his release. Here he was shocked and astonished to meet with Mr Greathead, the celebrated inventor of the life boat, who had also been put into confinement by his creditors. The circumstances of this man's case made so strong an impression on Grahame's benevolent mind, that he soon after preached a warm and indignant sermon against that part of the English law, which authorises unlimited imprisonment for debt, a policy which he had always deprecated as needless and cruel. In this sermon he so eloquently pleaded the cause of the unfortunate debtors, that Greathead regained his liberty, the poor cobbler obtained a considerable subscription, and the preacher himself acquired, what was not his object, unbounded applause."

The following is an extract from

the last letter written to the friend who had visited him at Chester. It is dated 24th June, 1811, from Sedgely; and, what is an affecting proof of the decayed state of his health, it was without a signature, and was not written by his own hand.

“It is hard that I am able to write but a very short letter in answer to the long and kind one which I received from you. I have been and still am excessively ill with severe and almost unceasing headaches. This illness and my absence from Durham have stood in the way of the subscription for Dr H——’s sermons; I have got only five names, of which I annex a list. I have a long letter lying for you which I wrote very soon after I saw you in Chester; the subject ‘Evil.’ I had got to the bottom of the third page, there I *laired*, and instead of getting forward stopped short, and turned back the best way I could. I have some thoughts of taking a trip to Scotland on horseback. If so I will take —— in my way. I feel the dictation of this letter a burden, so I must conclude. I am, my dear ——, yours, with affectionate regard.”

About this time, a friend eminent in the English law, who was present at Durham assizes, deplored to see Grahame seated for a few moments on the steps of the court-house, apparently as unconscious of the crowd that thronged him, as if he had been alone in his own apartment. This temporary failure of recollection was one of the symptoms which attended the increasing malady in his head; though we believe no immediate danger was apprehended from it. A very short time before he made the journey to which he alluded in the above letter, he is said to have preached before the Bishop of Durham a

sermon from the parable of the good Samaritan, which obtained from that learned prelate very high commendation. He set out for the north in the month of August along with his nephew; but he was not able to come on horseback, nor to make the visit by the way to which he had looked forward.

He remained for a short time in Edinburgh, and received from his medical advisers all the aid it was in their power to give, with assurances of their expectation of a favourable result to his illness. On the 9th of September he went to Whitehill near Glasgow, where his eldest brother resides. He was very ill from the time of his arrival, and in vain endeavoured to struggle against the overpowering effects of disease. He soon after sunk into a kind of stupor; but during the intervals of recollection rejoiced in the consolations of religion, and in his broken slumbers poured forth the pious effusions of his soul. We use the language of a respected friend: “After his tongue could no longer give utterance to his thoughts, his looks of tenderness and benignity towards the friends who surrounded his sick-bed, unequivocally proved that his heart still glowed with its accustomed feelings; and that the amiable and gentle virtues which through life adorned his character, contributed to support and sooth him in his latest moments.”

The 14th of September, 1811, brought his sufferings to a close, and he resigned his soul into the hands of his Creator, in the faith and hope of the Gospel.

Deep and general was the sorrow occasioned by the unexpected loss of this amiable and excellent character. It was not the least painful circumstance attending his dissolu-

tion, that he expired at a distance from his own family. His mortal remains were, however, deposited in the same grave with those of his beloved parents; and the same spot which gave him to existence, received him when his body returned to dust.

The tears which have been shed by friends, relatives, and strangers, bear the most honourable testimony to his worth.

"Peace to thy soul, thy God thy portion be,
And in his presence may I rest with thee!"

ACCOUNT
OF THE
CAMPAIGNS OF MONTROSE,

TRANSLATED FROM THE GAELIC LANGUAGE.

[The curious manuscript from which these historical memoirs are extracted, contains several Gaelic poems and genealogies, written by the MacVuirichs, hereditary bards or seannachies of a distinguished western chieftain. The following literal version contains many particulars respecting the wars of Montrose, totally unnoticed by our historians, and may be considered, at the same time, as affording an authentic historical document, and a curious specimen of the manners and habits of the Gaelic tribes, recorded by one of their own historians. No attempt has been made to correct the language of the translator, who seems to have been better skilled in the Gaelic language, than capable of transfusing its spirit into the English version.]

"I TREAT here," says the *bard, "of what happened in my own time. The first king that reigned in Scotland and England, since I remember, was the 1st Charles the son of James of the Stewart line, and these are a few of the chiefs or heads of families existing and cotemporary with me. Namely, Ronald Og Aranui Marquiss of Antrim, of Ruta, and the Glinns in Ireland; and † Archibald Caoch son of Archibald Gruamach, son of Archibald Dun Marquis of Argyle; Sir Lauchlan Maclean of Duart; John Muidartach, son of

Donald son of Allan, Captain of Clanronald, Laird of Muidart and Uist; John, son of Rodric Macleod More of Harris; Sir Donald Gorm, son of Archibald son of Donald, Chief of Slate and Troternish, a great courtier with King Charles; Niel Macniel of Castle Macniel of Bara; Lauchlan, son of John Balbh son of Finguin of Strath; John Garbh, son of Gilcolm of Rarsay; John Garbh, son of John Abrach, Laird of Coll; Murdoch Maclean, Laird of Lochbui; Donald of Truim, son of Angus son of Alexander,

* Niell Mohr MacVuirich.

† Beheaded after the Restoration.

Laird of Glengary and Cnoidart, he was an old hero in my first remembrance; he was for some time absent from his people, and in ward in Edinburgh; after him succeeded Angus son of Alexander son of Donald, (Lord Glengarey.) Allan Maconel Dhu, chief of the Clan-Cameron, and latterly the youth Ewen son of John son of Allan, who still lives; George Donn, son of Kenneth Og, Earl of Seaforth, Chief of the Clan Mackenzie; Donald Uabal Macaoi son of Magnus, namely, Lord Megrath head of the clan Morgan; and many other great men whom I need not mention here, who were proprietors of land and chiefs in my time; for I write nothing here but of those men whom I have seen myself, and have known great part of their transactions; you may know, from the histories of those who write in the popular language, an account of the troubles of those times. But what I mean to shew you here is, that the Scots were ready at all times to make * war, and more so than either the English or Irish. For after the covenant was made against the king, and episcopacy suppressed, and presbytery set up in its stead, the covenanters sent couriers through all countries, in order to find out proper officers to lead and command their armies, and made choice of Alexander Lesly to be their commander-in-chief, an old hero who had been long in the army abroad in different countries. The covenanters' army marched into England; it was the first they set on foot against King Charles; thus the kingdom was put into confusion in the year 1639. In the heat of these troubles, the Marquis of An-

trim, young Ronald son of Ronald Arani sent a party of armed men from Ireland to Scotland by the king's orders, and gentlemen of his own kin to command them, namely, Alexander son of Coll son of Gillespie, Colonel James son of Somerled son of James of Banna, and other gentlemen. They took shipping at the town of Ilac in the month of July 1644. They did not stop or take harbour, until they came to the Sound of Mull, where they besieged the castle of Kinloch-alin, took it, and left a party in it, and went from thence to the castle of Mengary, and took it after a great deal of trouble. Alexander (Mac-Colla) Macdonald and his party marched to *Caol Reate*, and the ship sailed to Loch Eisord in Strath to Sir Donald Macdonald; for the king and the Marquiss of Antrim's orders were for Sir Donald taking the command of the army, and take every man that would rise with them; but Sir Donald died half a year before, upon which Alexander offered the command to Sir James; but he refused it, as he thought the army too few in number, since the whole kingdom was in arms against them, they having five hundred men only; upon which Alexander Macdonald thought of returning to Ireland, since the king's orders were not obeyed; mean time, three large ships of war belonging to the parliament came round from Leith to Loch Eisord, while Alexander's ship lay in the Loch; they fought, but Alexander's ship was taken, which obliged him to remain in the country whatever might happen.

He marched off from thence to *Caol Reithe*, and over the mountains

* i. e. In defence of their king and country.—*Translator's Note.*

of Culich, and from thence to Glengary, and encamped there, where they had plenty of beef, and lived very well; but none of the people would rise with them; from thence they went to Badenoch, encamped in it, and threatened the men of that country that if they did not rise with them, they would spoil and burn their country; upon which the clan (Vurich) Macphersons joined with their chief, Ewen Og Macpherson son of Andrew son of Ewen, with three hundred of his own kin, a good band which proved very steady, and who remained in the army while the war continued. The clan (Finlay) Farquharsons of Braemar with their chief, namely, Donald Og son of Donald son of Finlay (also joined.) From thence they went to Athole, where the Marquis of Montrose met them at Blair in Athole in his coat-of-mail, newly come from England with the king's commission of general of the army, and Alexander Macdonald to be major-general. They received him joyfully, and the Athole-men, the clan (Duncan) Robertsons, and the Stewarts of Athole in the beginning of harvest (joined them.) From thence they marched to the low-country, where a great army of covenanters met them near Perth, consisting of eight thousand men. The king's army consisted only of two thousand foot, yet they obtained a complete victory over them; few of the covenanters escaped, except those who were saved by the swiftness of their horses. They took the town of Perth after the battle, and were very happy in it; fifteen days only intervened betwixt that battle and another which they fought against the covenanters at Aberdeai, where they struggled hard for victory; but these two successful bat-

les raised the spirits of the Gael, and inspired them with courage, in-somuch that they never refused to fight under any disadvantage.

Macallan the Earl of Argyle was one of the heads of the presbyterian faction, and a great supporter of the covenanters against the king; he came to Ardamurchan, and laid siege to the castle of Mengary, but did not succeed.

John Muidart came to Argyle's camp at Argyle's desire, for he wished that John would raise his men of Clanronald to join him against the king; but John did not remain long in Argyle's camp, when he returned and raised all the men of Uist, Eig, and Arasaig, and the first thing they did was the spoiling of Sunard, leaving neither cow nor ewe in it, which they did not carry away to Castle Tirim in Uist, some of which he sent to the relief of the garrison of Castle Mengary. Meantime Alexander Macdonald came from Montrose to relieve the besieged in that castle. Alexander Macdonald and Donald son of John Muidartach, happened to meet there, which made them both very happy at such an accidental meeting, for they never saw one another before. After leaving another garrison there, they came to Castle Tirim. John Muidart went along with them to Arasaig, and sent a message to Macleod, urging him to come to join the king's army as in duty bound, but he refused; from thence they went to Cnoidart, where they met Angus son of Alexander Macdonald, but he refused to join at that time; however, Donald Gorm his uncle joined them, and the greatest part of the men of Cnoidart and Glengary. They went by the end of Lochness by Clachard to Lochaber and the Braes,

and Donald Glas (Macronald) Macdonald joined them, and the men of the Braes of Lochaber, the Stewarts of Appin, the MacCeans of Glenco, Gleneivor, and those east of Lochaber of the clan Cameron. From thence they went to Badenoch, and over the mountain of Drumuachdar to Blair in Athole, where they met the Marquis of Montrose, who was exceedingly happy at the great number of men John Muidartach had collected for the king's service. They summoned the council to meet, in order to consult about their winter-quarters. The general supposed that they should quarter in the low country; others thought the highlands the best place for the safety of the army. Montrose's aim was to know which was the most proper place for the men to get victuals and proper accommodation; and for that purpose he sent for Angus son of Allan Du of the Glenco-men, to the council. Montrose put the question to him, (since he best knew Argyle's country,) if the men could be properly accommodated there with meat and lodgings during the winter? Angus answered, that there was neither town nor half a town in all Argyle's country, but that they might get good enough houses, and plenty of fat cattle to feed upon; which pleased Montrose so well, that they set off immediately from the Braes of Athole to Argyle by Menzie's Appin, which they burnt. They marched from thence to the end of Loch-Tay, and burnt both sides of it.

The clan Macgregor and clan Macnab came to assist the king's army. And John Muidartach, and the men of the high grounds, were sent upon another plundering expe-

dition by themselves, and went as far as Kilmartin in Glasry, Argyleshire. From that expedition they took a thousand head of cattle to Montrose's camp, for there was no choice but to burn and spoil that country; and 895 of his (*i. e.* Argyle's) people were killed without any battle or skirmish. The army marched from Argyle to Lorn, and from thence to Innerlochy in Lochaber. But Argyle was not idle all this time; he sent for the Laird of Achinbreck from Ireland, who had been there since the beginning of the war in the Marquis of Antrim's country, possessing and spoiling his lands and large towns with his army. Argyle himself went to the council of Scotland at Edinburgh to complain of Montrose and Macdonald, and observing that these generals did not wait to give him battle, upon which they sent him five hundred men. Meantime Achinbreck arrived from Ireland, who was highly incensed at seeing his country plundered and destroyed; he, therefore, convened all the clan Campbell, (who were very numerous), and went upon Montrose's tract; which when Montrose heard, (as he was marching north,* and that the Campbells burnt the Braes of Lochaber), he immediately returned from Kilcuming in Abertarf. King Charles' army was commanded by Montrose and Macdonald major-general, and by the gentlemen of Clanronald, John Muidartach son of Donald the son of Allan, and his son Donald; and Angus son of Alexander son of Donald son of Angus, Laird of Glengary, with his kindred, and the three Irish regiments of the good band of the Earl

* Sir Lauchlan Maclean and Glengary came to Montrose at Inverlochy.—*Orig. Note.*

of Antrim, his own relations being their officers, namely, Colonel James son of Somerle son of James of Banna son of Somerle Bui, and Ronald Og son of Alexander son of Alexander son of Angus Uabhrach, and Magnus son of Gille Du Mac-Cathan, foster-brother to the Earl of Antrim. As for Sir Lauchlan Maclean, he had only about twelve men along with him for a guard. There was an excellent low-country man with them, Lord Ogilvie, and his son Sir Thomas, a good warrior. We marched back from Killcumin over Larie Thurrard into Glenroy, and over the river Spean, where a party of the enemy met us; we killed a number of them, and those who escaped informed their camp what had happened. It was Saturday evening when we arrived opposite to the enemy. Argyle's men viewed us, and consulted among themselves how they were to attack us; but Argyle himself took to his ship, and left the Laird of Achinbreck to fight the battle. Early upon Sunday morning, being Candlemas day, and first of February 1645, the battle began. Magnus the son of Archibald Du O'Cathan began the attack with other heroes. He was opposed by another party of Argyle's men, and Archibald Og, Laird of Pinginy, who fought but a short time when Argyle's men gave way; but were replaced by a greater number, when great confusion ensued, and Argyle's army were totally routed with great slaughter, besides a number which were drowned at Bunevais. The Laird of Auchinbreck, the Laird of Caradale, and the Provost of Kilmun were killed; the Laird of Barbrech, the young Laird of Caradale, and MacIver of Pinginy More, were taken prisoners.

Of Montrose's army were killed Thomas Lord Ogilvie, Captain Brand, and two soldiers.

Montrose marched with the king's army after the battle to the north, where Mackenzie Earl of Seaforth came to him, and swore that he, with all his men of Lewis and other places, would come and join the king's army. Montrose remained in the north during the spring season strengthening his army. The Gordons, with Lord Gordon, the Marquis of Huntley's son, joined him, he was much the better for them. Meantime the army of the council of Scotland came from the south, and Seaforth came from the north with the men of Lewis and the northern borders, who, contrary to his oath and engagement, joined the parliament army.

While Montrose and the royal army lay at Aldearn, Lord Gordon and his good band of both horse and foot being with him, Nathaniel Gordon came to them from Forres, and informed them that the enemy were at hand; he was a good rider and an excellent warrior; Caoch was his other name.

A battle ensued, hard fought by the Gael; Nathaniel Gordon lost his right arm. Montrose commanded the right wing, and the brave Sir Alexander the son of Coll Citoch son of Archibald son of Coll son of Alexander son of John Catanach, took the left against the right of the enemy. After Sir Alexander had engaged his men, a gentleman came from the Lord Gordon, and delivered this message to him: "Macdonald, I have heard that there was an agreement between our ancestors to this purpose; namely, That whatever strife happened among Scotsmen, that they would not strike a stroke

against one another, neither is the fame of any other tribe greater than theirs; therefore, by way of renewing that agreement, I would request of you to exchange your foot with mine, to fight for my king on the first day of my service; give me your foot and take mine."

Macdonald immediately agreed to that request, and sent ninety men to Lord Gordon of his veteran soldiers inured to hardships, and received in exchange three hundred foot of the men of Bog of Gight, Strathboggy, and upper parts of the county. But it was an ill exchange for Alexander Macdonald, because these men were never engaged in war before; they supposed that the Gordons' cavalry had only to take care of the foot, and defend them from danger. Alexander Macdonald drew up his men, but perceived that he had no more of his own men than one hundred and fifty gentlemen; he put twenty of these in the front rank, and drew up three hundred foot of the Gordons in the middle, and marched before them. The regiment which was opposed to them was that of the Laird of Lawers, men trained to arms, and the valiant gentlemen of Lewis, the Mackenzies, along with them; a stout battle ensued, as is usual in such situations; but the foot companies which Sir Alexander Macdonald got in exchange not being accustomed to such hard work, bowed their heads whenever they heard the whistling of a ball or the sough of an arrow. When Sir Alexander perceived that, he went always backward, and beckoned to them with his hand to take courage, and cause the gentlemen to keep order, but they were hard put to it; I knew men who even killed some of the Gordon's foot to prevent their

flight, which when the enemy perceived, they set upon them furiously. Sir Alexander, therefore, ordered them to an inclosure which they had forsaken before; but the enemies' pikes and arrows galled them much, and killed a great number of them on both sides of the wall before they got into the inclosure. Macdonald's sword broke; he got another, which he supposed was given him by Davidson of Ardncross, his brother-in-law, who had given him his own sword; Davidson fell at that instant, being the last man entering along with other good gentlemen about the door, who were waiting to have Macdonald set in before them. As soon as Macdonald got in, he set upon those who were opposed to him, in order to relieve those who were without, one of whom was Ronald the son of Donald the son of Angus Mackennon in Mull.

I thought proper to write this much of the deeds of the Gordons, since I happened to be among them. It was not the same side of the wall with the rest of the gentlemen that Macdonald took, for he was among the Gordons. When advancing he put his *sépar* about his shoulders, holding his face to the enemy, his sword being on his side, and his shield in his left hand, and a gun in his right hand; he held the gun to the pike-man, who happened to be behind him, because there was a narrow pass before them; hence none of his own men were behind: they all marched before him, by which means there was great slaughter made among the Gordon foot by the archers.

