



Leny, sc.

Maria Antoinette,
Queen of France.

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THE

FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE,

AND

CABINET OF UNIVERSAL LITERATURE,

FOR DECEMBER 1796.

EMBELLISHED WITH AN ENGRAVED PORTRAIT OF

MARIE ANTOINETTE, LATE QUEEN OF FRANCE.

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TO READERS, CORRESPONDENTS, &c.

WE beg our thanks to our much esteemed Correspondent Dr. Watkins for his communication, which will appear in our next.

Brother S. of Edinburgh will see that his favours receive every attention.

The Character of Mr. Burke, unavoidably delayed, will have a place in our next.

At the close of the year, it may not be improper to promise our Readers, that we shall begin the new year and our Eighth Volume in a way, that we trust will continue to deserve their patronage and protection.

We beg to inform the Masonic Body in Great Britain and Ireland, that (*as our Magazine is dedicated FIRST to the Craft*) all Articles relative to Masonry will be particularly attended to. Accounts of the Institution of New Lodges, of the Elections of Officers, of Festivals, and every article of Masonic Intelligence, will receive proper attention. At the same time we presume the Freemasons' Magazine will be found a valuable and entertaining Miscellany to Readers of every description.

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THE
FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE,
AND
CABINET OF UNIVERSAL LITERATURE,

FOR DECEMBER 1796.

BRIEF MEMOIRS

OF

MARIE ANTOINETTE, LATE QUEEN OF FRANCE.

WITH A PORTRAIT.

THE history of exalted Characters has ever been sought after with avidity, and regarded as one source of useful knowledge; but it has not often been in the power of cotemporaries to examine their actions with that candour, impartiality, and precision, which falls to the lot of posterity. Time removes the veil which covers the designs of the great, and exposes them to the eyes of mankind in their true colours. Placed so near the period when the unfortunate Queen, who is the subject of these brief Memoirs, shone forth in meridian splendour, and still nearer to the time when she fell a victim to the sanguinary decrees of a set of monsters, lustful for murder and delighting in blood, the difficulties that oppose our endeavours to form a true estimate of her character, are in a manner insurmountable; and we must, therefore, content ourselves with sketching a mere outline of the most conspicuous parts of her life, leaving the minuter examination of them to that solemn tribunal of posterity, which will judge with equal impartiality of virtues or of crimes.

Marie Antoinette was the daughter of the illustrious Maria Theresa, Empress of Germany; a woman whose ambition at one time aspired to annex the greater part of Germany, together with the kingdoms of Prussia and Poland, to the hereditary Dominions of the House of Austria. These bold attempts, however, were in the event, entirely frustrated by the warlike and persevering genius of the immortal Frederick, aided by the vast resources of Great Britain.

It has been very justly observed, that children often partake of the virtues or vices of their parents; and in no instance does this observa-

tion more strongly apply than in that of Marie Antoinette, who possessed all that commanding vigour of intellect, all that ambition of absolute and uncontrouled dominion, and all that love of grandeur and pleasure, which so eminently distinguished her mother.

During the latter part of the reign of Louis XV. the Ministry of that weak Prince saw no means of forming a counterpoise to the ambition of Du Barry and his other mistresses, but by marrying the then Dauphin, afterwards Louis XVI; and after attentively considering the female part of every court on the continent of Europe, they saw no one so likely to answer their purpose as the daughter of the Empress Theresa, who, they had every reason to believe, possessed all the genius, virtue, and resolution, which Europe had witnessed in her parent. The Duké of Choiseul, then at the head of affairs in France, who had acquired a very great ascendancy over the mind of the King, and whose spirit of intrigue was equalled only by the boldness with which he executed great designs, promoted the projected alliance with all his influence; and in spite of the cabals of the opposite faction to prevent it, in 1768, the lovely Antoinette arrived in France, to consummate the marriage. The rejoicings which took place in the capital on this occasion are well known. These the spirit of party has considered in very different lights. Some have esteemed them as the exalted triumph of Beauty and Virtue; while others have regarded them as the pageants of Folly and Dissipation. Antoinette, however, soon gained an uncontrouled sway over the mind of her husband, and grew very fast in the good graces of the King. To these circumstances may in part be attributed her subsequent misfortunes. With a mind ready to receive every impression, we hardly need wonder that she listened to the flatteries of a corrupt court, and gave up her mind to the ambition of ruling France. Taken, almost in her infancy, from under the care of a fond parent, the seducing voice of pleasure soon overcame those lessons of prudence which had hardly had time to take deep root. Without a monitor to instruct, or a friend to advise, she was left to wander in mazes wherein her unsuspecting mind soon lost itself. The Princes of the Blood, the only company which Antoinette could keep with propriety, were some of them totally given up to their pleasures; while others degraded themselves by their silence about the disorders which surrounded them, or else by a retreat as fatal to themselves as to the safety and happiness of the people of France and their king.