The bow-men ran past Ronald, letting their arrows fly at the Gordon soldiers. Sir Alexander Mac-

donald, looking over his shoulder, noticed the stop which Ronald put to the pike-men; but turning his hand, the man who happened to be before him, let fly an arrow at him, which went through his cheek, and partly out at the other; he lost his durch, his bow proved useless, he then threw away his gun, and put his hand to his sword, (his left holding the shield, being stretched out to defend himself against the pikes); but it would not draw, the cross hilt tirmed about; he tried it again, but it would not come; he tried it at the third taking, the shield hand to hold the sheath, and succeeded; but while he was thus employed, five pikes pierced his breast, but were not an inch deep. Seeing his breast pierced, and his cheeks wounded, and several pikes stuck into his shield, he set his back to the wall to examine his wounds, and made a shift to gain the door; the pikemen being hard put to at that moment, did not come any more upon him, except one man whose pike was not cut off, and who thought to have struck him. Ronald was in the mean time listening to Alexander Macdonald talking to the Gordons, observing of how little service they were to him to relieve him from the situation he was in, and happening to come to the door of the enclosure, which he thought of gaining, he gave a spring away from the pikeman, turned his back upon him, and his face to the door, the pikeman still following him, until he bowed his head under it; Alexander Macdonald happening to be at hand watching his motions, gave the pikeman a stroke in the neck, and struck off his head, which hit upon Ronald's houghs; the head fell in the inclosure, and the body in the door;

when Ronald lifted up his head, and looked behind him at the door, he saw his companion Alexander Macdonald, he cut away the arrow that stuck in his cheek, restored his speech which the arrow deprived him off. It may be easily conjectured that the rest of the king's army was not idle all this time, the brave warlike Marquis of Montrose, and the gallant hero Lord Gordon and his followers, the brave hardy clan Macdonald, and the equally brave and hardy tribe of Clan-Ronald; they all fought like true heroes, without the least fear of strokes or shot. Montrose stood upon a high eminence beholding the battle, and perceiving the dangerous situation of Alexander Macdonald, and how he had so wonderfully extricated himself, called out to his men to encourage them, telling them what a shame it would be, if, by the exertions of one man, the victory should be obtained, and carry the laurel away from us, for he saw that Macdonald had routed all who were opposed to him.

Meantime he called to him to come to the assistance of the rest; which he immediately did, and advancing with his victorious band, he charged them so briskly, that in a short time both the horse and foot of the enemy began to give way, the horse being driven among the foot put them into confusion. Then Alexander Macdonald went to take his men out of the enclosure (with the royal standard) as many of them as were alive or could come out, for he left seventeen wounded gentlemen within who could not come out, besides those who were killed. After he got his men out, he set upon the enemy upon one side and Montrose on the other, in such a way that the Laird

of Lawers's men fell fast in their ranks, and those of the men of Lewis along with them, who fled to the town of Inverness. Seaforth hardly escaped upon horseback, after losing his men and his honour. Many were the warlike feats performed that day by the Macdonalds and Gordons, many were the wounds given and received by them, in so much that Montrose said after the battle, that he himself saw the greatest feats performed, and the greatest slaughter ever he saw made before, by a couple of men, namely, Nathaniel Gordon, and Ronald Og Macdonald son of Alexander* son of Alexander son of Angus Uaibhrach, and likewise by Lord Gordon himself and other three.

The battle was fought in summer 1645.

The army rested for some time after the above battle in the Earl of Marshal's lands, he being a covenantant.

Alexander Macdonald went to the Highlands to bring Maclean and John Muideartach. Meantime, the council of Scotland raised an army, commanded by General Baillie, accompanied by Argyle; and hearing that Macdonald was on the west coast, they thought of surprising Montrose while his men were dispersed, and so it happened, they met at Alford, namely, General Baillie and Argyle, with the council of Scotland's army, which were very numerous. Montrose, who commanded the royal army, had only the Lord Gordon with his excellent cavalry, and Angus Mac vic Alister, Laird of Glengary, part of Clanronald's men, the Macphersons of Badenoch, and part of the Athole men. When

they came in sight of each other, they were equally keen to engage; part of the Macphersons were sent against a scout, but a reinforcement was sent by the covenantants to oppose them. One of the covenantants said to their own men, that it was the custom of the enemy to begin the attack, "let them not do so to-day, attack you them first briskly and courageously." One of the king's army, Lord Gordon, said to his men, "let none of you be afraid, I shall bring Baillie by the neck from among his army." The two armies engaged with equal ardour and animosity, (after the scouts and the Macphersons began the attack) they fired at each other, when an unlucky shot hit Lord Gordon, while he was seizing General Baillie by the sword belt; by this time the battle became general; while they were thus keenly engaged, the foot could not advance for the raging of the horse. Alexander son of Ronald son of Allan, (for he and Ronald Og son of Mac vic Alister commanded the clan Ronald) said he himself, stood with his drawn sword, not knowing how to strike a stroke, as he knew not a friend from a foe by the confusion they were in, until the brave active Major Leith called to the horse to separate from the foot, which they immediately did, and every man was at liberty to use his hand and blade as best suited him, and the covenantants were not allowed to advance any further, but were totally routed and pursued, and the rage of the victors for the death of Lord Gordon caused a great slaughter of the covenantants, the men being so bent upon revenging the death of such a brave hero; for not a man

i. e. Glengary.

turned from the chase until the whole disappeared. The Laird of Glengary pursued Argyle until his horse failed him, which was the only thing that saved Argyle; for he changed his horse three times.

Sir Alexander Macdonald came from the west coast with a great number of men to join the king's army, viz John Muidartach, with a band of good young men of his own country and kin, and Donald his son along with them; and the clan Maclean from Mull, the Stewarts of Appin, the clan Macgregor, and others. When they reached Montrose's camp they were joyfully received, and made heartily welcome by him and all the rest, when each clan were placed by themselves in proper order. One of John Muidartach's company, namely, Donald Macdonald Niameratach (a youth of twenty years of age) gave his friend a good soldier, some affront, which came to the general and major-general's ears. The major-general, Sir Alexander Macdonald, then observed, that Montrose had said, that the captain of Clanronald had brought a great addition to the camp without taking any spoil to maintain them. Alexander answered that he did, and rose up immediately from the general's tent, and said to Donald his son, who was at the head of the men, "Rise, prepare your men, go and bring a spoil to the king's camp; take none with you but your own men; be ready to-morrow morning, and go only to the place pointed out to you." Donald having received his orders, set out in the morning, and soon returned with a great spoil, which pleased Montrose and the rest of the army; for Donald and his men brought the greatest spoil of any. Some who raised a spoil carried it away to their own coun-

try; but John Muidartach would never allow such practices either to his men or to any other in the Isles or neighbourhood. Hence this spoil which was taken from the Earl of Marshal's lands of the Mearns and Angus supplied the camp during the whole summer.

When driving off the spoil from the Mearns, an honourable old man met them, who told them many things, and among the rest, that the Mearns had not been spoiled since Donald Lord of the Isles spoiled it, when he fought the battle of Harlau against Duke Murdoch; "and I suppose, young gentleman, that you are descended of him, if you be the captain of Clanronald." About this time the council of Scotland met, and observed, that it was a great shame to them to allow a small party of Highlanders to harass the kingdom. They therefore collected the whole forces of the nation, at least as many as were in arms, and sent them against Montrose and his Highlanders. This great army, with all their great men and officers, contained some thousands of seamen who never fought on land before. When the small army of Highlanders and others of the king's side knew that, they thought of avoiding them as carefully as they could, by retreating from place to place in the best order their situation required.

When the king's army arrived at the wood of Methven, in their retreat from the greatest army they ever saw, closely pursuing them; John Muidartach's son happened to be in the rear, the major-general being at his post along with him, constantly skirmishing with the enemy: a gallant horseman came out before the rest with his men, and endeavoured to stop their march at every ford or pass

they came to; his name was Cornel; he was a distinguished officer, and thought to be the principal champion of Scotland; he took three or four of our baggage horses. Angus the son of Allan Du, being the hindmost of his party, was riding upon horseback without either saddle or pillion, with a long gun tied before him; but had not been accustomed to fight upon horseback; he eyed this bold warrior; lighted off his horse; set his gun upon a large stone, and shot the hero of the red apparel, who fell under his horse's feet, with all his silver, crape, and finery; his men gave a sorrowful cry when they saw their principal hero fall. The enemy did not molest them any more that day, nor the day following; but the retreat continued, Montrose endeavouring to weary them out in that manner, and to oblige part of their army to separate from the main body, in hope that he would in that event be enabled to give them battle, for his men were much fatigued, and in want of victuals and sleep. Coming at night to Kilsyth, after a night march, they encamped in the adjacent hills; but upon the morning of the next day, they perceived the great army of the covenanters in pursuit of them. Here the royal army had no other choice, but either to break up their camp without flesh or bread to eat, or fight that great army. Upon which they immediately called a council of all the great men and officers to consult about their safety, whether they were still to retreat or fight the great army that was in pursuit of them. Montrose requested to have the opinion of the common soldiers and the whole army, which was immediately complied with; and the common soldiers gave it as their opinion, that it

would be much better for them to fight, although attended with danger, than to be constantly retreating before the enemy day and night. Upon which Montrose sent a trumpeter to the enemy to inform them, that he was ready to give them battle, upon which they gave a great shout for joy, and immediately went in order of battle; they placed three thousand musket and pikemen in three divisions in the front, and eleven thousand in battalions behind these. It may be easily supposed, what a hardship it was for such a small army of royalists, consisting only of four thousand foot, and five hundred horse; to encounter them, bare-footed, with their shirt tails tied between their legs, the cavalry having their shirts above their garments. This brave heroic band marched to the attack in the face of the enemy's cannon and musketry, with great courage and caution. The attack was begun by an excellent Irish and Scottish regiment of Gaels; Major Lauchlan going before them directed by Sir Alexander Macdonald; other two regiments were ordered to their relief, namely, Maclean's and Donald the son of John Muidartach's gallant regiments; but Maclean's men were nearer the enemy, and were sooner in order than Clanronald. When Major Lauchlan was hard put to, Sir Alexander Macdonald sent him immediate relief; but there happened to arise some difference between Donald the son of John Muidartach, and Donald son of Hector Og son of Gileon, (*i. e.* Maclean) about precedency; meantime, the clan Ronald made their way to the attack through the Macleans. Donald's men, and Patrick Caoch Magregor's men, made but one regiment; they gained the

trenches, and Donald was the first man that leaped over them; his men followed, and by the rushing on of the rest of the army who followed the clan Ronald, the great army of the covenanters were routed; they continued a great part of the day pursuing the enemy. After the battle of Kilsyth they encamped at Hamilton, and the keys of the great castle were sent to us from Edinburgh, and all Scotland submitted to us. What induced me to write this much was, that those who have written upon these wars have taken little or no notice of the Gael, (the Highlanders,) who were the principal actors in it, and did all that was done on the king's side. After the battle of Kilsyth, Montrose marched with part of the army to the south, intending to go to England to relieve the king, who was sorely pressed by the English; but he was defeated at Philiphaugh, and had it not in his power to assist the king.

Sir Alexander Macdonald went from the camp at Hamilton to Cantyre, which he cleared of the enemy, the Campbells, and drove them out of it, and took in Dunaverty as a place of strength. Donald, son of John of Muidart, went home. Montrose, after the battle of Philiphaugh, came with his small party to the north, and remained in it for some time. John Muidartach and his son went to Isla with their men, and drove away all the Campbells from it.

About this time the Earl of Antrim came to Cantyre, in order to take the army over to Ireland; he sent for Montrose who came to him

immediately; they both agreed that Montrose should go abroad to solicit assistance from foreign powers, in order to relieve the king. After Montrose returned from abroad, he was dishonourably destroyed by the covenanters, together with the Marquis of Huntly, and many other great men of the king's loyal subjects. A good many of the gentry of the isles flocked in to the Earl of Antrim, such as the Macleans and the clan Ronald, intending to set an army on foot for the king; meantime the Earl of Antrim received an order from the king to disband the army, for he was then in the hands of his enemies, the parliament of England and Scotland, who wrought to one another's hands against him. The Earl of Antrim disbanded the army, and went back to Ireland. Alexander Macdonald remained in Cantyre, in Dunaverty,* a strong fort, and in Isla. The rest of the Gael went home to protect their own country. Sir David Lesly came unexpectedly upon those in Cantyre and Isla, without their having the least suspicion of their being in that country, or in that part of the kingdom, until they came to Larg, where Sir Alexander and his men were spread over the country, where they were totally routed.

Young Ronald son of Alexander son of Angus Uaibrach, was taken prisoner, and put to death at Inverary † with 300 others, by Argyle's covenanters, some time thereafter. Alexander escaped to Ireland, where he was killed at *Knoc an Dos*, with many more of the Macdonalds, in that battle fought against

* (Dunaverty) which was taken by Argyle and Lesly, and all who were in it butchered, and their bodies thrown over the rock into the sea.

† With 300 others, by Argyle's covenanters. See Bp. Guthrie, &c.—*Orig. Notes*,

Marrogh O'Brian, in the year 1647. *[There is a poem by Cathil Macourich, (not translated) interleaved in betwixt the former part, and what follows of the civil wars.]*

John Muidartach son of Donald son of Allan, went home with those who remained of his men, after he was forsaken by all the rest, and after **Montrose** and the **Marquis of Huntly** were put to death. He alone stood out, and those who were alive of his men continued with him. There came a message to him from the rulers of the kingdom, with offer of terms of peace, which he accepted.

He sent Donald to Ireland with some of the Scots gentry, but he himself remained at home to keep the country, and to defend it from the enemy. Donald set off from **Uist** in a good low-country ship, and a long Highland one, with three hundred good soldiers, in 1648. From **Uist** they sailed to the sound of **Mull**, to **Colonsay**, and the sound of **Isla**, where they fell in with a large ship full of barley, which they captured; they took another ship, but found nothing in her; they left her there, and sailed for Ireland; were overtaken on their way by a storm which separated them; some of them reached the sea of **Kealbeg**. Donald and those who were along with him, landed at the bay of **Ardmialagan**, and sent back the ship to **Scotland**. He went from thence to **Acha**, to his friends, when there was a garrison favourable to them; from thence they went to the county of **Cavan**, where they met **Philip Orwell**, the lord of that country; they went from thence to the **Mull of Meath**, where Donald left his men quartered, and went to **Kilkenny**, where the council of Ireland sat, and

where he and his men got orders to join the council's army, under the command of **General Preston**, and where **Alexander**, the Earl of **Antrim's** son, was, and those who remained with the Scots army, together with those of the **Macdonalds** who went over with **Sir Alexander Macdonald**; that regiment consisted of fifteen hundred chosen men, **Donald** the son of **John Muidartach**, being lieutenant-colonel, and **Angus** the son of **Alexander Macdonald of Largs and Cantyre**, being the first captain. This army was famous for some time, and much esteemed by their valour in taking of great towns, until they were at last defeated in the county of **Rebui** (**King's county**) where there were a great number of the **Cavanachs** of Ireland along with them, who as soon as they came to the places they were acquainted with in their own country, nigh a wood, fled and left them in the lurch, the enemy rushing in upon them at the same time, soon dispersed them. **Donald**, young **Laird of Clanronald**, and **Angus**, **Laird of Glengary**, were taken prisoners, and sent to **Kilkenny**, where they remained until the **Marquis of Antrim** found means to release them. **Glengary** came out sooner than **Clanronald**; he went over seas to the king, and left **Donald** in prison, until more money was given for his ransom by the **Duchess of Buckingham**, the **Marquis of Antrim's** lady. He came out of prison to **Lochgarman**, where a ship belonging to the **Marquis of Antrim** carried him to the **Kyle of Staly** in **Uist**; the son of **Alexander**, **Laird of Largs**, came along with him, and were joyfully received by their friends. His attendants came soon thereafter in a ship which they procured from Ireland. These were

Murcho Macneil of Bara, a tall handsome man; Alexander son of John son of Allan of Bualog; Donald son of Allan; Donald Mog son of Donald son of Lauchlan son of Murdoch; John son of Brian son of Murdoch; John son of Fagalach M'Beath; Angus son of Alexander, son of Macgodfrey; John the son of Brian Macvuirich, and others came another route. After Donald came home, he and his father, John Muidartach, defended their country until they obtained peace. Their invincible loyalty was the cause of their having been greatly in debt, which became a great burden both upon themselves and their posterity.

John Muidartach died at Erisca, in Uist, 1670, and was interred in Tomor, leaving one son, Donald,

and three daughters, Mor Lady Coll, Catharine Lady Bara, and Ann Lady Benmaol. Donald lived sixteen years after his father's death, and these he spent in peace; sometimes at court, much esteemed, and sometimes at home.

He died at Cannay in 1686, the same year that King Charles the Second died, and his body was interred in Tomor, in the same grave with his father. He left two sons and three daughters, namely, Allan the Laird, and Ronald Mor, Janet, Mary, and Mora, Mora daughter to Sir Rodrick Mor, Macleod being their grandmother by the father's side.

Great was the loss sustained to the Hebrides by the death of this Donald, as every one alive doth testify.

COPY LETTER

Earl of Perth Lord High Chancellor of Scotland,

TO

The Laird of Blair Drummond, 26th July, 1691.

“ Sir,—I received yours about an hour ago, that is, about eight o’clock at night. J. Hay had sent me the conditions agreed to in relation to Mary’s marriage, but not quite so full as your letter had them. I hope Lord Hugh will do well enough. As for my carriage let none of my friends seem to doubt it; for that does but make enemies watchful; and when malice cannot find a real ground of complaint, and one loses labour in making observations, it makes where it wants. I’ll assure you there shall be no cause of disquiet to my friends, or of fear from what the worst of my enemies can find to object. I cannot beat people away from me; but I desire none to come to me, and my train north consists but of six on horseback, and my wife her woman and myself in the coach; if a quarrel be made of that splendor, it is a poor ground of one. As to my Lord Melville’s affair the matter of fact is this to the best of my memory, One day in the Treasury-Chamber my Lord Tarbat told me that albeit the master of Melville was secured in his father’s estate, yet to shun debate, and to give my Lord Mel-

ville freedom of returning, he being a melancholy sickly man, and desirous of being at home, he was willing to give somewhat to any body who would procure a remission to them, &c. and proposed the matter to me as to be received privately, and never to be heard of. I told my Lord Tarbat that never having received money from any body but from the king, I would not begin with my Lord Melville; he (at least his children) had that relation to my family that I would get him his remission for nothing. My Lord Tarbat said, that I must not do him that injury, for he was to have a share of what was to be given, and therefore entreated me to take my share and named the 3000*l.* one half to be paid at the passing of the remission, the other at the ratifying it in parliament. I told my Lord that if it was given, I would have it as from the king, which occasioned the letter mentioned. And for the 200*l.* the master knew very well it was not for my behoof. Speak with my Lord Tarbat, and see if he remembers the matter to have passed in this fashion, that if he remembers it better

he may tell it to you. Now all having been transacted in the terms of kindness, it having been received as a most special favour from the king and altogether by my means, my Lord Tarbat having pressed the money upon me as an acknowledgement of my kindness, it having been mentioned as a composition merely by my own choice, because I would not receive money but from my master, I wonder that any man of honour can turn such a matter to a process; however all I would know is whether it is best to depone or refuse, and leave the matter to be received as true upon refusal to swear: for if they have a mind to have it, they will have it right or wrong. You will have occasion against Thursday, so write me about it then. Employ Sir James Grant in all my law-matters, for I am convinced of his kindness, and of his great diligence. I have no more to add now. I am still very much indisposed, though incomparably better than I was at Stirling. I wish my friends may apply timeously to get my time prolonged,* for it will never do me good

else: And I fancy it will be my friends' fault if they do not obtain that favour; when my wife did so much against all men's expectation. But if they will not grant any, if I be alive I'll keep my day.—Adieu.”

Copy Letter Earl of Perth to Blair-Drummond, 27th July, 1691.

“Sir,—I forgot one article of the interrogatories when I wrote to you last night, viz. that of my giving commission to you or John Drummond to repay the money. I never thought of repaying of it but conditionally, that is for such an act of kindness as might deliver me out of the hands of such as persecute me so severely. * * * * Read my letter to Sir James Grant which I wrote to you yesternight, and this so far as it relates to the interrogatory, and let him send me word what advice he thinks fit upon the occasion.—Adieu.”

* The Earl was at this time under bail to return to Stirling Castle by 1st Sept.

EXTRACTS

FROM

A JOURNAL KEPT DURING A COASTING VOYAGE

THROUGH THE

SCOTTISH ISLANDS.

LERWICK, ZETLAND, 6th August, 1814. Hire a six-oared boat, whaler-built, with a taper point at each end, so that the rudder can be hooked on either at pleasure. These vessels look very frail, but are admirably adapted to the stormy seas, where they live, when a ship's boat, stiffly and compactly built, must necessarily perish. They owe this to their elasticity and lightness. Some of the rowers wear a sort of coats of dressed sheep leather, sewed together with thongs. We sailed out at the southern inlet of the harbour, rounding successively the capes called Hammer, Kirkubus, and others, consisting of bold cliffs, hollowed into caverns, or divided into pillars and arches of fantastic appearance, by the constant action of the waves. As we passed the most northerly of these capes, called, I think, the Ord, and turned into the open sea, the scenes became yet more tremendously sublime. Rocks, upwards of four or

five hundred feet in height, presented their gigantic forms, sinking perpendicularly into the main, which is very deep even within a few fathoms of their base. One of these capes is called the Bard's Head; a huge projecting arch is named the Giant's Leg.

“ Here the lone sea-bird wakes his wildest cry ”

Not lone, however, in one sense, for their numbers, and the variety of their tribes, are immense, but, I think, do not quite equal those of Dunbug, on the coast of Buchan. Standing across a little bay, we reached the Isle of Noss, having hitherto coasted the shore of Brassay. Here we see a detached and precipitous rock, or island, being a portion rent by a narrow sound from the rest of the cliff, and called the *Holm*. This detached rock is wholly inaccessible, unless by a pass of peril, entitled the

Cradle of Noss, which is a sort of wooden chair, travelling from precipice to precipice on rings, which run upon two cables, stretched across over the gulf. We viewed this extraordinary contrivance from beneath, at the distance of perhaps 100 fathoms at least. The boatmen made light of the risk of crossing it, but it must be tremendous to a brain disposed to be giddy. Seen from beneath, a man in the basket would resemble a large crow or raven, floating between rock and rock. The purpose of this strange contrivance is to give the tenant the benefit of putting a few sheep upon the Holm, the top of which is level, and affords good pasture. The animals are transported in the cradle by one at a time, a shepherd holding them upon his knees. The channel between the Holm and the isle is passable by boats in calm weather, but not at the time when we saw it. Rowing on through a heavy tide, and nearer the breakers than any but Zetlanders would have ventured, we rounded another immensely high cape, called by the islanders the Noup of Noss, but by sailors Hengcliff, or Hang-Cliff, from its having a projecting appearance. This was the highest rock we had yet seen, though not quite perpendicular. Its height has never been measured: I should judge it exceeds 600 feet; it has been conjectured to measure 800 and upwards. Our steersman had often descended this precipitous rock, having only the occasional assistance of a rope, one end of which he secured from time to time round some projecting cliff. The collecting sea-fowl for their feathers was the object, and he might gain five or six dozen, worth eight or ten shillings, by such an adventure. These huge precipices abound with caverns, many of which

run much farther into the rock than any one has ventured to explore. We entered (with much hazard to our boat) one called the Orkney-man's Harbour, because an Orkney vessel run in there some years since to escape a French privateer. The entrance was lofty enough to admit us without striking the mast, but a sudden turn in the direction of the cave would have consigned us to utter darkness if we had gone in farther. The dropping of the sea-fowl and cormorants into the water from the sides of the cavern, when disturbed by our approach, had something in it wild and terrible.

After passing Hengcliff, or the Noup, the precipices become lower, and sink into a rocky shore, with deep indentations, call by the natives Gios. Here we would fain have landed to visit the cradle from the top of the cliff, but the surf rendered it impossible. We therefore rowed on like Thalaba "in Allah's name" around the Isle of Noss, and landed upon the opposite side of the small sound which divides it from Brassa. Noss exactly resembles, in shape, Salisbury Craigs, supposing the sea to flow down the valley called the Hunter's Bog, and round the foot of the precipice. The eastern part of the isle is fine smooth pasture, the best I have seen in these isles, sloping upwards to the verge of the tremendous rocks which form its western front.

We had occasion to-day to make some cursory observations on the state of improvement in the agriculture of Zetland. We had the pleasure to spend the day with a gentleman of good property, who is an improver, and a *moderate* one. He has got a ploughman from Scotland, who acts as grieve, but as yet with the preju-

dices and inconveniences which usually attach themselves to the most salutary experiments. The ploughman complains that the Zetlanders work as if a spade or hoe burned their fingers, and that though they only get a shilling a-day, yet the labour of three of them does not exceed what one good hand in Berwickshire would do for 2s. 6d. The islanders retort, that a man can do no more than he can; that they are not used to be taxed to their work so severely; that they will work as their fathers did, and not otherwise; and at first the landlord found difficulty in getting hands to work under his Caledonian task-master. Besides, they find fault with his *ho*, and *gee*, and *too*, when ploughing. "*He speaks to the horse*," they say, "*and they gang—and there's something no canny about the man*." In short, between the prejudices of laziness and superstition, the ploughman leads a sorry life of it: yet these prejudices are daily abating under the steady and indulgent management of the proprietor. Indeed, no where is improvement in agriculture more necessary. An old-fashioned Zetland plough is a real curiosity. It had but one handle, or stilt, and a coulter, but no sock; it ripped the furrow, therefore, but did not throw it aside. When this precious machine was in motion, it was dragged by four little bullocks, yoked a-breast, and as many ponies, harnessed, or rather strung, to the plough by ropes and thongs of raw hide. One man went before, walking backward, with his face to the bullocks, and pulling them forward by main strength. Another held down the plough by its single handle, and made a sort of slit in the earth, which two women, who close the procession, converted into a

furrow, by throwing the earth aside with shovels. An antiquary might be of opinion that this was the very model of the original plough invented by Triptolemus; and it is but justice to Zetland to say, that these reliques of ancient agricultural art will soon have all the interest attached to rarity. We could only hear of one of these ploughs within three miles of Lerwick.

This and many other barbarous habits to which the Zetlanders were formerly wedded, seem only to have subsisted because their amphibious character of fishers and farmers induced them to neglect agricultural arts. A Zetland farmer looks to the sea to pay his rent; if the land finds him a little meal and kail, and if he be a very clever fellow, a few potatoes, it is very well. The more intelligent part of the landholders are sensible of all this, but argue like men of good sense and humanity on the subject. To have good farming, you must have a considerable farm, upon which capital may be laid out to advantage. But to introduce this change suddenly would turn adrift perhaps twenty families, who now occupy small farms *pro indiviso*, cultivating by patches, or *rundale* and *runrig*, what part of the property is arable, and stocking the pasture as a common upon which each family turns out such stock as they can rear, without observing any proportion as to the number which it can support. In this way many townships, as they are called, subsist, indeed, but in a precarious and indigent manner. Fishing villages seem the natural resource for this excess of population, but, besides the expence of erecting them, the habits of the people are to be considered, who, with "one foot on sea and one on land," would be with

equal reluctance confined to either element. The remedy seems to be, that the larger proprietors should gradually set the example of better cultivation, and introduce better implements of agriculture. They will, by degrees, be imitated by the numerous class of inferior proprietors, and by their tenants; and as turnips and hay crops became more general, a better and heavier class of stock will naturally be introduced, and attention paid to preserving the breed.

The sheep in particular might be improved into a valuable stock, and would no doubt thrive, since the winters are very temperate. But I should be sorry that extensive pasture farms were introduced, as it would tend to diminish a population invaluable for the supply of our navy. The improvement of the arable land, on the contrary, would soon set them beyond the terrors of famine with which the islanders are at present occasionally visited; and, combined with fisheries, carried on not by farmers, but by real fishers, would amply supply the inhabitants, without diminishing the export of dried fish. This separation of trades will in time take place, and then the prosperous days of Zetland will begin. The proprietors are already upon the alert, studying the means of gradual improvement, and no humane person would wish them to drive it on too rapidly, to the distress and perhaps destruction of the numerous tenants who have been bred under a different system.

Superstitions of the Zetlanders.

I have gleaned something of the peculiar superstitions of the Zetlanders, which are numerous and potent.

Witches, fairies, &c. are as numerous as ever they were in Teviotdale. The latter are called *Trows*, probably from the Norwegian *Dwergh* or *dwarf*, the D being readily converted into T. The dwarfs are the prime agents in the machinery of Norwegian superstition. The trows do not differ from the fairies of the lowlands, or Sighean of the Highlanders. They steal children, dwell within the interior of green hills, and often carry mortals into their recesses. Some yet alive pretend to have been carried off in this way, and obtain credit for the marvels they tell of the subterranean habitations of the trows. Sometimes, when a person becomes melancholy and low-spirited, the trows are supposed to have stolen the real being, and left a moving phantom to represent him. Sometimes they are said to steal only the heart (like Lancashire witches.) There are cures in each case. The party's friends resort to a cunning man or woman, who hangs about the neck a triangular stone in the shape of a heart, or conjures back the lost individual, by retiring to the hills and employing the necessary spells. A common receipt when a child appears consumptive and puny is, that the conjuror places a bowl of water on the patient's head, and pours melted lead into it through the wards of a key. The metal assumes of course a variety of shapes, from which he selects a portion after due consideration, which is sewn into the shirt of the patient. Sometimes no part of the lead suits the seer's fancy. Then the operation is recommenced, until he obtains a fragment of such a configuration as suits his mystical purpose.

The Zetlanders are a tall, manly, handsome race of people, with long

fair hair, blue eyes, and good-humoured countenances. They are very civil and temperate in their general habits. Very many of them go into the navy, and remit large sums to their families, under the late benevolent act of parliament for enabling seamen to make such provisions. The whale-fishery always finds employment in the summer months for many of these hardy islanders. The whale vessels from Hull, Leith, or elsewhere, take these hands, who are supernumerary as to the navigation of the vessel; go with her to Greenland, and are again put ashore as she is homeward bound. The wages drawn by Zetlanders in this way amount to a very large sum, upwards of 20,000*l.* yearly.

The Fair Isle.

We are now clear of Zetland, and about ten o'clock reached the Fair Isle, a solitary island lying about half way between Orkney and Zetland, and not properly belonging to either archipelago, though nominally attached to the latter. One of their boats came alongside, a strange-looking thing, without an entire plank in it, excepting the upper one on each side, upon the strength of which the whole depends, the rest being patched and joined. This trumpery skiff the men manage with the most astonishing dexterity, and row with remarkable speed. They have two banks, that is, two rowers on each bench, and use very short paddles. The wildness of their appearance with long elf-locks, striped worsted caps, and shoes of raw hides; the frailty of their boat and their extreme curiosity about us and our cutter, give them a title to be distin-

guished as *natives*. One of our people told their steersman, by way of jest, that he must have great confidence in Providence to go to sea in such a vehicle; the man very sensibly replied, that without the same confidence in Providence, he would not go to sea in the best *tool* in England. We take to our boat, and row for about three miles round the coast, in order to come at the inhabited point of the island. This coast abounds with grand views of rocks and bays. One immense portion of rock is (like the Holm of Noss) separated by a chasm from the mainland. As it is covered with herbage on the top, though a literal precipice all round, the natives contrive to ascend the rock by a place which would make a goat dizzy, and then drag the sheep up by ropes; though they sometimes carry a sheep upon their shoulders. The captain of a sloop of war being ashore while they were at this work, turned giddy and sick by looking at them.

This immense precipice is several hundred feet high, and is perforated below by some extraordinary apertures, through which a boat might pass. After passing a bay called the North Haven, tenanted by sea-fowl and seals, we came in view of the small harbour, in front of which is the house of the tacksman, and in view are three small assemblages of miserable huts, where the inhabitants of the isle live. There are about 30 families and 250 inhabitants upon the *Fair Isle*. It merits its name, as the plain upon which the hamlets are situated bears excellent barley, oats, and potatoes, and the rest of the isle is beautiful pasture, excepting to the eastward, where there is a moss, equally essential to the comfort of the inhabitants, since it supplies them

with peats for fuel. The Fair Isle is about three miles long and a mile and a half broad. Mr Strong, the tenant of the island, received us very courteously. He lives here, like Robinson Crusoe, in absolute solitude, as to society, unless by a chance visit from the officers of a man-of-war. There is a signal-post maintained on the island by government, under this gentleman's inspection; when any ship appears that cannot answer his signals, he sends off to Lerwick and Kirkwall to give the alarm. Rogers was off here last year, and nearly cut off one of Mr Strong's express boats, but the active islanders outstripped his people by speed of rowing. The inhabitants pay Mr Strong for the possessions which they occupy under him as subtenants, and cultivate the isle in their own way, *i. e.* by digging instead of ploughing (though the ground is quite open and free from rocks, and they have several scores of ponies,) and by raising alternate crops of barley, oats, and potatoes; the first and last are admirably good. They rather over-mature their crops; the possessions lie runrig, that is, by alternate ridges, and the outfield or pasture ground is possessed as common to all their cows and ponies. The islanders fish for Mr Strong at certain fixed rates, and the fish is his property, which he sends to Kirkwall, Lerwick, or elsewhere, in a little schooner, the same which we left in Quendale Bay, and about the arrival of which we found them anxious. An equal space of rich land on the Fair Isle, situated in an inland county of Scotland, would rent for 3000*l.* a year at the very least. To be sure it would not be burdened with the population of 250 souls, whose bodies (fertile as it is) it cannot main-

tain in bread, they being supplied chiefly from the mainland. Fish they have plenty, and are even nice in their choice. Skate they will not touch; dog-fish they say is only food for Orkney-men, and when they catch them, they make a point of tormenting the poor fish, for eating off their baits from the hook, stealing the haddocks from their lines, and other enormities. These people being about half-way between Shetland and Orkney, have unfrequent connection with either archipelago, and live and marry entirely among themselves.

One lad told me, only five persons had left the island since his remembrance, and of those, three were pressed for the navy. They seldom go to Greenland; but this year five or six of these young men were on board the whalers. They seemed extremely solicitous about their return, and repeatedly questioned us about the names of the whalers which were at Lerwick, a point on which we could give little information. The manners of these islanders seem primitive and simple, and they are sober, good-humoured, and friendly. Their comforts are, of course, much dependent on *their master's* pleasure; for so they call the principal tacksman. In the present instance they consider themselves fortunate, giving the gentleman who now resides among them the highest character for kindness and liberality, and praying to God he might long be their ruler. After mounting the signal post hill, or Malcolm's head, which is faced by a most tremendous cliff, we separated in our different routes. Mr E—— went to rectify the only enormity on the island, which existed in the person of a drunken schoolmaster; others went to shoot sea-fowl. Our geologists walked two

miles to inspect the remains or vestiges of a Danish light-house upon a distant hill, called, as usual, the Ward-hill, and returned with specimens of copper ore. I went to see two remarkable indentures in the coast called *Rivas*, perhaps from their being rifted or *riven*. They are exactly like the Buller of Buchan, the sea rolling into a large open basin within the land through a natural arch-way. These places are close to each other, one is oblong, and it is easy to descend into it by a rude path; the other gulph is inaccessible from the land, unless to a *crag-man*, as these venturous climbers call themselves. I sat for about an hour upon the verge, like the cormorants around me, hanging my legs over the precipice; but I could not get free of two or three well-meaning islanders, who held me fast by the skirts all the time,—for it must be conceived, that our numbers and appointments had drawn out the whole population to admire and attend us. After we separated, each, like the nucleus of a comet, had his own distinct train of attendants. We then visited the capital town, a wretched assemblage of the basest huts, dirty without, and still dirtier within; pigs, fowls, cows, men, women, and children, all living promiscuously under the same roof, and in the same room the brood-sow making (among the more opulent) a distinguished inhabitant of the mansion. The compost, a liquid mass of utter abomination, is kept in a square pond of 7 feet deep; when I censured it, they allowed it might be dangerous to the *bairns*; but appeared unconscious of any other objection. I cannot wonder they want meal, for assuredly they waste it. A great *bowie* or wooden vessel of porridge is made in the morning; a

child comes and sups a few spoonfuls; then Mrs Sow takes her share; then the rest of the children or the parents, and all at pleasure; then come the poultry when the mess is more cool; the rest is flung upon the dunghill, and the good-wife wonders and complains when she wants meal in winter. They are a long-lived race, notwithstanding utter and inconceivable dirt and sluttery. A man of sixty told me his father died only last year aged ninety-eight, nor was this considered as very unusual. The clergyman of Dunrossness in Zetland visits these poor people once a-year for a week or two during summer. In winter this is impossible, and even the visit in summer is occasionally interrupted for two years. Marriages and baptisms are performed, as one of the isles-men told me, *by the slump*, and one of the children was old enough to tell the clergyman who sprinkled him with water, "Deel be in your fingers." Last time four couple were married; sixteen children baptized. The schoolmaster reads a portion of Scripture in the church each Sunday, when the clergyman is absent. The women knit worsted-stockings, night-caps, and similar trifles, which they exchange with any merchant-vessels that approach their lonely isle. In these respects they greatly regretted the American war; and mentioned with great unction the happy days when they could get from an American trader a bottle of peach-brandy or rum in exchange for a pair of worsted-stockings or a dozen of eggs. The humanity of their master interferes much with the favourite but dangerous occupation of the islanders, which is *fowling*, that is, taking the young sea-fowl from their nests among these tremendous crags. A-

bout a fortnight before we arrived, a fine boy of fourteen had dropped from the cliff, while in prosecution of this amusement, into a roaring surf, by which he was instantly swallowed up. The unfortunate mother was labouring at the peat-moss at a little distance. These accidents do not, however, strike terror into the survivors. They regard the death of an individual engaged in these desperate exploits, as we do the fate of a brave relative who dies in the field of battle, where the honour of his death furnishes a balm to our sorrow. It, therefore, requires all the tacksmen's authority to prevent a practice so pregnant with danger. Like all other precarious and dangerous employments, the occupation of the crags-men renders them unwilling to labour at employments of a more steady description.

We must not leave the Fair Isle without remarking, that the flag-ship of the Duke of Medina Sidonia, was wrecked here in 1688; and the High Admiral of the Invincible Armada spent some weeks in this wild and sequestered island before he could find the means of transporting himself to Norway. Independently of the moral consideration, that, from the pitch of power in which he stood a few days before, the proudest peer of the proudest nation in Europe found himself dependent on the jealous and scanty charity of these secluded islanders, it is scarce possible not to reflect with compassion on the change of situation from the palaces of Estremadura to the hamlets on the Fair Isle.

Dost thou think on thy desarts, son of
Hodeirah?

Dost thou long for the gales of Arabia?

The tradition of the Fair Isle is unfavourable to those ship-wrecked strangers, who are said to have committed several acts of violence to extort the supplies of provision, given them sparingly and with reluctance by the islanders, who were probably themselves very far from being well supplied.