At length, the death of Louis XV. and the passive temper of his successor, afforded full scope to Antoinette's ambition; but she had no thought of the danger that lurked under the throne of her greatness. The distracted state of the finances, from the prodigality of Louis XV. was soon visible; and a variety of expedients were made use of to recruit them. The events of the reign of Louis XVI. from this time, are too well known to need enumeration. We hasten, therefore, to mention the period when the Queen, disgusted with the seeming parsimony of Monsieur Neckar, obtained his dismissal. This event, whatever more remote causes might have existed, was certainly the immediate forerunner of the Revolution.

The progress and events of this revolution, which produced the death or banishment of all the branches of the Royal Family of France, must be fresh in every one's remembrance; it remains, therefore, only to detail a few of the circumstances attending the death of this illustrious woman, whose end was more than worthy of her life. After the death of Louis the Sixteenth she continued confined in the Temple for some time, and having at last been removed to the Conciergerie, the tyrant Robespierre determined on the mockery of a public trial. She was accordingly arraigned for having committed a series of crimes, which in the language of the indictment comprehended not merely counter-revolutionary projects, but all the enormities of the Messalinas, Brunehauts, Fredegondes, and Medicis. We may here call to mind that expostulation of insulted nature, when, Hebert accusing Antoinette of having committed the most shocking crime, she turned with dignity towards the audience, and said, 'I appeal to the conscience and feelings of every mother present, to declare if there be one amongst them who does not shudder at the idea of such horrors.'

Marie Antoinette made no defence, and called no witnesses, alleging that no positive fact had been produced against her. She had preserved an uniform behaviour during the whole of her trial, except when a starting tear accompanied her answer to Hebert. She was condemned about four in the morning, and heard her sentence with composure. But her firmness forsook her in the way from the court to her dungeon—she burst into tears; when, as if ashamed of this weakness, she observed to her guards, that though she wept at that moment, they should see her go to the scaffold without shedding a tear.

In her way to execution, where she was taken after the accustomed manner in a cart, with her hands tied behind her, she paid little attention to the priest who attended her, and still less to the surrounding multitude. Her eyes, though bent on vacancy, did not conceal the emotion that was labouring at her heart—her cheeks were sometimes in a singular manner streaked with red, and sometimes overspread with deadly paleness; but her general look was that of indignant sorrow. She reached the place of execution about noon; and when she turned her eyes towards the gardens and the palace, she became visibly agitated. She ascended the scaffold with precipitation, and her head was in a moment held up to the people by the executioner.

Thus fell, in her thirty-eighth year, Marie Antoinette. Posterity will doubtless rank her high among the females who have distinguished themselves in the world, and if they discover some weaknesses in her character, will at the same time do ample justice to her virtues. Is it to be wondered at, that a Princess young and beautiful, surrounded by the parasites of a dissipated court, and a witness to its excesses, preferred the seducing path of pleasure and gaiety to the more rugged ways of prudence? Failings she certainly had; but peace to her memory! Humanity forbids us to withdraw the veil that guards misfortune!

FOR THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE.

ON COURTSHIP AND COQUETRY.