Uamh Smowe.

19th August, 1814, Loch Eribol near Cape Wrath. Went off before eight A.M. to breakfast with our friend Mr A———. His house of Respand, invisible from the vessel at her moorings, and, indeed, from any part of the entrance into Loch Eribol, is a very comfortable mansion, lying obscured behind a craggy eminence which interferes between the house and the lake. A little creek winding up behind the crag, and in front of the house, forms a small harbour, and gives a romantic air of concealment and snugness to the house. There we found a ship upon the stocks, built from the keel by a Highland carpenter, who had magnanimously declined receiving assistance from any of the ship-carpenters who happened to be here occasionally, lest it should be said he could not have finished his task without their assistance. An ample Highland breakfast of excellent new-taken herring, equal to those of Lochfinc, fresh haddocks, fresh eggs, and fresh butter, not forgetting the bottle of whisky, and bannocks of barley and oat cakes, with the Lowland luxuries of tea and coffee. After breakfast, took the long-boat, and under Mr A———'s pilotage, row to see a remarkable natural curiosity, called Uamh Smowe, or the Largest Cave.

After rowing about three miles to the westward of the entrance from the sea to Loch Eribol, we enter a creek, between two ledges of very high rocks, and landing, find ourselves in front of the wonder we came to see. The exterior apartment of the cavern opens under a tremendous rock, facing the creek where we landed, and occupies the full space of the ravine where we debarked. From the top of the rock to the base of the cavern, as we afterwards discovered by plumb, is 80 feet, of which the height of the aperture, or arch, is 53 feet; the rest, being 27 feet, is occupied by the precipitous rock under which it opens; the width is fully in proportion to this great height, being 110 feet. The depth of this exterior cavern is 200 feet, and it is apparently supported by an intermediate column of natural rock. Being open to day-light and the sea air, the cavern is perfectly clean and dry, and the sides are incrustated with stalactites. This immense cavern is so well proportioned, that I was not aware of its extraordinary height and extent, till I saw two of our friends, who had somewhat preceded us, having made the journey by land, appearing like pigmies among its recesses. Afterwards, on entering the cave, I climbed up a sloping rock at its extremity, and was much struck with the view, looking outward from this magnificent arched cavern upon our boat and its crew, the view being otherwise bounded by the ledge of rocks which formed each side of the creek. We now proposed to investigate the farther wonders of the cave of Smowe. In the right or west side of the cave opens an interior cavern of a different aspect. The height of this second passage may be about twelve or fourteen feet, and its breadth about six

or eight feet, neatly formed into a Gothic portal by the hand of Nature. The lower part of this porch, or entrance, is closed by a ledge of rock, rising to the height of between five and six feet, and which I can compare to nothing but the hatch-door of a shop. Beneath this hatch a brook finds its way out, forms a black deep pool before the Gothic archway, and then escapes to the sea, and forms the creek in which we landed. It is somewhat difficult to approach this strange pass, so as to gain a view into the interior of the cavern. By clambering along a broken and dangerous cliff, you can, however, look into it; but only so far as to see a twilight space filled with dark-coloured water in great agitation, and representing a subterranean lake, moved by some fearful convulsion of nature. How this pond is supplied with water you cannot see from even this point of vantage, but you are made partly sensible of the truth by a sound like the dashing of a sullen cataract within the bowels of the earth. Here the adventure has usually been abandoned, and Mr A—— only mentioned two travellers whose curiosity had led them farther. We were resolved, however, to see the adventures of this new cave of Montesinos to an end. Our friends had already secured the use of a fisher's boat and its hands, our own long-boat being too heavy and far too valuable to be ventured upon this subterranean Cocytus. Accordingly the skiff was dragged up the brook to the rocky ledge or hatch which barred up the interior cavern, and there, by force of hands, our boat's crew and two or three fishers first raised the boat's bow upon the ledge of rock, then brought her to a level poise upon that narrow hatch, and lastly launched her down

into the dark and deep subterranean lake within. The entrance was so narrow, and the boat so clumsy, that we, who were all the while clinging to the rock like sea-fowl, and with scarce more secure footing, were greatly alarmed for the safety of our trusty sailors. At the instant when the boat sloped inward to the cave, a highlander threw himself into it with great boldness and dexterity, and, at the expence of some bruises, shared its precipitate fall into the waters under the earth. This dangerous expedient was necessary to prevent the boat drifting away from us, but a cord at its stern would have been a safer and surer expedient.

When our *enfant perdu* had recovered breath and legs, he brought the boat back to the entrance, and took us in. We now found ourselves embarked on a deep black subterranean pond of water of an irregular form, the rocks rising like a dome all around us, and high over our heads. The light, a sort of dubious twilight, was derived from two chasms in the roof of the vault, for that offered by the entrance was but trifling. Down one of those rents there poured from the height of eighty feet, in a sheet of foam, the brook, which, after supplying the subterranean pond with water, found its way out beneath the ledge of rock which blocked its entrance. The other sky-light, if I may so term it, looks out at the blue clear sky. It is impossible for description to explain the impression made by so strange a place, to which we had been conveyed with so much difficulty to witness so strange a scene. The cave itself, the pool, the cataract, would have been each separate objects of wonder, but united all together, and affecting at once the ear, the eye, and the imagination, their

effect is indescribable. The length of this pond, or loch, as the people here call it, is seventy feet over, the breadth about thirty at the narrowest point, and it is of great depth.

As we resolved to proceed, we directed the boat to a natural arch on the right hand, or west side of the cataract. This archway was double, a high arch being placed above a very low one, as in a Roman aqueduct. The ledge of rock which forms this lower arch is not above two feet and a half high above the water, and under this we were to pass in the boat; so that we were fain to pile ourselves flat upon each other like a layer of herrings. By this judicious disposition we were pushed in safety beneath this low-browed rock into a region of utter darkness. For this, however, we were provided, for we had a tinder-box and lights. The view back upon the twilight lake we had crossed, its sullen eddies wheeling round and round, and its echoes resounding to the ceaseless thunder of the waterfall, seemed dismal enough, and was aggravated by temporary darkness, and in some degree by a sense of danger. The lights, however, dispelled the latter sensation, if it prevailed to any extent, and we now found ourselves in a narrow cavern, sloping somewhat upward from the water. We got out of the boat, proceeded along some slippery places upon shelves of the rock, and gained the dry land. I cannot say *dry*, excepting comparatively. We were then in an arched cave, 12 feet high in the roof, and about 8 feet in breadth, which went winding into the bowels of the earth for about an hundred feet. The sides being (like those of the whole cavern) of lime-stone rock, were covered with stalactites, and with small drops of water like dew, glan-

ing like ten thousand thousand sets of birth-day diamonds under the glare of our lights. In some places these stalactites branch out into broad and curious ramifications resembling coral, and the foliage of sub-marine plants.

When we reached the extremity of this passage, we found it declined suddenly to a horrible ugly gulf, or well, filled with dark water, and of great depth, over which the rock closed. We threw in stones, which indicated great profundity by their sound; and growing more familiar with the horrors of this den, we sounded with an oar, and found about ten feet depth at the entrance, but discovered, in the same manner, that the gulf extended under the rock, deepening as it went, God knows how far. Imagination can figure few deaths more horrible than to be sucked under these rocks into some unfathomable abyss. A water kelpy, or an evil spirit of any aquatic propensities, could not chuse a fitter abode; and, to say the truth, I believe at our first entrance, and when all our feelings were afloat at the novelty of the scene, the unexpected plashing of a seal would have routed the whole dozen of us. The mouth of this ugly gulf was all covered with slimy alluvious substances, which led one of our party to observe, that it could have no separate source, but must be fed from the waters of the outer lake and brook, as it lay upon the same level, and seemed to rise and fall with it, without having any thing to indicate a separate current of its own. Rounding this perilous hole, or gulf, upon the aforesaid alluvious substances, which formed its shores, we reached the extremity of the cavern, which there ascends like a vent, or funnel, directly up a sloping pre-

cipice, but hideously black, and slippery from wet and sea-weeds. One of our sailors, a Zetlander, climbed up a good way, and by holding up a light, we could plainly perceive that this vent closed after ascending to a considerable height; and here, therefore, closed the adventure of the cave of Smowe, for it appeared utterly impossible to proceed further in any direction whatever. There is a tradition, that the first Lord Reay went through various subterranean abysses, and at length returned, after ineffectually endeavouring to penetrate to the extremity of the Smowe cave; but this must be either fabulous, or an exaggerated account of such a journey as we performed. And under the latter supposition, it is a curious instance how little the people in the neighbourhood of this curiosity have cared to examine it.

In returning, we endeavoured to familiarise ourselves with the objects in detail, which, viewed together, had struck us with so much wonder. The stalactites, or limy incrustations, upon the walls of the cavern, are chiefly of a dark-brown colour, and, in this respect, Smowe cave is inferior to the celebrated cave of Maccalister, in the Isle of Sky. In returning, the men with the lights, and the various groups and attitudes of the party, gave a good deal of amusement. We now ventured to clamber along the side of the rock above the subterranean water, and thus gained the upper arch, and had the satisfaction to see our admirable and good-humoured commander floated beneath the lower arch into the second cavern. His goodly countenance being illumined by a single candle, his recumbent posture, and the appearance of a hard-formed fellow guiding the

boat, made him the very picture of Bibo, in the catch, when he wakes in Charon's boat.

“ When Bibo thought fit from this world to retreat,
As full of Champaign as an egg's full of meat,
He waked in the boat, and to Charon he said,
That he would be row'd back, for he was not yet dead.”

Descending from our superior station on the upper arch, we now again embarked, and spent some time in rowing about and examining this second cave. We could see our dusky entrance, into which daylight streamed faint, and at a considerable distance; and under the arch of the outer cavern stood a sailor, with an oar in his hand, looking, in the perspective, like a fairy with his wand. We at length emerged unwillingly from this extraordinary bason, and again enjoyed ourselves in the large exterior cave. Our boat was hoisted with some difficulty over the ledge, which appears the natural barrier of the interior apartments, and restored in safety to the fishers, who were properly gratified for the hazard which their skiff, as well as one of themselves, had endured. After this, we resolved to ascend the rocks, and discover the opening by which the cascade was discharged from above into the second cave. We easily found the brook, and traced its descent till it precipitates itself down a chasm of the rock into the subterranean apartment, where we first made its acquaintance. Divided by a natural arch of stone from the chasm down which the cascade falls, there is another rent, which serves as a skylight to the cavern, as I already noticed. Standing on a natural

foot-bridge, formed by the arch which divides these two gulfs, you have a grand prospect into both. The one is deep, black, and silent, only affording at the bottom a glimpse of the dark and sullen pool which occupies the interior of the cavern. The right-hand rent, down which the stream discharges itself, seems to ring and reel with the unceasing roar of the cataract which envelopes its side in mist and foam.

This part of the scene alone is worth a day's journey to see. After heavy rains, the torrent is discharged into this cavern with astonishing violence; and the size of the chasm being inadequate to the reception of such a volume of water, it is thrown up in spouts like the blowing of a whale. But at such times the entrance of the cavern is inaccessible. Taking leave of this scene with regret, we rowed back to Loch Eribol. Having yet an hour to spare before dinner, we rowed across the mouth of the lake to its shore on the east side. This rises into a steep and shattered stack of mouldering calcareous rock and stone, called Whitten Head. It is pierced with several caverns, the abode of seals and cormorants. We entered one, where our guide promised to us a grand sight, and so it certainly was to any who had not just come from Smowe. In this last cave the sea enters through a lofty arch, and penetrates to great depth; but the height of the tide made it dangerous to venture very far, so we did not see the extremity of Friskin's Cavern, as it is called. We shot several cormorants in the cave, the echoes roaring like thunder at every discharge.

August—1814. Sail about four, and in rounding the main-land of Orkney, called Pomona, encoun-

fer a very heavy sea. About ten o'clock get into the sound of Holm, or Ham, a fine smooth current, meandering between two green islands, which have little to characterise them. On the right of the Sound is the main land, and a deep bay, called Scalpa-flow, indents it up to within two miles of Kirkwall. A canal through this neck of the island would be of great consequence to the borough.

We see the steeple and church of Kirkwall across the island very distinctly. Passing two Swedish vessels, and a large one, say 600 tons, we speak them, but got no news from Norway. Getting out of the Sound of Holm, we see on the right the harbour, or roadstead, of the Long Hope, now protected by a small fort. A sloop of war, and some other shipping, seem to be lying there. On the left-hand we see and land into the harbour, or roadstead, of Wide-walls, where we find seven or eight foreign vessels, bound for Ireland. These roadsteads are common all through the Orkneys, and afford excellent shelter for small vessels.

The day is pleasant and sunny, but the breeze is too high to permit landing at the Skerries, which was our object. Agree, therefore, to stand over for the main-land of Scotland, and visit Thurso. Enter the Pentland firth, so celebrated for the strength and fury of its tides, which is boiling even in this pleasant weather. We see a large ship (a king's ship or Greenlander) battling with this heavy current, and, though with all her canvass set, and a breeze blowing, getting more and more involved in the firth, in spite of wind and sail. See the two capes of Dungsby, or Duncansbay, and Donat-head, between which lies the ce-

lebrated John O'Groat's House, on the north-eastern extremity of Scotland. The shore of Caithness rises bold, rocky, and hilly before us, a contrast to the Orkneys, which are all low, excepting the Island of Hoy, which contains some very high ground, and one remarkable hill. On Duncan's-Bay-Head appear some remarkable insulated rocks, like towers, called the Stacks of Duncan's-bay. Near the shore runs the remarkable breaking tide, called the *Merry Men of Mey*, where Mr MacKenzie lays the scenery of a poem.

Where the dancing men of Mey
Speed the current to the land.

Here, according to his locality, the Caithness-man witnessed the vision in which was introduced the song translated by Gray, under title of the Fatal Sisters. On this subject an Orkney gentleman of high respectability told us the following remarkable circumstance. A clergyman informed him, that while some remnants of the Norse were yet spoken in the island of North Ronaldsha, he carried thither the translation of Mr Gray, then newly published, and read it to some of the old people, as referring to the ancient history of these islands. But so soon as he had proceeded a little way, they exclaimed they knew it very well in the original, and had often sung it to him, when he asked them for an old Norse song. They called it the *Echantresses*.

The breeze dies away between two wicked little islands, called Swona and Stroma, the latter belonging to Caithness, the former to Orkney. Both islands have dangerous reefs and whirlpools, where, even in this fine day, the tide rages furiously. In-

deed the large, high, unbroken billows which at every swell hide from our decks each distant object, plainly intimate what a dreadful current this must be when vexed by high or adverse winds.

Finding ourselves losing ground, and unwilling to waste time, we gave up Thurso, and ran back into the roadstead or bay of Long-hope, and anchored under the fort. The bay has four entrances, and safe anchorage in most winds; and being accordingly a great rendezvous for shipping, (there are nine vessels lying there at present,) has been of late an object of attention with government. Went ashore after dinner, and visited the fort, which is only partly completed. It is a *seche* directed to the sea, with eight guns, 24-pounders, but without any land-defences. The guns are mounted *en barbette*, without embrasures, each upon a kind of moveable stage, which stage, turning upon a pivot in front, and traversing by means of wheels behind, can be pointed in any direction that may be thought necessary. Upon the stage, the gun-carriage moves forward, and recoils; and the depth of the parapet shelters the men even better than where the gun is fixed through an embrasure. At a little distance from this battery they are building a Martello tower, which is to cross the fire of the battery, and also that of another tower, projected upon the opposite point of the bay. The expedience of these towers seems excessively problematical. Supposing them impregnable, or nearly so, a garrison of fourteen or fifteen men may be always blockaded by a very trifling force, while the enemy dispose of all in the vicinity at their pleasure. In the case of Long-Hope, for instance, a frigate might

disembark 100 men, take the fort in the rear, where it is undefended even by a palisade; destroy the magazines, spike and dismount the cannon; carry off or cut out any vessels in the roadstead, and accomplish all the purposes that could bring them to so remote a spot, in spite of the serjeant's party quartered in the Martello tower, and without troubling themselves at all about them, Meanwhile Long-Hope will one day turn out a flourishing place. There will soon be taverns and slop-shops, where sailors rendezvous in such numbers. Then will come quays, docks, and warehouses, and then a thriving town. This is the first fine day we have enjoyed to an end since Sunday, the 31st ult. Rainy, cold, and hazy have been our voyages around these islands. I hope the weather begins to mend, though our master threatens a breeze to-morrow. We are to attempt the Skerries, if possible; if not, we will, I believe, go to Stromness.

August—1814. Fine morning; we get again into the Pentland firth, and with the aid of a pilot-boat belonging to the light-house service, from south Ronaldsha we attempt the Skerries. Notwithstanding the fair weather, we have a specimen of the violence of the flood-tide in the Pentland firth, which forms whirlpools on the shallows, sunken rocks, &c. beside the islands of Swona and Strona, and in the deep water makes strange smooth whirling and swelling eddies, called by the sailors *wells*. We run through the wells of Tuffilow in particular, which, in the least stress of weather, are said to have force sufficient to wheel a large ship round and round, without respect either to helm or sails. Hence the distinction of *wells* and *waves* in old English, the

well being that smooth glassy oily-looking eddy, the force of which seems to the eye almost resistless. The appearance of the waves bursting in foam around these strange eddies, by which their swell is broken and intersected, has a bewildering and confused appearance, which it is impossible to describe. Get off the Skerries about 10 o'clock, and land easily. It is the first time a boat has got there for several days. The Skerries is an island, so called, containing about 60 acres of fine short herbage, belonging to Lord Dundas. It is surrounded by a reef of precipitous rocks, not very high, but almost inaccessible, unless where the ocean has made indentations among them, and where stairs have been cut down to the water for the light-house service. These inlets have a romantic appearance, and have been christened by the sailors, the Parliament House, the Seal's Lying-in Hospital, &c. The last inlet, after rushing through a deep chasm, which is open over-head, is continued under ground, and then again opens to the sky in the middle of the island. In this hole the seals bring out their whelps. When the tide is high, the waves rise up through this aperture in the middle of the isle like the blowing of a whale in noise and appearance. There is another round cauldron of solid rock to which the waves have access through a natural arch in the rock, having another and lesser arch rising just above it. In hard weather the waves rush through both apertures with a horrid noise. The workmen called it the Carron Blast, and indeed the variety of noises which issued from the abyss somewhat reminded me of that engine. The light-house is too low, and on the old construction; yet it is of the last importance; for, before

this light-house was established, vessels were obliged to go round the whole Orcadian archipelago, or to involve themselves on the hazardous and complicated passages of the firths of Westra, or North Ronaldsha, rather than attempt the Pentland firth, where those unhappy Skerries lie, forming the salient angle of a triangle between the islands of Swona and Stroma, to catch any ship that might pass between them. But now the light-house renders the Pentland firth quite accessible at the proper hours of tide. There are about fifty head of cattle on the island, belonging to Lord Dundas's tenant. They must be got ashore and off with great danger and difficulty. There is no water upon the isle except what remains after rain in some pools; these sometimes dry up in summer, and the cattle are reduced to great straits. Leave the isle about one, and the wind and tide being favourable, crowd all sail, and get on for half an hour at the rate of almost fourteen miles an hour. Soon reach our old anchorage at the Long Hope, and passing it, stand to the northwestward upon the Sound of Hoy for Stromness;—I should have mentioned, that in going down the Pentland firth this morning, we saw John-o'-Groat's-house, or rather the place where it stood, now occupied by a store-house. Our pilot opined, there was no such man as John-o'-Groat, for he says, he cannot hear that any body ever saw him. This reasoning would put down most facts of antiquity. They gather shells on the shore called John-o'-Groat's buckies. I may here add, that the interpretation given to *wells* may apply to the wells of Slane, in the fine ballad of Clerk Colvin. Such eddies, in the romantic vicinity of Slane's Castle, would be a fine

place for a mermaid. Our wind fails us, and what is worse, becomes westerly. The Sound has now the appearance of a beautiful land-locked bay, the passages between the islands being scarce visible.

We have a superb view of Kirkwall cathedral, with a strong gleam of sunshine upon it. We see it by looking up the bay called Scapa-flow, which indents the Island of Pornonan, and so over the narrow isthmus of land between that bay and Kirkwall. Gloomly weather begins to collect around us, particularly on the island of Hoy, which, covered with gloom and vapour, now assumes a majestic and mountainous character. On Pomona we pass the hill of Ophir. This Ophir of the north must not be confounded with the Ophir of the south. From the former came gold, silver, and precious stones, the latter seems to produce little except peats; yet these are precious commodities, which some of the Orkney isles altogether want, and, in lieu of them, burn the turf of their lands instead of importing coal from Newcastle.

There are remains of the Norwegian descent of the Orcadians in their names and language, particularly in N. Ronaldsha, an isle I regret we did not see. They still speak a little

Norse, and indeed I hear every day words of that language, for instance, *Jokull*. We creep slowly up Hoy-Sound, working under the Pomona shore, but there is no hope of reaching Stromness till we have the assistance of the evening tide.

The channel now seems like a Highland loch, not the least ripple on the waves; the passage is narrowed, and (to the eye) blocked up by the interference of the green, and apparently fertile, isle of Gramsay, the property of Lord Armadale. Hoy looks yet grimmer from comparing its black and steep mountains with the verdant isle. To add to the beauty of the Sound, it is rendered lively by the successive appearance of seven or eight whaling vessels from Davis's Straits, large strong ships which pass us successively, with all their sails set, enjoying the little wind that is. Many of these vessels display the *garland*, that is, a wreath of ribbands which the young fellows on board have got from their sweethearts, or came by otherwise, which hangs between the fore-mast and main-mast, surmounted sometimes by a small model of the vessel. This garland is hung up upon the 1st of May, and remains till they come into port.

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ORIGINAL POETRY.

THE BALLAD OF KING GREGORY.

KING Gregory sits in Dunbarton tower,
He looks far o'er the dale and down ;
"What boots it me," said Gregory,
"That all the land I see's my own ?

"Scotland is mine by heritage,
And Erin yields and bows the knee,
And the southron lads they frown afar,
But they darena parl again wi' me ;

"For they ha'e gotten the meddler's cast,
Their doughty raids ha'e cost them dear,
They'll come nae mair to fair Scotland,
Or dare her sons to deeds o' weir.

"The shield hangs useless in my hall,
The sword rusts on the yeoman's thigh,
The hind is whistling o'er the dale,
And here sits sachless Gregory.

"O I may spread my sails of silk,
And lightly sweep along the sea,
And I may mount my milk-white steed,
And chase the dun deer o'er the lea ;

"But aye at e'en when I come hame
Frae the firth or the muirland hill,
I drink my wine and I list my fame,
But there's something wanting still."—

King Gregory sat in Dumbarton tower,
 He looked a far o'er land and sea ;
 He saw his grey hills round him stand,
 And the vale and the greenwood tree

He saw the links and the shores of Clyde,
 And the sea that rowed wi' ceaseless play ;
 It was dyed wi' green, it was dyed wi' red,
 And it tried to climb the rock so grey,
 But aye it fell wi' a grumbling sound,
 And left behind the dewy spray.

It was not the mountain, it was not the dale,
 Nor the fairy hues that dyed the sea,
 Nor the wave that wrestled wi' the rock,
 That drew King Gregory's wistful e'e ;

It was the maidens of Leven side
 That walked or played with blythsome glee,
 For they were lythe of lire and limb,
 And O but they were bright of blee !

King Gregory went into his bower,
 That bower was fair and that bower was wide ;
 King Gregory went into his hall,
 And he strode it o'er from side to side.

King Gregory went to his chamber,
 And looked around with joyful brow,
 He looked into his royal bed,
 And he found there was meet room for two.

And sore he wondered that so long
 Something awanting he should ken ;
 Something he lacked of happiness,
 But knew not what it was till then.

King Gregory called his nobles in ;
 " My gallant knights, pray list to me ;
 My day of life is past the noon,
 And the grey hairs wave aboon my bree.

" Seek me a may of noble kin,
 I reck nought of her dower or land,
 Be she a fair and comely dame,
 As fits the queen of fair Scotland."

Then every baron rose with speed
 Who had fair daughters of his own,

ORIGINAL POETRY.

And ilk ane roosed the child he loved
Aboon all maids that e'er were known.

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O they were all sae fair and sae good,
King Gregory was in extacy ;
And every ane that was defined,
King Gregory thought " that's she for me."

But up spake Douglas of the dale,
A grim and stalwart carl was he ;
" My liege, I have two maidens young,
But they're somewhat dark like you and me,

" But John of Erol has a maid,
For comely maik and courtesye,
Her like ne'er clove the summer gale
Since Scotland rose up frae the sea ;

" That ever was bred a form sae fair
Of earthly life I could not ween,
And ever since I saw her face
I deemed her formed to be a queen."

Then every noble lord stood dumb,
And cast at him an angry e'e,
But all allowed in sullen moöd
That Erol's maid was fair to see.

The king has written a broad letter,
And he sealed it with his signet ring,
And he has sent to Erol's lord
To bring his daughter to the king ;

" And see that she be robed in silk,
All fringed wi' the gouden cramasye,
For I have neither spouse nor child,
And queen of Scotland she shall be."

When Erol looked the letter on,
A blythe and happy man was he,
But ere the half of it was done
There was something glistened in his e'e.

Then Erol turned him round about,
And he stamped and he cried, " O woe is me,
I have pledged my word to Athol's lord,
And a queen my child must never be.

“ O might I live to see that day,
 How blythely would I close my e'en!
 I've seen enough could I but see
 My bonny Hay the Scottish queen. .

“ Haste to the king, my little page,
 And say my daughter he shall see,
 That she's o'ercome with grateful love,
 Say that, and leave the rest to me.”

O but King Gregory was fain,
 The beauteous Hay was all his dream,
 And aye he combed his raven locks,
 And aye he bathed him in the stream,

And aye he haunted Leven side,
 And bent above the wave so cool;
 For there was no mirror in the land
 But the streamlet or the standing pool.

And King Gregory saw his buirdly form
 With pleasure never known before;
 And King Gregory thought his hanging brow
 Of majesty the signal bore:

But the rimy fringe upon his beard
 O but it grieved his heart to see,
 And ill he brooked the silver hairs
 That floated o'er his dark e'e-brec.

But John of Erol he was sad,
 Nor wist he how to win the day;
 He feared the pride of Athol's lord,
 And he feared the heart of bonny Hay.

For well he knew he long had wooed
 With fondest love and fervency,
 And rowed her in his highland plaid
 When there was never an eye to see;

And well he knew that maiden's love
 Is by such lone endearments won,
 And much he feared that Athol's lord
 Erol and Stormont would o'er-run;

He knew that should the king assay
 To wear him in his highland glen,

ORIGINAL POETRY.

He had much better meet again
Canute the Dane and all his men.
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The lovely Hay sat in her bower,
Her gouden locks the breezes swung ;
And aye she looked to the Athol hills,
And aye she lilted and she sung.

“ The Highland hills are bonny hills,
Altho’ they kythe so darkly blue :
The rock-rose nods upon the cliff,
The heather-blooms their brows bedew

“ The braes are steep, and the dells are deep,
And the water sings unto the tree.
Fair is the face of Lowland dale,
But dearer far yon hills to me !

“ For all yon hills will soon be mine,
Their grizly tops and glens of dew ;
And mine shall be the bravest lord
That ever gathering bugle blew.

“ O he has rowed me in his plaid,
And he has made my bosom fain,
Which never man has done but he,
And never man shall do again.”—

And aye the southland breeze came bye,
And blew aside her kirtle green,
And aye it kissed her glowing cheek,
And aye it heaved her bosom’s screen.

And sure so light and fair a form,
Was never stretched on Ila’s shore,
And sure that moulded lily breast—
Ah ! it was ne’er so white before !

Yet from that fair and comely form
The lady raised a startled e’e,
The colour altered on her cheek,
And the tear-drop fell upon her knee,

Her song is past, and gone the blast,
Up stands her father by her side :
“ Rise up, rise up, my daughter dear,
Thou ne’er canst be Lord Athol’s bride,

“ Or else my life lies in a wad,—
 Our royal liege has sent for thee ;
 He bids me robe you in the silk,
 With gouden gear and cramasye,

“ For he has neither spouse nor child,
 And past and signed is this decree,
 That thou, the fairest of the land,
 Forthwith shalt Queen of Scotland be.”

“ My faith is pledged, and so is thine ;
 No royal bed nor crown for me,
 I shall be bride to Athol’s lord,
 Or bride on earth I’ll never be.”

“ O daughter, of thy father’s house
 Hast thou no memory nor fear ?
 And well I ween the Athol chief
 Would quit thee for a herd of deer.”

“ He’ll sooner brave the king and thee :
 He’ll come with all his hardy clan,
 And then the king will buy his bride
 With blood of many a Lowland man.

“ The Grants, the Frazers, and M’Leods,
 And wild Macphersons him will join ;
 The warlike Comyns of the north,
 The Gordon and the brave Aboyne.

“ Oh, ere he won Lord Athol’s bride,
 Or brave the lion in his den,
 Trust me, he’ll easier cow again
 Canute the Dane and all his men.

“ Should Athol’s lord yield up his right,
 And neither love nor wrath bewray,
 I’ll plight King Gregory my troth,
 And blythely, cheerly, trudge away.”—

The king walked forth by Leven side,
 His leesome thoughts were all of love ;
 There he beheld a palmer man,
 That watched his path amid the grove.

And ah ! he told him such a tale
 Of danger, brooking no delay :

It was of threatened northern feud,
Of Athol's love to bonny Hay.

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The king sent out a belted knight
To greet the gallant chief, and say,—
“ Lord Athol, thou wert aye the man
Who stood by me in battle fray.

“ A hardier wight, or braver knight,
Ne'er conquered by his sovereign's side,
And thee I'll trust, and only thee,
To bring me home my lovely bride ;

“ For I have courted Erol's maid,
And gained her heart right pleasantly ;
Be thou bedight in goodly gear,
My knight and bridesman thou shalt be.”

Lord Athol strode into his hall ;
It was too bounded for his grief ;
Lord Athol strode into the field,
In proud resolve to seek relief.

He weighed it up, he weighed it down,
The circumstance, and the degree ;
He found the king was blameless knight,
And sighed for woman's treachery.

“ Woe that my eye was ever turned
On piece of false and fickle clay,
Woe that my peace was ever set
Upon that floweret of a day.

“ O she could love, and she could smile,
And she could sigh, and weep withal,
But, ah ! that love of selfish wile
Could not withstand a coronal.

“ And she expects that I will come
And whine and talk of broken vow !
And she expects that I will kneel
Beneath her pride and scornful brow !

“ But I will show that imp of pride,
Her hopes of triumph are but vain ;
And though revenge is in my power,
How easily I can break her chain.”

The days rolled on. O they were long!
 Yet still regretted past away;
 The nights went bye with weary pace,
 O sleepless nights to lovely Hay!

For every hour she hoped to see
 Lord Athol at her father's door,
 She longed to see the Highland clans,
 The target, and the broad claymore.

No rescue came!—The day arrived,—
 Oh, cold, cold ran old Erol's blood!
 There came a loud rap to the gate,
 And at that gate Lord Athol stood,

With sevenscore clansmen him behind,
 Well mounted and in bright array.
 Old Erol ran into the hall,
 Shouting "To arms, to arms, hurra!

"Haste, warder, to the northern tower,
 And peal the gathering note amain,
 Till every tree bawl forth the sound
 From Ila ford to Dunsinnane."

O loud loud did the maiden laugh,
 To see old Erol in the gin,
 And loud loud was the knock and call,
 But none would let Lord Athol in.

He heaved the guard-stone from the earth,
 With strength beyond the wizard's spell,
 And dashed it on the iron gate,
 Till bolts and bars in finders fell.

Old Erol came into the court,
 He saw that better might not be,
 He touched his bonnet with his hand,
 Aware of Athol's injury.

"Lord Athol, if thou'rt come to fight,
 Trust me, thou shalt have routh of weir;
 Lord Athol, if thou'rt come to feast,
 There is no knight so welcome here."

A frown hung on Lord Athol's brow;
 He turned him round upon his heel,

ORIGINAL POETRY.

11

" I come to bear the king his bride,
Here is his hand and royal seal."

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Old Erol looked the letter on,
He scarcely could believe his ee ;
" Our royal liege is sore misled,
I will not yield the maid to thee."

" Then by my faith I must her take
In spite of all that bars my way ;
I bear my order from my king,
Which yet I never did gainsay."

He pulled his broad sword from his thigh,
It flickered like the meteor's ray ;
" Lay on them, lads," Lord Athol cried,
" I long with such to have a fray."

Clash went the swords along the van,
That onset might not be withstood,
The highland horse they were so fierce,
They bathed their hooves in lowland blood.

The battle's lost—the bride is won,
The pipes a merry strain resound ;
She weened it was a bold device,
And to the highlands they were bound.

O, never was a maiden's look
So fraught with wonder and dismay,
They did not turn to Ila ford,
But downward bore upon the Tay.

They plunged into the darksome wave,
O but the ford was deep and wide ;
But they set their faces to the stream,
And steadily they stemmed the tide.

Away they rode by Almond ford,
And by the side of silver Earn,
But where they went, or what was meant,
The bonny Hay had yet to learn.

And aye the bride had something wrong,
Her veil or scarf was discomposed,
Her bridle twisted on the mane ;
A belt was broke, a band was loosed.

And then her fair and dainty foot
 From out the golden stirrup fell,
 And none but Athol might her near,
 But yet no look her doubts dispel.

The live-long day nor sign of love,
 Nor censure did his looks express ;
 O his was distant kindness all,
 Attention and obsequiousness.

When they came in by fair Montieth,
 She asked a henchman carelessly,
 " Whose land is this ?—Has Athol here
 A castle or a bastailie ?"

" No, lady fair, these lands are held
 By Comyn Glas of Barneygill,
 Lord Athol has no tower nor land
 Besouth the brow of Birnam hill."

She turned her face back to the north,
 That face grew blenched and pale as clay ;
 And aye the clear and burning tear
 Hung on the cheek of lovely Hay.

Lord Athol turned him round about,
 " Why does the tear stand in your eye ?
 Say, are you weary of the way,
 Or does your steed bear you o'er high ?

" Or does the west wind blirt your cheek,
 Or the sun fa' on your bonny bree ?"
 She hid her face within her vail,
 " Canst thou such question ask at me ?"

" Beshrew my heart, if I can guess,
 When honours thus thy path belay ;—
 Minstrels, play up the music meet,
 And make our royal bride look gay."

As they went down by Endrick side,
 They met our good King Gregory,
 Who came with all his gallant court,
 And welcomed them right courteously ;

He kissed his fair and comely bride,
 And placed her on a chariot high ;

“ Why does Lord Erol stay behind ?
 Why comes he not to give me joy ? ”

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 “ My royal liege,” Lord Athol said,
 “ It fits him not thy face to see ;
 I showed your order and your seal,
 But he would not yield the maid to me.

“ I broke his bolts and bars of steel,
 I beat his yeomen on the lea,
 I won his towers by dint of weir,
 And here I’ve brought her safe to thee.”

The king looked east, the king looked west,
 And asked the maid the truth to tell ;
 “ Sooth, my good lord, the tale is just,
 I nothing wot how it befel.”

King Gregory drew a long, long breath,
 He pressed his brow and stroked his beard :
 “ Now, by the rood,” King Gregory said,
 “ So strange a tale I never heard.”

* * * * *

What ails our fair and comely bride,
 That thus she breathes the broken sigh,
 That ever and anon she looks
 As if to meet some pitying eye ?

No pitying eye, alas ! is there ;
 Lord Athol jests and looks away ;
 True love is blighted in the bloom,
 And hope takes leave of bonny Hay.

The holy abbot oped the book,
 The twain arose from royal seat,
 The prayer was said, the question put,
 Her tongue refused the answer meet ;

But aye she wept and sobbed aloud,
 To cheer or comfort her was none,
 And aye she glanced to Athol’s lord
 With looks would pierce a heart of stone.

His heart was pierced—he deemed her wronged ;
 But now regret could nought avail ;
 O when her silken glove was drawn,
 He trembled like the aspin pale ;

The king put her fair hand in his !
 " Now, abbot, ~~here~~ thy question try."
 The abbot stared and straight obeyed,
 Ah, it was answered readily !

" Then join them, sire, and bless the bond,
 I joy such lovers blest to see,
 The one respected sovereign's will,
 The other, parent's high decree."

Lord Athol kneeled and clasped his king,
 And shed the tears upon his knee ;
 But the fair bride hung round his neck,
 And kissed his lips in extacy.

" Go with thy lover, bonny Hay,
 Thou well befit't his manly side,
 And thou shalt have the fairest dower
 That ever went with highland bride.

" I ne'er saw such a lovely face,
 I never looked on form so fair,
 But a foolish thought rose in my breast,
 —That Athol's child might be my heir !

" Go, my brave Douglas of the dale,
 And bring your Madeline to me ;
 I oft have marked her eagle eye—
 The Queen of Scotland she shall be."

Old Douglas bowed and left the hall,
 How proudly waved his locks of gray !
 A sound was issuing from his breast,
 Laughing or crying none could say.

O such a double bridal and feast,
 And such a time of joyful glee,
 And such a wise and worthy king,
 Dumbarton town shall never see.

BARNARD.

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A MONASTIC LEGEND.

WHEN first our convent settled there,
 Green Ulster was but savage ground ;
 They barred the doors at eve with care,
 And heard the forests whistle round.
 Barnard, a monk of stedfast look,
 One night our abbey's hearth forsook,
 And, stung with grief, unwitting came
 Down some wild glen without a name.

It was a strange and savage place ;
 The grey stones scattered o'er its face
 With hoary glimmer shone :
 The night was wild ; the moon o'ercast
 With clouds careering thick and fast ;
 But still her light, in streaks of white,
 Burst out, as rapidly she passed
 Through her dark path alone.

A wilder'd panic urged him back,
 And searching for his former track,
 A ring of stones he found ;
 'Twas piled of yore, by Druids grim,
 And 'mong its lights and shadows dim
 An aged man of boney limb
 Lay gasping on the ground.