THE sweetest intercourse, perhaps, which mortals know is that experienced in the hours of COURTSHIP, where affection is strong and reciprocal; and the reason of this is clear: the mutual wish to please, will be productive of every agreeable sensation; and the knowledge, that each is to the other more dear than language can express, dispels every displeasing reflection, and makes us for a while forget that we are vulnerable by worldly accidents. Surely, this is *cælum in terra*.

I am concerned to be obliged to say, that the minds of some of the fair-sex are informed by an unworthy passion to which I know not how to give a name expressive enough: Lexicographers have called it COQUETRY.

Mira is possessed of a finer face than has fallen to the lot of one in a thousand of her sex. What pity that any ungenerous sentiment should have place in her heart! How unamiable is a want of candour in the female breast! Not wholly insensible to admiration, *Mira* has been, no doubt, told that she has charms; but I am afraid she has never met with one man bold, or rather friendly enough, to remind her of the more valuable, though less glaring charms of the mind. *Mira* lives with her guardian;—a man whose worth is above my eulogy, and from whose conversation she must have derived lessons of wisdom and virtue. It would, indeed, be the height of injustice to *Mira*, if I did not say, that she has good sense, and a disposition that sometimes shews like good nature; at these times her expressive features, joined to a pleasing manner, render her perfectly fascinating to a susceptible beholder.

My friend *Horatio* was entangled; and saw, or fancied he saw, a kindness in *Mira's* deportment to him, which encouraged him to hope, that he might, by proper assiduity, make himself agreeable to her. He had the advantage, too, of being esteemed by her guardian, who was fond of her to an excess; and though *Horatio* was far from wealthy, yet (shame to the mercenary herd!) my friend was countenanced by him in his attention to *Mira*.

Mira, by an urbanity of manners, which she could so easily assume that it seemed habitual to her, rivetted fast and more fast the chain with which she held *Horatio*; but when she found all his feelings centered in one object, and that object herself, ungenerously she could sport with those feelings, ungratefully she could spurn at those attentions which a kind heart (for I know his heart's core) had induced him to devote to her in preference to her whole sex beside.

Horatio had no unworthy views: his assiduities were the result of a most sincere, and still growing, affection, which his heart knew not,

nor wished, to disguise. He was little indebted to fortune himself, and he did not for a moment consider himself entitled to, nor was he at all solicitous about, pecuniary advantages with the person whom he might wish to make the partner of his affections. In truth, he considered her friend rather as the protector of *Mira's* person and the guardian of her mind, than as the trustee of her fortune: for he knew not, nor yet knows, of any she possesses.

Into my bosom, which has beaten in sympathy with his from our boyish days, *Horatio* has lately poured his complaints: 'My friend,' he has said, 'resolve me this question: Is it candid in a young woman to treat any man in so inconsistent a manner, as to leave it doubtful, whether she feels a partiality for him; or, that he is hateful to her?—For one half hour, perhaps, *Mira* will be charming company, every thing that is generous, kind, and pleasing, and in two minutes (without any apparent or possible cause) from coldness will proceed to a behaviour too mortifying for me to endure. At these times I depart, resolved that I ought not to continue a slave to such a capricious and incongruous disposition: but if, by chance, I see her again the next day, or even a few hours after on the same day, I find her free and cheerful—Advise me, my friend: for I know not from such a mixed behaviour, *whether her heart be at all interested in my favour, and that she acts thus in order (as some would say) to make trial of my temper; or, whether her kindness proceeds only from respect for her guardian, considering me as his friend; and that by the other part of her behaviour I should understand that her affections are elsewhere engaged, and that my attentions are troublesome and irksome to her.* Did I once know the truth of this matter, I could act accordingly. If I could believe, *that the first were the real state of the case, I would redouble my proofs of sincerity; but were I once ascertained, that her heart, pre-engaged, could never be mine, I would suffer any thing, my friend, rather than give her a moment's pain by a continuance of any particular attention.*—Can you, in short, think it incompatible with the most refined delicacy, in such a case, for *Mira* (by some means or other) to relieve my doubts? It is impossible long to endure such a state of suspense. Ungenerous and uncandid I shall think it on her part, till I am favoured with some explanation, either direct or indirect.'