“ The hand of death is o'er my head,—
 My soul is full of doubt and dread,—
 Surely my groans have brought thee nigh !
 Then stop, and watch me till I die.”
 “ I will—but wherefore art thou here,
 Why thus alone, when death's so near ?”
 “ Alone ! alone ! The human race
 May well avoid this bloody place.
 But troops of spectres come again,
 And infants whom my sires have slain.
 Round those dark stones they used to play,
 And tell me of my dying day.”
 “ Old man, thou ravest, clear thy brow ;
 What were thy sires, and who art thou ?”
 “ Behold around those scattered heaps,
 In each of these a Druid sleeps ;
 These were my sires ; but I have none,
 To do my rites, as their's were done.
 This glen has been my sires' abode,

Since first a stranger sought our strand,
 And called the people of the land,
 And taught them of another God.
 At his command, the people bore
 A captive, from the altar stone,
 Whose blood was vowed. The Druids swore
 To pay their Beal* with his own.
 Their wrath was high ; command they gave,
 To bind this prophet of the wave,
 And drag him to the altar side ;
 But when the people, scornful smiling,
 Gave back an answer of reviling,
 And cast their bonds aside,
 They started fierce—and rage and pride,
 And inexpressible surprise,
 Chained up their tongues—They left the place
 That held the sacrilegious race,
 And cursed them with their eyes.

This lonely glen was their retreat ;
 With huge rocks tumbled down the dell
 They barred it from intruding feet,
 And vowed for ever here to dwell ;
 And train an unrelenting race,
 To expiate their sires' disgrace ;
 To bring each year, at midnight hour,
 A victim of the stranger's creed
 To hear their curse, and gasp and bleed
 Upon the stone of power.
 Long, long that fatal stone has stood,
 And oft has seen the night of blood ;
 Till now, stern Beal's rites decline
 On me the last of all the line !
 No victim for his wrath have I,
 He smites my heart ; and I must die.
 When last the stated night came round,
 I walked the circle in despair ;
 And when I prayed, an angry sound
 Made bristle up my hair.
 Two weary nights I walked alone ;
 But on the third a spirit came ;
 With lovely light afar he shone,
 And called me mildly by my name ;
 And sat beside me on the sod,
 And taught me of the stranger's God ;
 But still a dismal voice was near,
 That came and murmured in my ear ;—

* A Deity of the Druids.

Jarring upon his silver speech,
 So sweet to comfort and to teach.
 In yonder dark and lofty stone
 There dwells a voice, that came of old,
 And roused my fathers with its moan,
 And made them mad and fierce and bold.
 When sleep was on the eyes of men,
 It shrilly on the silence broke,
 And called for blood, till, through the glen,
 Each Druid shivered and awoke.
 A sacred fury filled the band,
 They scattered o'er their ancient land,
 Chanting those hymns they used to raise,
 When they were priests in other days ;
 Till sires were murdered as they slept,
 And mothers shrieked, and widows wept.—

'Tis Beal's voice, my father said,
 But, stranger, list, my soul is sick
 With dismal thoughts—that God I dread
 Of whom the spirit loved to speak ;
 He told, how blood awaked his wrath ;
 How murderers mourned in penal fire ;
 How Beal, in the land of death,
 Could never shield me from his ire.
 I know not what, I fain would pray,
 And ask his pardon while I may !”
 He paused, and fell, and was about
 To call upon th' Eternal name ;
 When, from the stone he pointed out
 A deep unhallowed murmur came,
 And then a voice—“ To Beal give
 This stranger's blood, and thou shalt live.”

Upsprung the Druid ! fierce his look
 With murder and with ghastly joy,
 And griped his victim. Age forsook
 His limbs, in that extremity.
 They fell, and struggled each for life,
 Where former victim's bones were spread ;
 And, still, amid the strife,
 The priest invoked his fathers dead,
 To help him, and the powers of hell ;
 And sought his girdle for a knife,
 With broken groans and curses fell ;
 And strained, convulsed, and, dæmon-like,
 Trembled for eagerness to strike.—
 But Barnard shakes him off and flies,
 While cursed by Beal's voice the Druid dies.

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SONNET.

TO SIR THOMAS GRAHAM, ON HIS RETURN TO SPAIN AFTER A
SHORT VISIT TO THIS COUNTRY.

WARRIOR—thou seek'st again the battle-field,
Where Freedom hails afar thy soul of flame ;
And fall'n Iberia kindles at thy name :—
Beneath the shade of England's guardian shield
She girds her armour on, and strives to wield
Her long-forgotten lance :—Yes, there, thy fame
Shall in the hymn of kindred hosts be sung
Round Spain's romantic shores, when she hath thrust
The spoiler from her homes, and proudly hung
Her faulchion on the wall—but not to rust !
—Bright gleams that vengeful blade, as when of yore—
She smote the crescent on the Moslem's brow—
Warrior ! she hails in thee her Cid once more,
To conquer in a fiercer conflict now !

VERSES

WRITTEN AMONG THE RUINS OF ROXBURGH CASTLE.

LONG have I wish'd, sweet Teviot stream !
To visit thy romantic shore,
And often burn'd in fancy's dream
To wander here by dying beam—
Again each sacred haunt explore,
And image every fabled tale of yore.

Now to this solitude I've stray'd,
And view the clustering copsewood grow
On Roxburgh's ancient walls decayed,—
Where foemen erst in steel array'd,
With deadly thrust and clanging blow
Have often stain'd thy river's crystal flow.

Long now have slept the fierce and brave,
 Who here war's crimson flag unfurled ;
 Now peaceful rolls thy classic wave
 By lover's haunt and patriot's grave :—
 Near other streams the bolt is hurled,
 And mortal strife deforms a distant world.

O stream of Scottish Arcady !
 'Tis sweet at twilight's lovely hour,
 While mystic visions hover nigh,
 To list thy plaintive lullaby—
 'Tis sweet to view yon Abbey tower,*
 Silvered with dew from Hesper's airy bower.

A wilderness of bliss around
 Spreads far to fancy's musing eye,
 Where KELSO smiles on fairy ground,
 By wooded isle and cliffy mound ;
 And many a form now rises high,
 The vulgar gaze of day might not espy !

And from that vale where rivers meet, †
 And hawthorn shades embower the green,
 I hear the west wind's rustle sweet,
 Soft as the sound of fairy feet ;
 And shadowy forms are faintly seen,
 While curfew chimes float through the air serene.

Now I must leave this lovely spot,
 The arching grove—the ruined tower—
 Tho' peaceful as a hermit's grot,
 And holy as a vestal's lot ;
 But soon may come a soul-felt hour
 When midst these shades I'll hail th' inspiring power.

Yes, oft at sacred eventide,
 When dying winds just move the pine,
 As down the odorous vale they glide—
 When Evening's Gem is new descried,—
 My roving limbs shall here recline,
 And * * * * * wake his minstrel harp with mine.

* The Gothic ruin of Kelso Abbey.

† The Tweed and Teviot unite immediately opposite Kelso.

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* LINES

WRITTEN IN THE CAVE OF FINGAL.

Dark Staffa, in thy grotto wild,
How my rapt soul is taught to feel ;
O well becomes it Nature's child
Low in her stateliest shrine to kneel !

Thou art no fiend's nor giant's home—
Thy piles of dark and solemn grain
Bespeak thy dread and sacred dome,
Great temple of the western main !

For the harp of the air is heard in thee,
Sounding its holiest lullaby.
Far in thy vaults the mermaid sings,
And the sea-bird's note responsive rings ;
Yes, the hymn of the winds, and the ocean's roar,
Are heard in thee for evermore !

Tho' other wonders meet mine eye,
From my chilled heart shall never fly
Thy arches cavern'd, green and torn,
On Nature's rifted columns borne ;
Thy furnaced pillars, tall and sure,
Propping the wild entablature
That round each cope and architrave
In awful murmurs weep and rave ;
The whirl of Nature's grand turmoil,
Where billows burst and torrents boil
Thro' portals stern and pavements riven,
Upream'd by Architect of Heaven—
Thro' darkened domes, and dens of wonder,
And caverns of eternal thunder.

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* ADDRESS BY LORD BYRON,

SPOKEN BY MR ELLISTON AT THE OPENING OF THE NEW THEATRE ROYAL
DRURY LANE.

IN one dread night your city saw, and sighed,
Bowed to the dust, the drama's tower of pride ;
In one short hour, beheld the blazing fane,
Apollo sink, and Shakespeare cease to reign.
Ye who beheld, oh sight, admired and mourned,
Whose radiance mocked the ruin it adorned ;
Through clouds of fire, the massy fragments riven,
Like Israel's pillar, chase the night from heaven,
Saw the long column of revolving flames
Shake its red shadow o'er the startled Thames,
While thousands, thronged around the burning dome,
Shrank back appalled, and trembled for their home ;
As glared the volumed blaze, and ghastly shone
The skies, with lightnings awful as their own ;
Till blackening ashes and the lonely wall
Usurped the muse's realm, and marked her fall ;
Say—shall this new nor less aspiring pile,
Reared where once rose the mightiest in our isle,
Know the same favour which the former knew,
A shrine for Shakspeare—worthy him and *you* !
Yes—it shall be—The magic of that name
Defies the scythe of time, the torch of flame,
On the same spot still consecrates the scene,
And bids the drama *be* where she hath *been* :
This fabric's birth attests the potent spell,
Indulge our honest pride, and say, *How well* ?
As soars this fane to emulate the last,
Oh ! might we draw our omens from the past,
Some hour propitious to our prayers may boast
Names such as hallow still the dome we lost.
On Drury first your Siddons' thrilling art
O'erwhelmed the gentlest, stormed the sternest heart ;
On Drury Garrick's latest laurels grew ;
Here your last tears retiring Koscius drew,
Sighed his last thanks, and wept his last adieu : }
But still for living wit the wreaths may bloom,
That only *waste* their odours o'er the tomb.
Such Drury claimed and claims, nor you refuse
One tribute to revive his slumbering muse.

With garlands deck your own Menander's head,
Nor hoard your honours idly for the dead.

Dear are the days which made our annals bright,
Ere Garrick fled or Brinsley ceased to write,
Heirs to their labours, like all high-born heirs,
Vain of our ancestry, as they of theirs.

While thus remembrance borrows Banquo's glass
To claim the sceptred shadows as they pass,
And we the mirror hold, where imaged shine
Immortal names, emblazoned on our line,
Pause—ere their feebler offspring you condemn,
Reflect how hard the task to rival them.

Friends of the stage—to whom both players and plays,
Must sue alike for pardon or for praise,
Whose judging voice and eye alone direct
The boundless power to cherish or reject,
If e'er frivolity has led to fame,
And made us blush that you forbore to blame;
If e'er the sinking stage could condescend
To soothe the sickly taste it dare not mend,
All past reproach may present scenes refute,
And censure, wisely loud, be justly mute,—
Oh! since your fiat stamps the drama's laws,
Forbear to mock us with misplaced applause—
So pride shall doubly nerve the actor's powers,
And Reason's voice be echoed back by ours—
This greeting o'er—the ancient rule obeyed,
The Drama's homage by her herald paid,
Receive *our* welcome *too*—whose every tone
Springs from our hearts, and fain would win your *own*.
The curtain rises—May cur stage unfold
Scenes not unworthy Drury's days of old—
Britons our judges, Nature for our guide,
Still may *we* please, long—long may *you* preside.

* FAREWELL ADDRESS,

SPOKEN BY MRS SIDDONS, ON LEAVING THE STAGE 29TH OF JUNE, 1812,
WRITTEN BY HORACE TWISS, ESQ.

WHO has not felt, how growing use endears
The fond remembrance of our former years?
Who has not sigh'd, when doom'd to leave at last
The hopes of youth, the habits of the past,

The thousand ties and interests, that impart
 A second nature to the human heart,
 And, wreathing round it close, like tendrils, climb,
 Blooming in age, and sanctified by time ?

Yes! at this moment crowd upon my mind
 Scenes of bright days for ever left behind,
 Bewildering visions of enraptured youth,
 When hope and fancy wore the hues of truth,
 And long-forgotten years, that almost seem
 The faded traces of a morning dream !
 Sweet are those mournful thoughts : for they renew
 The pleasing sense of all I owe to you—
 For each inspiring smile, and soothing tear—
 For those full honours of my long career,
 That cheered my earliest hope, and chased my latest fear ! }

And though, for me, those tears shall flow no more,
 And the warm sunshine of your smile is o'er,—
 Though the bright beams are fading fast away
 That shone unclouded through my summer-day ;
 Yet grateful memory shall reflect their light
 O'er the dim shadows of the coming night,
 And lend to later life a softer tone,
 A moon-light tint, a lustre of her own.

Judges and friends! to whom the tragic strain
 Of nature's feeling never spoke in vain,
 Perhaps your hearts, when years have glided by,
 And past emotions wake a fleeting sigh,
 May think on her, whose lips have pour'd so long
 The charmed sorrows of your Shakespeare's song :—
 On her, who, parting to return no more,
 Is now the mourner she but seemed before.—
 Herself subdued, resigns the melting spell,
 And breathes, with swelling heart, her long, her last farewell !

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THE COTTAGE OF THE FLORA,

A POEM,

BY WALTER PATERSON,

Author of the Legend of Iona.

—

The following Poem is little more than the versification of a story related as a fact by the people who live on the banks of the Flora, in the county of Selkirk.

—

I.

ON the smooth banks of Flora's glittering brook,
 With pink-flower'd clover and blue-bells bestrewed,
 Like an old Hermit of that lonely nook,
 A peasant's simple Cottage long had stood,—
 Fenced by a leafy crescent of green wood,—
 Where the sleek magpie, and the glossy crow
 Slept in their hair-built lodge without a foe.

II.

Blest were the tenants of that green retreat—
 A faithful pair, with ruddy children blest,—
 Who some rode races on their mother's feet,
 And some for hire their bearded father kissed ;
 While some, of tawnier visage than the rest,
 With sickle sharp could swell the oaten sheaf,
 Healing their shallow wounds with wabret leaf.

III.

If Heaven's best blessing could be won by prayer,
 Free as the dew of night it there had flowed ;
 If health and peace were tokens of Heaven's care,
 Free as night's dew that blessing was bestowed ;
 For every gypsey-crew that hawked the road,
 Spread fair report of the benignant lot
 Which blest the tenants of that rustic Cot.

IV.

Duly, when night's oblivious reign was past,
 The old man, bent on meditations high,
 His motley plaid around his neck would cast,

And wander forth, with soul above the sky,
 Soon as the lark its dewy wing could dry
 Among the sunbeams of the middle air,
 While yet no beam it shed below could share.

V.

And duly as again the evening-dew
 Began to glitter on the path of day,
 Around his hearth his household group he drew,
 The nightly tribute of their hearts to pay,
 With chapter, psalm, and prayer, as best they may,
 To that true God, in whose impartial ear
 Those songs are sweetest which are most sincere.

VI.

Once it befell (as many tongues relate)
 What time her dusky web the twilight weaves
 Those sun-burnt reapers, toiling soon and late,
 Had stuck their sickles in the cottage-caves;
 And he, who latest still the stubble leaves,
 With psalm already sought, and soul composed,
 Impatient sat till all his circle closed.

VII.

And soon they ranked around his ingle bright,—
 But one was wanting still,—of wayward moods,
 A fair fantastic creature—whose delight
 Was running races with the nimble floods;
 Or chasing grey-winged herons through the woods;
 Or echoing back the ringdove's piteous moan;
 Or tempting echoes to return her own.

VIII.

And now the father, fretted with delay,
 This absent rambler half began to chide;
 When, redder than the cheek of rising day,
 "Come out, come out," the panting truant cried,—
 While yet the door she scarce had thrown aside,—
 "A lovely Lady, shining all in white,
 Sails down the glen, and fills it all with light."

IX.

The old man marked his children's fluttered looks,
 And would have chid them with a parent's care;
 But knowing well, in spite of all rebukes,
 How fluttered hearts profane the purest prayer;
 And somewhat startled with his truant's air,

With all his flock his Cottage he forsook
To see this Lady wandering down the brook.

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X.

Parent and child at once the cottage fled—
A precious group led by their rosy guide ;
To a green height the sanguine cherub led,
From whence they viewed the country far and wide,
And wood, and glen, and brook, at once descried ;
But yet they saw no valley filled with light,
Nor lovely Lady shining all in white.

XI.

Hard looks, from all, the rosy guide reviled,
Till shame and sorrow on her visage glowed ;—
But soon they changed their mood, and blessed the child,
And blessed the Saviour Lady sent from God,
When, turning homeward to their rude abode,
The ancient fabric of their Cot they found,
A shapeless ruin, smoking on the ground !

THE FETTERING OF FANCY.

O ! blame me not if thus I do restrain
Thy wandering footsteps ! thus thy wings confine !
'Tis the decree of fate—it is not mine—
For I would let thee, Fancy, wildly stray,
Would follow gladly,—tend thee on thy way,
And never of thy vagaries complain,
Never thy wild and sportive flights disdain !
Though reasonless those sportive flights may be,
They still, alas ! are passing sweet to me.

Then pity me, who am compelled to bind
This murmuring captive ; one who ever strove
By each endearing act to win my love,
And ever unoffending, ever bright,
Danced in my view, and pleased me with delight ;
She scattered showers of lilies on my mind,
For O ! so fair, so fresh, and so refined
Her child-like offerings ; without thorns to pain,
Without one cankered wound, or earthly stain !

O darling ! as at Duty's call I twine
 These fetters round thee, they are wet with tears !
 For the sweet playmate of my early years
 I cannot thus afflict, or thus resign
 My equal liberty, and not repine :
 For I would make thee, infant as thou art,
 Queen of my hopes, my leisure and my heart,
 But that Affection's venerable cause
 Is link'd with Duty's unrelenting laws !

She blames me that I let thy sports offend
 Old Time, and lay thy snare within his path,
 To make him falter, as it often hath :
 But O ! I love him not ! He holds his breath,
 And hurries on, and is in league with Death,
 To make the path through which my footsteps bend,
 Late rich in all that rural scenes attend,
 A frightful desert ; and I droop and die
 Beneath the gaze of his dull, threatening eye !

MATILDA BETHAM.

ON MY BROTHER'S LEAVING HOME WITHOUT MY
 SEEING HIM.

THOU goest, and I am not near
 To bid or to receive farewell !
 But hopes, more tender than a tear,
 More zealous than my lips could tell,

More fondly hovering than the dove,
 Than the harp's tones more highly wrought
 In the deep prayer of earnest love,
 In the long dream of tender thought,—

These on thy parting steps attend,
 These on thy future prospects dwell ;
 And are they not, my own dear friend,
 More potent than the word farewell ?

MATILDA BETHAM.

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SONNET.

BY A LADY ON VISITING THE GRAVE OF HER CHILD.

THREE times the nettle o'er thy narrow bed
Has tinged its stalk with verdure and decay ;
And thrice the spiky grass its green array,
And thrice its pale upon thy turf has spread :—
The thistle thrice has crowned its kingly head,
And thrown as oft its withered crown away ;
The slender ash has budded thrice with May,
And thrice its fallow locks with Autumn shed :—
All things around have changed with Time's career,
Save the one faithful solitary Yew,
That knows no change amid the changeful year.—
Fond, faithful mourner !—emblem sad and true
Of her whose eye has never dried its tear,—
Whose cheek has never changed its mournful hue.

SONNET.