Here *Horatio* ended, and thus he is at present situated, warmly and honestly attached to *Mira*, yet in a state of absolute uncertainty how he ought to act. I know him most sincere in his declaration, that he would endure any pain rather than continue for a moment his attentions, if he were once candidly assured that they were not acceptable or pleasing to her.

It surely, Mr. Editor, becomes the fair inhabitants of this isle to spare worthy men unnecessary uneasiness in affairs of the heart; and I hope and trust that your insertion of this in your excellent publication will, by stamping a degree of respectability on the appeal I wish to make to the feelings of my amiable country-women, have its proper effect.

S. J.

c

COPY OF THE INSCRIPTION
ON THE FOUNDATION STONE OF WEARMOUTH BRIDGE.

QUO TEMPORE
CIVIUM GALLICORUM ARDOR VESANUS
PRÆVA JUBENTIUM
GENTES TURBAVIT EUROPEAS
FERREO BELLO,
ROLANDUS BURDON, ARMIGER,
MELIORA COLENS,
VEDRÆ
RIPAS, SCOPULIS PRÆRUPTIS,
PONTE CONJungere FERREO
STATUIT.
FELICITER FUNDAMINA POSUIT
OCTAVO CALENDAS OCTOBRIS,
ANNO SALUTIS HUMANÆ
M,DCC,XCIII.
GEORGH TERTH XXXIII.
ADSTANTE
GULIELMO HEN. LAMBTON, ARMIGERO,
SUMMO PROVINCIALI MAGISTRO
FRATRUMQUE SOCIETATIS ARCHITECTONICÆ,
ET PROCERUM COMITATUS DUNELMENSIS
SPECTABILI CORONA,
POPULIQUE PLURIMA COMITANTE CATERVA.
MANEANT VESTIGIA DIU
NON IRRITÆ SPEI!

IMITATED IN ENGLISH.

AT THAT TIME
WHEN THE MAD FURY OF FRENCH CITIZENS,
DICTATING ACTS OF EXTREME DEPRAVITY,
DISTURBED THE PEACE OF EUROPE
WITH IRON WAR,
ROLAND BURDON, Esq.
AIMING AT WORTHIER PURPOSES,
HATH RESOLVED
TO JOIN THE STEEP AND CRAGGY SHORES
OF THE RIVER
WEAR,
WITH AN IRON BRIDGE.
HE HAPPILY LAID THE FOUNDATION
ON THE XXIV. DAY OF SEPTEMBER,
IN THE YEAR OF HUMAN SALVATION
M,DCC,XCIII.
AND THE XXXIII. OF THE REIGN
OF GEORGE THE THIRD,
IN THE PRESENCE OF
WILLIAM HENRY LAMBTON, ESQ.
PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER,
WITH A RESPECTABLE CIRCLE
OF THE BRETHERN OF THE SOCIETY
OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS,
AND OF THE MAGISTRATES AND PRINCIPAL
GENTLEMEN OF THE COUNTY OF DURHAM;
ATTENDED BY
AN IMMENSE CONCOURSE OF PEOPLE.
LONG MAY THE VESTIGES ENDURE
OF A HOPE NOT FORMED IN VAIN

A SERMON,

PREACHED IN THE CHAPEL AT SUNDERLAND,

AT THE

OPENING OF WEARMOUTH BRIDGE,

BEFORE THE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF DURHAM,

BY JOHN BREWSTER, M. A.

CHAPELAIN OF THE LODGE OF PHILANTHROPY, STOCKTON, NO. 19.

Now, therefore, our God, we thank thee and praise thy glorious name.
I CHRON. XXIX. 13.