WRITTEN ON THE DAY APPOINTED FOR THE NATIONAL THANKSGIVING,
IN THE CLOSE OF 1812.

LONG hast thou suffered, Europe ! and again
The Angel's missioned sword has left its sheath,
And, busied with the dreary work of death,
Gleams on yon distant desolated plain.
As, erst, when Egypt's first-born sons were slain,
Thy princes now resign their panting breath,
And tithes of all the people strew the heath,
And purple rivers journey to the main.

O Albion ! unstained—unshaken Isle—
Fair Freedom's sanctuary, and Ocean's lover,
Who lookest on secure, and weep'st the while
To see thy fallen foes the desert cover,—
Go, in the light of Heaven's guardian smile,
And keep with grateful heart thy PASSOVER !

N. B. The three productions marked * are not original.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS,

WITHIN THE YEAR 1812.

BIRTHS.

JAN. 8. At the manse of Carreston, the Hon. Mrs Lyall, a son.—At Kirkham Gate, near Wakefield, Sarah, the wife of Samuel Lunn, (a very poor, but industrious collier,) of *three* fine boys. The family consisted of *seven* small children before the arrival of this *trio*. 13. At Bath, the Lady of Lieutenant-General Gordon Drummond, a son. 14. At Leith, the Lady of Captain Kerr, royal navy, a son.—At Monreith, Galloway, the Lady of Lieutenant-Colonel Maxwell, M. P. a son.—At Cranstonhill, the Hon. Lady Janet Buchanan, a daughter. 18. At his lordship's house, Arlington-street, London, Lady Milton, a son and heir.

FEB. 9. At Ayton, Berwickshire, Mrs Fordyce, a son. 11. At Winchester, Lady Mary Long, a daughter.—Lady Ellenborough, a daughter. 12. At Gloucester-place, London, the Right Hon. Lady Sarah Maria Murray, a daughter. 17. At Cockpen spinning-mill, the wife of Walter Baillie, flax-dresser, a son and two daughters. 22. At London, the Lady of William Gordon, Esq. M. P. a son. 25. At London, the Countess of Loudon and Moira, a daughter.—At Exeter, the Lady of Major M'Gregor, 88th regiment, a daughter.

MARCH 2. At Kilmains, the wife of John Dinning, miller, *three* sons.—At

London, the Right Hon. Lady Frances Wedderburn Webster, a daughter.—At London, the Lady of the Right Hon. Earl Grey, of her seventh son and twelfth child.—The Honourable Lady Rumbold, a son and heir.—At London, the Lady of Sir Robert Graham, Bart. a daughter.—The Lady of Sir George Leith, Bart. a son.—The wife of John Tatham, a day-labourer in Kirkland, adjoining Kendal, two boys and a girl. 21. Viscountess Duncan, a son and heir.—At Edinburgh, the Lady of Captain Andrew Brown, royal navy, a son. 23. At Ayr, Mrs Colonel Farquhar, a daughter. 24. At Kensington, the Lady of Lieutenant-Colonel Drinkwater, a son.—At London, the Lady of the Hon. D. M. Erskine, a daughter.

APRIL 4. At Glengary-house, the Lady of Colonel M'Donald, of Glengary, a daughter. 5. The wife of S. Smith, of Carsington, Derbyshire, a son. She was married in June last, and was then only 13 years and 4 months old. 7. At Edinburgh, Mrs Maitland Gibson, of Clifton-hall, a son. 8. At Hollingwood, Lancashire, the wife of Samuel Booth, a poor weaver, three daughters, who have been christened Faith, Hope, and Charity. Scarcely 15 months have elapsed since she was brought to bed of twins. 14. At Alloa, the Lady of James Ure, Esq. collector of the customs, a son. 16. In

London, the Lady of Colonel W. F. Grant, M. P. a son. 20. The Lady of Colonel Balfour, Scots Greys, a son. 21. At Drumsheugh, the Right Honourable the Countess of Moray, a son. 22. At Dalhousie Castle, the Countess of Dalhousie, a son. 23. At London, the Viscountess Primrose, a daughter.—Mrs Alexander M'Connell, of Bangor, *four* sons. 24. At Edinburgh, the Lady of Dr Henton Spalding, a daughter.

MAY 3. At Foss, Mrs Menzies, of Chesthall, a daughter.—At London, the Viscountess Grimston, a son.—At Torquay, the Viscountess Hamilton, a daughter.—At Edinburgh, Mrs Campbell, of Dalsef, a son. 6. At Kirby-hall, her Grace the Duchess of Leeds, a son.—At Edinburgh, the Lady of Colonel Birch Reynardson, two sons. At Cleveland, the Right Honourable Lady Charlotte Baillie, a daughter. 17. At Edinburgh, Mrs Carlyle Bell, a daughter. 18. At Portobello, the Lady of Sir James Wemyss Mackenzie, of Seatwell, Bart. a son, still-born.—At Edinburgh, Mrs Captain Stewart, Royal Perthshire militia, a son. 19. The Lady of the Right Hon. Windham Quin, a son and heir.—At Richmond, the Right Honourable Lady Harriet Angram, a daughter.—At Uffington-house, near Stamford, the Countess of Lindsey, a daughter. 21. At Grange, the Lady of James John Cadell, Esq. a son. 22. At Montrose, the Lady of Colonel Carnegie, Bengal artillery, a daughter.—At Musselburgh, the Lady of Lieutenant-Colonel Kerr, 2d Ceylon regiment, a daughter.—At Bath, Mrs M'Kinnon, widow of Major-General M'Kinnon, who was unfortunately blown up on the beach of Ciudad Rodrigo, a son.—At Titnest Wood, Sunning Hill, the Lady of Sir Home Popham, a son, being the eleventh child.

JUNE 1. Mrs Wishart, York Place, Edinburgh, a son.—At Calcutta, the Lady of Alexander Fraser Tytler, Esq. register of Kishnagur, a daughter.—At the Island of Madeira, the Lady of Major-General the Honourable Robert Meade, a son.—At Gibraltar, the Lady of Lieutenant-Colonel Molle, 9th regiment, a son and heir. 16. At Abercrombie Place, Edin-

burgh, the Lady of William Ferguson, Esq. of Kilrie, a son.—Lately, the wife of Mr Howson, of Unthank, near Penrith, two girls and a boy.—Lately, at Lisbon, the Lady of Major Lawrie, 79th regiment, a son.

JULY 6. At Livingstone House, the Lady of Alexander Munro, Esq. Livingstone, a daughter. 7. Mrs Craigie, of Dunbarrie, a daughter.—8. Lady Macdonald Lockhart, a daughter.—At London, her Grace the Duchess of Bedford, a daughter.—14. At Kelly, the Lady of the Hon. Lieutenant-Colonel Ramsay, a son.—15. At Edinburgh, the Lady of Mr Swinton, of Broadmeadow, a son.—At Drumsheugh, Mrs Major Weir, a son.—At London, the Lady of Sir George Clerk, Bart. M. P. a son.—At Great Marlow, the Lady of the Hon. Alexander Hope, M. P. a son.—At Kilmardinny, Mrs Kirkman Finlay, a son. 21. Mrs Dr Brewster, a son. 22. The Honourable Mrs Ferguson, a son. 25. At George's Square, Edinburgh, the Lady of Captain Ogilvy, royal navy, a son.—Lately, a poor woman, at Settle, *four* children, three boys and a girl.—At Dunvegan Castle, the Lady of J. N. Macleod, of Macleod, Esq. a son and heir.—At Dalryell Lodge, the Lady of John Dalryell, Esq. of Lingo, a son. 28. Mrs J. O. Mack, of Howe Street, Edinburgh, a daughter. At Kilmun House, Argyshire, the Lady of Alexander Campbell, Esq. of Balcchyle, a son.

AUG. 5. At Old Aberdeen, Mrs Colonel Forbes, a daughter.—6. At Hillsborough, the Marchioness of Downshire, a son and heir. 12. At Kincairg, Mrs M'Intosh, of Balespick, a son. 14. At Durie, in Fifeshire, the Lady of Matthew Fortesque, Esq. a son. 18. At Stobo Castle, Lady Elizabeth Montgomery, a daughter.—At Portobello, Lady Elibank, a son.—21. At Ballindalloch, the Lady of George Macpherson Grant, Esq. of Ballindalloch and Invereshie, M. P. a son. 27. At Edinburgh, the Lady of David Clephane, Esq. commissioner of excise, a son.

SEPT. 3. At Edinburgh, the Lady of Professor David Ritchie, a daughter.—Lately, the Countess of Caledon, a son

and heir.—At Hythe, the Lady of Major-General Mackenzie, a son.—At London, the Lady of Colonel Dalzell, assistant adjutant-general to the home department, a daughter.—At Grove Place, Hampshire, Lady Amelia Sophia Drummond, a son.—At Ochertyre, the Right Hon. Lady Mary Murray, a son.—At New Orchard, the Lady of Archibald Douglas, Esq. advocate, a daughter. 23. Lady Frances Vandeleur, a son. 24. In Dublin, the Countess of Castlereagh, a son. 26. At Serlby Castle, the Viscountess Galway, a daughter.—At High Park, Westmeath, the Hon. Lady Levinge, a son.

OCT. 6. At Dublin, the Hon. Lady Hope, a son.—Lately, at Rochampton, the Duchess of Newcastle, a daughter.—Countess Talbot, a son. 14. In Prince's Street, Edinburgh, Mrs Harry David Erskine, a son. 16. The Lady of James Ogilvy, deputy commissary-general with the forces in Spain, a daughter.—At Richmond, the Hon. Mrs Buchan, a son. 17. At Niddrie, Mrs Spottiswoode, of Spottiswoode, a son. 20. At Dallar's House, Mrs Campbell, of Skarington, twin daughters.—At Edinburgh, the Lady of Lieutenant-Colonel Cosmo Gordon, a son. 21. In Castle Street, Edinburgh, Mrs Craigie, of Glenwick, a son and heir. 28. The Lady of Major-General Oswald, a daughter. 29. The Countess of Shannon, a daughter. 30. At Tarvit House, Fifeshire, the Lady of J. H. Rigg, Esq. of Morton, a daughter.

Nov. 6. At Allanton House, Mrs Macdonald, of Staffa, a son and heir.—At Leeds, the Lady of Colonel Maxwell, a son.—Lately, at Palermo, the Right Hon. Lady Montgomery, a son. 6. The Countess of Clonmell, a daughter. 7. Mrs Forbes, younger, of Invereru, a son.—At Stonefield, Mrs Campbell, of Stonefield, a daughter. 9. The Lady of Captain Johnston, royal navy, a daughter.—At Edinburgh, Mrs Campbell, jun. of Fairfield, a son. 20. The Lady of John Blacket, Esq. of West Smithfield, London, a daughter; her first child after a marriage of 14 years. 25. At Rose Hill, near Liverpool, the Lady of Major-General Dirom, of Mount Annan, a son.

DEC. 1. At Sudbury, Suffolk, the Lady

of Major Maclachlan, 69th regiment, a daughter. 9. At Edinburgh, the Lady of Major-General the Hon. Alexander Duff, a son. 10. At Alva House, Mrs Johnstone, of Alva, a daughter.—Lately, at Gibraltar, the Lady of Alexander Farguhar, Esq. a son.—At Exmouth, the Lady of Dr Adam Neale, physician to the forces, a son.—The Lady of D. J. H. Dickson, M. D. physician of his majesty's fleet, a daughter.—At Twickenham, the Lady of F. G. Carmichael, Esq. a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

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ner there. 8. At Jedburgh, J. Pringle, Esq. late his Majesty's Consul-General in the Island of Madeira, to Miss J. Somerville, second daughter of the Rev. Dr Somerville. 11. At Bellfield, Mr J. Balmain, general agent, Edinburgh, to Jessie, third daughter of the late Alex. Bell, Esq. of Bellfield. Lately, at Saint Bride's Church, Dublin, John Crampton, Esq. of Merion Square, to Louisa, daughter to Major-Gen. Eyers, commanding engineer in Ireland.—At the Manse of Petty, Mr Lachlan M'Kay, 42d Royal Highlanders, to Margaret, daughter of Thomas Davis, Esq. Inverness:

DEATHS.

JAN. 1. At Kirkland of Kirkinner, the Rev. Dr Robertson. 6. At Edinburgh, William Jackson. Solicitor of Excise for Scotland. 7. At Datchet, Miss Scott, aged 56 years, aunt to Lord Montague, of Ditton Park. 11. At Dalkeith Palace, his Grace Henry Scott, Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry, &c. 12. The Rev. William Porteous, one of the ministers of Glasgow.—At London, General Sir James Henry Craig, K. B. late Governor-General of British America, Governor of Blackness Castle, and Colonel of the 78th regiment of foot. 14. At Wallington, near Foreham, Hampshire. Colonel Robert Paton of Kinaldy, Fifeshire, late Governor of St Helena. Mrs Paton died on the 31st of December, just fourteen days before her husband. 15. At Drogheda, Lieut.-Col. J. French, late of the 71st. regt.—At Melford Hall, Suffolk, Sir Harry Parker, Bart.—Sir Richard Hughes, Bart. Admiral of the White. 16. At Edinburgh, Sir James Dunbar, Bart. of Durn, in the 71st year of his age. 19. At Pennicuik House, Harriette, the infant daughter of Sir G. Clerk, Bart. 22. At Perth, Alexander Fechny, Esq. of Ardarie, late Provost of that city. 24. At London, the Countess of Beverley.—In the Forest of Birse, James Brown, aged 103. Also, lately in the same place, Christian Catnach, aged 101; and a short time after her death

died her brother, Donald Catnach, aged 94. These persons had lived many years in the forest, and retained their faculties to the last. 25. At Gayfield Place, Mr Thomas Hutchison, merchant in Edinburgh. 29. At London, the Right Hon. the Countess Dowager of Portsmouth, aged 69. 31. At London, the lady of Sir Joseph Sidney Yorke, one of the Lords of the Admiralty.

Centenary Deaths in this Month.—Ann Morris, Bath, 104. Sarah White, Bindon Cottage, near Lullworth, Dorset, 101. Hen. Chandler, Steeple Claydon, Bucks, 102. Mrs Herbert, Buglawton, Cheshire, 100. Mr E. Jeffs, Greet, Gloucestershire, 105. Mrs Wood, Whitchurch, Salop, 102. Mrs Martha Morris, Leeds, 104.

FEB. 7. Lady Charles Spencer, aged 68. Her ladyship was sister to the late, and aunt to the present, Duke of St Albans.—At London, the Right Hon. the Dowager Lady Scarsdale, aged 79 years. 11. At London, Lady Catherine Stewart, wife of General Stewart.—At Bath, Vice-Admiral Lumsdaine.—At Monmouth, And. Cherry, Esq. He was well known in the dramatic world as the author of 'The Soldier's Daughter,' 'The Travelers,' and other popular productions. 12. At Edinburgh, Archibald Campbell, eldest son of Lord Succoth. 13. At London, Major-Gen. Charles William Este, Lieutenant-Governor of Carlisle, in the 74th year of his age.—Lately, at Mire End, near Broughton, in Furness, aged 104, Mrs Ann Hancock.—At Vienna, Sir John Stepney, Bart. formerly member for Monmouth, and British Envoy to the court of Berlin.—At Edinburgh, aged 23 years, Capt. James Macdonald, of Morar. 14. At Gayfield Place, Capt. John Bruce, late of the 76th regiment of foot. 15. At Loughrea, Mrs Daly, wife of Arthur H. Daly, Esq. She was daughter of the Hon. Paul Gore, and cousin of the Marquis of Abercorn, and the Earl of Arran. 17. At Edinburgh, Sir William Maxwell, of Monreith, Bart. 23. At Stoke, Plymouth, Admiral Sir Charles Cotton, Bart. Commander in Chief of Channel fleet.—At Market Street, Herts,

the Hon. Frederick Cavendish, youngest, and only surviving son of the late Lord Charles Cavendish.—At St John Street, Edinburgh, the Right Honourable Lady Catherine Charteris. 27. At Edinburgh, aged 81 years, Mrs Molleson, relict of Mr John Molleson, writer in Edinburgh.

Centenary Death in this Month.—At Jamaica, Anne Wignell, a free black woman, aged 146. She was brought from Africa at the age of twelve, about fourteen years before the destruction of Port Royal by the great earthquake in 1692.

MAR. 1. At London, the Countess of Aberdeen. 2. At Cameron House, Dunbartonshire, Augusta, youngest daughter of Captain John Rouet Smollett, of Bonhill. 6. At Chichester, in the 86th year of his age, Captain Robertson, late of the royal marines, uncle to the Countess of Dundonald. 7. At London, Duncan Forbes Mitchell, Esq. of Thainstone.—At Edinburgh, Maria Hungerford Offley, youngest daughter of Major-General the Hon. John Crewe.—At London, the Hon. George Melville Leslie. 9. A. Gibson Hunter, Esq. of Blackness. 12. Miss Mary Carfrae, daughter of the Rev Dr Carfrae, minister of Dunbar. 13. At London, in the 68th year of his age, the Earl of Uxbridge.—At Polerton, Sir C. Burton, Bart. 14. At London, Robert Cromek, Esq. a well-known engraver, and editor of the 'Reliques of Burns,' and the 'Remains of Nithsdale and Galloyay Song' 17. At Buckingham House, London, the Most Noble the Marchioness of Buckingham. 19. At Wimbledon, near London, the celebrated John Horne Tooke, Esq. aged 78 years. 24. At Glasgow, Mrs Steven, sen. in the 99th year of her age. 26. At Alnwick Castle, in her 28th year, the Right Hon. Lady Julia Percy, second daughter of his Grace the Duke of Northumberland. 28. At Edinburgh, Mr William Dickie, Secretary to the Caledonian Insurance Company. 30. At the Manse of Newbattle, the Rev. James Brown, minister of that parish.

Centenary Deaths in this Month.—P. M'Intyre, near Haddington, aged 101.

He had been in the Pretender's army at the battle of Culloden, where he received a wound. John Urszulack, Lemburg, Prussia, 116.

APRIL 1. Mr James Campbell, Kilbrido, near Dumblane, aged 98.—At Dorking, in Surrey, Sir Frederick Evelyn. 6. At Edinburgh, Miss Janet Inglis, daughter of Sir John Inglis, Bart. of Cramond, aged 86. 8. At London, the Earl of Ashburnham, aged 88 years. 11. At London, her Grace Jane Duchess of Gordon. 12. At London, Sir William Plomer, Knight, Alderman of the city of London. 16. At Ewart Park, Horace St Paul, Esq. aged 84, Count of the Holy Roman Empire. 20. At London, aged 94, the Right Hon. the Dowager Lady Onslow, relict of the late Richard Lord Onslow, and daughter of Sir Edmund Elwill, Bart. 24. At Bath, the Right Hon. the Countess of Errol. 25. The Right Honourable Lora, Viscountess Downe. 27. At Peterhead, Dr J. Ford Anderson, physician in Peterhead, in the 28th year of his age. 28. At Kinghorn, Elizabeth Wardlaw, wife of James Rutherford, Esq. of Ashintully, W. S.

Centenary Deaths in this Month.—Mrs Sheppard, Winchester, 102.—Mr John Brown, carpenter, of Wymondham, Norfolk, 104.—William Chatfield, Cowfield, Sussex, 105.—James Hinchliffe, clothier, Milshaw, Yorkshire, 102.—Morgan Crosslet, Croswen, Glamorganshire, 109.—Mrs Price, Rhayader, Radnor, 100. Hugh Blaney, Hannestown, Ireland, 100.—Margaret Bowlander, near Clermont, Ireland, 102.—Mrs Dorothea Borough, Limerick, 104.

MAY 5. At Edinburgh, Sir John Dalrymple Hay, of York Place, Bart. 9. At Bruntsfield Lodge, Mr William Callendar, writer, Edinburgh.—James Nixon, A. R. A. an eminent miniature painter. 10. At Eldin, John Clerk, Esq. of Eldin, F. R. S. and author of the Naval Tactics. 11. The Right Honourable Spencer Perceval, first Lord of the Treasury, and Chancellor of the Exchequer, shot by an assassin. 12. Charles Sturt, Esq. of Brownsea Castle, Dorsetshire, formerly member for Bridport, distinguished for his philanthropy.—13. At London, the

Right Rev. Dr Thomas Dampier, Lord Bishop of Ely. 14. At Stobbs Castle, Roxburghshire, Sir William Elliot, Bart. of Stobbs. 16. Sir Frank Standish, Bart. of Lancashire. 19. At York, the Dowager Lady Foulis, grandmother of Sir W. Foulis, of Ingleby Manor. 18. At Teddesley Hay, in Staffordshire, Sir Edward Littleton, Bart. 20. Mary, Countess Dowager of Macclesfield. 22. At Edinburgh, Alexander Kincaid Tate, Esq. writer. 24. At Ralston House, William Orr, Esq. of Ralston. 27. At London, Dowager Lady Fortescue.—Lately, at London, the Right Rev. Dr John Douglas, Roman Catholic Vicar Apostolic of the London district, and Bishop of Centuriæ in Numidia.—At Moidart, Simon M'Donald, Esq. of Morar.—At Paris, the Dutch Admiral, De Winter. 31. At Edinburgh, Mrs Margaret Ross, widow of the late Lord Ankerville.

Centenary Deaths in this Month.—Mary Norbury, Macclesfield, 100.—Mrs Parsons, Buxted, Dorset, 101.—Mrs Powell, Hereford, 102.—Sam. Mog, who was a soldier under General Wolfe at Quebec, 102. — Crosier, a poor woman, at Oxford, 106.—Mrs Ann Vaughan, Meole Brace, Salop, 100.—Eliz. Beech, Market-Drayton. 104.—William Hardy, Caldwell, Yorkshire, 102.—David Gaddis, Cargina, Scotland, 102.—Janet Read, Irvine, 103.—Mrs Jones, county of Meath, 100.—Thomas O'Brien, county of Limerick, 110.—Cornelius Madegan, county of Clare, 117.—Mrs Belinda Crawford, county of Galway, 115.

JUNE 1. At Valleyfield, William Maitland, Esq. younger of Valleyfield. 3. Mr James Spalding, advocate in Aberdeen, and Procurator Fiscal of the county. 6. At Edinburgh, Henry, youngest son of General Francis Dundas. 9. At Briary Bank, James Newbigging, Esq. Sheriff Clerk.—At Palace Craig, Joseph Dixon, Esq. younger of that place. 11. The Rev. Dr William Mudie, one of the ministers of St Andrew's Church, and Professor of Hebrew in the University of Edinburgh. 15. At Dalhousie Castle, Lady Lucinda Maria Ramsay, daughter of the late Earl of Dalhousie.—20. At

the manse of Maybole, the Rev. Dr James White, minister of that parish. 23. At Knightswood, Anthony Dixon, Esq. 25. Suddenly in London, Mr Harrison, the celebrated oratorio and concert singer. 28. At Pencaitland Manse, Mrs Pyper, wife of the Rev David Pyper, minister of Pencaitland.

Centenary Deaths in this Month.—Mrs Mary Harris, near Falmouth, 113. Eliz. Williams, near Tavistock, 111.—Mr Godwin, Newport, 100, and 7 months. Ann Harris Badock, Cornwall, 113, and 6 months.—Ann Retford, Sunderland, 100.—Mary Jones, Berkely, Gloucestershire, 101.—Eliz. Bourne, Worcester, 106.—John Holiday, near Leeds, 100.—Catharine Samuel, Caermarthen, 102.

JULY 2. At Montrose, Major Turnbull, in his 78th year. He had just entered a warm bath, when he fell down and was suffocated. 6. At Inchmarlo, John Douglas, Esq. of Tilwhilly. 7. At Parsonsgreen, William Simson Mitchell, only son of George Mitchell, Esq. of Parsonsgreen. 10. At Berlin, Professor Wildenow, the celebrated botanist.—Lately, at Demarary, Alexander Macrae, Esq. a member of the Court of Policy of that colony, and chief of the ancient family of his name in Scotland. 15. At Ayr, John Ballantine, Esq. of Castlehill. 23. Aged 94, John Davies, Esq. first cousin to his Grace the Duke of Norfolk, and captain in the Royals. 25. At Glasgow, Mrs Elizabeth Dewar, daughter of the late Mr Robert Foulis, printer to the university of Glasgow. 28. At Dalmarnock, in the parish of Little Dunkeld, Angus Stewart, aged 96. 31. At Greenock, Lewis Gellie, Esq. of the royal navy, aged 93.—Lately, at Ashfield, where he had retired from the fatigues of public life, James Mingay, Esq. aged 68.—At Hermitage, near Limerick, Lord Massy.—At Lady Abercromby's house, Richmond, Ralph Abercromby Cameron, second son of Donald Cameron, of Lochiel, Esq.

Centenary Deaths in this Month.—Mrs Mary Clarke, Bristol, 104.—Mrs Sarah Yeomans, Nottingham, aged 102. She had been married 70 years, and her

husband is now in his 98th year.—At Kingston, Jamaica, Esmina Diamond, a free black woman, 130.—Mr Charles Clarke, Over-Peevor, Cheshire, 103.—Petronella King, Taunton, 102.—A. Royals, Yarmouth, 103.

AUG. 2 At Edinburgh, Anne Margaret Anderson, wife of David Irving, L.L.D. 4. At Tourquay, Devon. aged 25, Margaret, eldest daughter of Sir John Stuart, Bart. of Allanbank. 7. At Ardgowan, in the 74th year of his age, Sir John Shaw Stewart, of Greenock and Blackhall, Bart.—At Edinburgh, Captain Alexander Chisholm, of the 72d regiment. 8. At Dublin, General Vallancey, one of the vice-presidents of the Dublin Society. 11. At Strathmartin House, Rear-Admiral Laird, of Strathmartin. 14. At Edinburgh, Mrs Eliz. Houston, wife of John Campbell, Esq. Receiver-General of the Customs for Scotland. 16. At Carlourie, Robert Stewart Falconer, youngest son of David Falconer, Esq. of Carlourie. 20. At Maybole, John Niven-Kirkland, in the 88th year of his age. 24. At Winstone, in the county of Durham, in the 72d year of his age, Sir John Eden, Bart. eldest brother to Lord Auckland, and to Lord Henley. 26. At Libberton Manse, the Reverend John Fraser.—At Cairnhill, Thomas Walker, Esq. of Cairnhill. 27. At Bray, near Dublin, the Right Hon. Lord de Blaquiere, K. B. and a Baronet.—At Stirling, William Wright, Esq. of Broom, aged 70. 31. At Old Aberdeen, the Rev. Mr William Mackenzie, of that place.

Centenary Death in this Month.—Isabella Sharpe, Gateshead, 114.

SEPT. 2. At Milton House, Miss Margaret Steuart, daughter of David Steuart, Esq. 3. At Canonmills, near Edinburgh, in the 94th year of his age, Mr George Anderson, who long kept a public garden at Easter Wariston. 5. Major-General Bowles, late an officer on the Bombay establishment. 9. At Brechin, at a very advanced age, Mrs Gillies, the widow of Robert Gillies, Esq. merchant in Brechin, and mother to the Right Hon. Lord Gillies, and to Dr J. Gillies, historiographer to the king.—10. At Glasgow, Jane,

only daughter of the Rev. William Taylor, D. D. Principal of the College of Glasgow. 12. At Edinburgh, William Loraine, Esq. 15. At Arniston Place, Mrs Isabella Calder, wife of William Sinclair, Esq. of Freawick. 18. At Edinburgh, Thomas William Lowes. Esq. of Ridley Hall, Northumberland.—At an advanced age, Mrs Jean Macdonald, relict of Angus Macdonald of Loup, Esq.—At Brompton, Robert Alexander Scot, Esq. younger of Benholm.—The Hon. John Astley Bennet, captain in his majesty's navy, and third son of the Earl of Tankerville. 20. In the 87th year of her age, Lady Peyton, wife of Sir Yelverton Peyton, Bart.—At Long Sutton, in consequence of the wounds which he received by being thrown out of his curicle, the preceding Saturday, Sir T. D. Hatton, Bart. 24. At Hampden Court Palace, the Right Hon. Lady Harriet Jane Hay, fourth daughter of James, Earl of Errol, and sister of the present earl. 27. At Irvine, John Webb, Esq. of Towerlands, aged 87. 30. At Chudleigh, Devonshire, Elizabeth, eldest daughter of the Right Honourable Lord Sinclair.

Centenary Deaths in this Month.—Mr Henry Martin, Stithians, 104.—At Aberdeen, Margaret Stewart, 105.

OCT. 1. At Edinburgh, the Right Hon. Lady Helen Dalrymple, relict of Hugh Dalrymple, of Fordell, Esq.—At an advanced age, Alexander Boswell, of Blackadder, Esq. 2. At Burgos, in consequence of the wounds received in the siege of the castle of Burgos, Captain Donald Williamson, of the 42d regiment, eldest son of Lieut.-Colonel Williamson, of Banniskirk. 3. At Castlerose, in the county of Kerry, the Right Honourable Valentine Browne, Earl of Kenmure, Viscount and Baron Castlerose. 6. At Dunfermline, Mr Alexander Ramsay, rector of the grammar school in that place, in the 79th year of his age.—At Shooter's Hill, in the 84th year of his age, Major-General William Grant, of the royal artillery.—At Cuellar, in Spain, the Honourable Francis J. Percy, captain in the 23d regiment, seventh son of the

Earl of Beverley.—At Edinburgh, in his 88th year, Duncan M'Intyre, alias *Donncha-ban nan-Oran*, the celebrated Highland bard.—At Keith Hall, Wm. Keith, Earl of Kintore, Lord Inverury, and Lord Falconer, of Halkertown, &c. 7. At London, Lieutenant-General Donald Macdonald, colonel of the 35th regiment. 8. At Edinburgh, Mr William Sinclair, late of the customs, at the advanced age of 90. 11 At Hopsrig, near Langholm, Mr Walter Borthwick. 17. At Edinburgh, Agnes, eldest daughter of the late Rev. David Black, one of the ministers of Edinburgh.—18. At Glasgow, Mr W. Leechman Taylor, youngest son of the Rev. Dr Taylor, Principal of the College. 21. At Packington, the Right Hon. the Earl of Aylesford.—At Edinburgh, the Right Honourable Lady Jane Mackenzie, last surviving daughter of the late George Earl of Cromartie. 26. At Edinburgh, Elizabeth, only daughter of Archibald Drummond, Esq. 27. At Balbinny, Mr George Jarron, of Balbinny. 30. Patrick Telfer, Esq. of Gower Street, Bedford Square, London.

Nov. 2. At Invergordon House, Ross-shire, Elizabeth, daughter of R. B. Æneas MacLeod, of Cadboll, Esq. 4. At London, his Excellency Count de Martin de Front, ambassador from the King of Sardinia to the British Court above thirty years.—At St Stephen's Green, Dublin, aged 84 years, the Dowager Countess of Meath.—At Hertford, Baronness Dimsdale, in the 82d year of her age.—In Spain, of the wounds he received at the taking of the forts near Salamanca, Brevet-Major Hobart, of the 36th regiment. Lately, at his seat at Bedwell, Sir Culling Smith, Baronet, in the 81st year of his

age.—Major-General Brock, in an action with the Americans in Upper Canada. 12. William Ormiston, Esq. of Hagburn. 13. John Boyes, Esq. of Walboll.—At Inveresk, Sir Alexander Purves, aged 74. 18. At Drum, Robert Cathcart, of Drum, writer to the signet.—Edward Jeringham, Esq. aged 75. 19. Nicholas Wanostrucht, LL.D. aged 68, master of an academy at Camberwell. 27. The Lady of Sir Cuthbert Heron, Bart. South Shields. 28. Sir Alexander Douglas, Bart. of Glenbervie.

Centenary Deaths in this Month.—Marion Moray, Portmoak, Fifeshire, 102. Mrs Scott, Bradninch, Devon, 104.

DEC. Lady Anne Davy, relict of Sir John Davy, Bart. Creedy, near Crediton. 9. William Russell, Esq. of Slaughter's Court, county of Worcester. 12. The Honourable Lady Grant of Airdrie. 14. George Byng, Viscount Torrington, aged 72.—Sir John Dick, Bart. Prestonfield. 15. In his 68th year, the Reverend Isaac Gosset.—Gustavus Adam Baron Nolcken, his Swedish majesty's chamberlain, and minister plenipotentiary for the affairs of Great Britain, aged 80. 26. In his 85th year, Mr John Moody, formerly of Drury-lane Theatre. 27. Gen. John Gaillaud, of the East India service, aged 81. 28. Lady Rowley, mother of Sir W. Rowley, Tendering Hall, Suffolk. 29. Lieut.-Colonel J. Boag, royal artillery, aged 79. 30. Sir Denzil Cope, Bart. Bramzil Park, Hants. 31. General Sir Thomas Musgrave, Bart. colonel of the 76th foot, and governor of Gravesend and Tilbury forts, aged 75.—Lately, Gideon Fournier, Esq. F. R. S. barrister at law, and chief magistrate of the county of Surrey.

The LONDON GENERAL BILL of

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CHRISTENINGS and BURIALS from December 10, 1811, to December 15, 1812.

Christened { Males 10388 } In all, | Buried { Males 9396 } In all, } Increased in
 { Females 10016 } 20,404 | { Females 8899 } 18,295 } Burials 1252.

Died under 2 years	5636	20 and 30-	1226	60 and 70-	1425	100-0	104-0
Between 2 and 5	1907	30 and 40	1685	70 and 80	1193	101-0	105-0
5 and 10	655	40 and 50-	1841	80 and 90-	492	102-1	110-0
10 and 20	620	50 and 60	1543	90 and 100-	71	103-0	115-0

DISEASES.				CASUALTIES.			
Abortive, Still born	665	Diabetes	- - - 1	Miscarriage	- - - 1	Bit by a mad Dog	1
Abscess	- - - 45	Dropsy	- - - 724	Mortification	- - - 197	Broken Heart	1
Aged	- - - 1550	Evil	- - - 5	Palpitation of the	- - - 3	Broken Limbs	2
Ague	- - - 2	Fever of all kinds	783	Heart	- - - 152	Burnt	- - - 42
Apoplexy and sudden	- - - 242	Flux	- - - 6	Palsy	- - - 11	Drowned	- - - 123
ly	- - - 242	French Pox	- - - 24	Piles	- - - 1	Excessive drinking	9
Asthma	- - - 639	Gout	- - - 34	Quinsy	- - - 8	Executed†	- - - 6
Bedridden	- - - 1	Gravel, Stone, and	- - - 19	Rheumatism	- - - 10	Found Dead	- - - 13
Bile	- - - 8	Strangury	- - - 4	Scurvy	- - - 3	Fractured	- - - 4
Bleeding	- - - 27	Grief	- - - 4	Spleen	- - - 1	Frighted	- - - 5
Bursten & Rupture	17	Headmoldshot, Horse-	- - - 1287	Small Pox	- - - 6	Killed by falls and	- - - 74
Cancer	- - - 69	shoe-head & Water	- - - 306	Sore Throat	- - - 9	several other Ac-	- - - 28
Canker	- - - 1	in the Head	- - - 2	Sores and Ulcers	- - - 24	cidents	- - - 11
Childbed	- - - 152	Imposthume	- - - 2	Spasm	- - - 20	Killed themselves	28
Colds	- - - 10	Influenza	- - - 4	St Anthony's fire	- - - 1	Murdered	- - - 4
Colick, Gripes, &c.	17	Jaundice	- - - 630	St Vitus's Dance	- - - 324	Poisoned	- - - 1
Consumption	4942	Jaw Locked	- - - 1	Teeth	- - - 38	Scalded	- - - 1
Convulsions	- - - 3530	Livergrown	- - - 264	Thrush	- - - 19	Smothered	- - - 3
Cough, and Hooping	- - - 508	Lunatic	- - - 427	Water in the Chest	- - - 9	Starved	- - - 8
Cough	- - - 508	Measles	- - - 103	Worms	- - - 3	Suffocated	- - - 8
Cow Pox	- - - 2						
Cramp	- - - 4						
Croup	- - - 103						
						Total	336

† There have been executed in the city of London and county of Surrey 20; of which number 6 only have been reported to be buried within the bills of mortality.

PRINCIPAL APPOINTMENTS AND PROMOTIONS

IN 1812.

JAN.—Hon. Philip Woodhouse and Captain Jarcom, Commissioners of the Navy.

FEB.—Major-Gen. Charles Wale, Governor and Commander in Chief in Martinique.

Major-Gen. the Hon. Robert Meade, Lieutenant-Governor of the Cape of Good Hope; Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Napier, Lieutenant-Governor of the Virgin Islands; Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas Davie, Lieutenant-Governor of Van Diemen's Land.

Viscount Wellington, Earl of Wellington, in the county of Somerset; Lieutenant-General Thomas Graham, Lieutenant-General Rowland Hill, Major-General Sir Samuel Auchmuty, Knights of the Bath.

Lord Castlereagh, Chief Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

Hon. J. Abercromby, Commander-in-Chief and Second in Council at Madras.

Robert Hesketh, Esq. Consul at the Port of Maranhao, and in the adjoining provinces of Para and Seara.

Earl of Ancram, Lord-Lieutenant of the county of Roxburgh.

Lieutenant Oxley, R. N. Surveyor-General of Lands N. S. Wales.

John Glead, Esq. Barrister-at-Law and Recorder of Reading, and Solicitor of the Excise in Scotland.

MARCH.—Earl Cholmondley, Lord Steward of his Majesty's Household; Marquis of Hertford, Lord-Chamberlain; Marquis of Winchester, Groom of the Stole to his Majesty; J. Simeon, Esq. Master in Chancery, Count Munster, and Colonel Herbert Taylor, Commissioners for the protection, care, and ma-

nagement of his Majesty's property during his indisposition.

Adam Gillies, Esq. one of the Lords Justiciary in Scotland.

Vice-Chamberlain, Earl of Yarmouth.

Lords of his Majesty's Bed-Chamber, Marquis of Headford, Viscount Melbourne, Lord Heathfield, Lord James Murray, and Viscount Petersham.

First Groom and Master of the Robes, Nassau Thomas, Esq.

Grooms of the Bed-Chamber, General Charles Leigh, General E. Stephens, General T. Slaughter Stanwix, Honourable H. Stanhope, Lieutenant-General Sir J. Craddock, Lieutenant-General William Keppel, and Colonel Wilson Bradyll.

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