THE earliest duty which we are taught, at our entrance on this scene of life, is Thankfulness to the bountiful Giver of every good and perfect gift; and the last duty expected from us will be the same. Indeed, when we reflect upon the whole compass of our being, and consider not only the comforts, but the enjoyments which are allowed us, if we retain the reason and faculties of men, we shall feel the purest sentiments of gratitude in our hearts, and experience the most ardent expressions of it in our words and actions. Under every system of religion, thanksgiving forms a part. And no wonder; for a sense of the excellencies of the God of Nature, and the universal benefits which he spreads around us, impress themselves upon every amiable feeling, and produce the most beneficial effects. Assembled at this time to return thanks to Almighty God, for the completion of a sublime and arduous undertaking, let us recall our minds, my brethren, from the ceremonial of this meeting, to that more important part of it which remains. Whatever we do, we are directed, not by the voice of nature only, but by the precept of an apostle, to do it to the glory of God.* To make any adequate return to God for his abundant kindness, we know to be impossible. Our own merits can lay no claim to his love. Circumstanced as we are, in a fallen, degenerate state, we can rely only on his intrinsic goodness, through the merits and intercession of his Son. This it is which stamps a value on our imperfect endeavours; for, "of him, and through him, and to him, are all things. To whom be glory for ever. Amen."*

When David had collected together the valuable materials which were afterwards used by Solomon in the construction of the Temple, he experienced all those exquisite sensations, which that man only feels who appropriates the blessings which Providence bestows upon him to the good of mankind. "Wherefore David," says the sacred historian, "blessed the Lord before all the congregation; and David

* 1 Cor. x. 31.

† Rom. xi. 36.

said, Blessed be thou, Lord God of Israel, our Father, for ever and ever. Thine, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom, O Lord, and thou art exalted as head above all. Both riches and honour come of thee, and thou reignest over all, and in thine hand is power and might, and in thine hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all. Now, therefore, our God, we thank thee, and praise thy glorious name.*

‘Amongst many causes of thankfulness peculiar to this enlightened age, may be reckoned the improvements which have taken place in those elegant and useful works of art, that embellish and adorn human life. Our fore-fathers were contented with few attainments, and endured a variety of inconveniencies which they knew not how to remedy. In some ages, their minds were obscured by ignorance; in others, they were clouded by superstition. In some, they had not learned; in others, they were not able to accomplish what a superior understanding occasionally produced for their advantage. The progress, indeed, of every art and science, from its first rude and undigested conception in the mind, to the final period of its perfection, (if such a period can be found) is a speculation worthy of the abilities of the philosopher, the reason of the man, the contemplation of the divine. And let not the subject be thought foreign to this sacred place, or this solemn assembly; for every step we take towards perfection, brings us nearer to God. We may add, too, that the further our researches reach in the study of nature, and in the refinements of art, the greater progress we may reasonably be expected to make in religion.

‘If it be objected to the truth of this observation, that the present history of the world exhibits a melancholy instance to the contrary, let it be rembered, that in the eye of the great Maker of the universe. time and space are without bounds, that a thousand years are with him as one day, and that whatever may be the appearance of a particular æra, neither his mercy nor his promises will fail. If we examine the history of the human mind, we shall find, that, at the dawning of reason, the first notices which it receives are few. It is only by the assistance of some acquired advantages that it can in any manner develope the suggestions of nature. Man, left to himself, would range a savage in the desert; at least, the degrees of his improvement would be so slow, that the allotted period of his existence would hardly add one convenience to the original necessities of life. But study and reflection, society and a reciprocal communication of good offices, call forth all the latent powers of the mind, and improve those inestimable gifts of nature. The mere instinct of animal life in the brute creation, however admirable in itself, rises no higher than its first appearance. Having attained the necessary perfection, it stops. A succession of generations makes no improvement or variation in its plan; for it is *instinct*, not *reason*, by which the Author of their being directs them. But, in the history of man, the progress of

* 1 Chron. xxix. 10, 13.

wisdom assumes a different form. Sensible of the spark of divinity which he possesses, he presses forward through all the regions of knowledge, and is not satisfied with his attainments, while any object of his wishes remains beyond his reach. In theology, he looks upward to a God, and traces the divine benevolence in all his works. In science, he discovers the rules and criterion of right and wrong, of truth and error; he applies the faculties of his mind to promote the interests of virtue; and, like Solomon, gives his "heart to seek and search out by wisdom concerning all things that are done under heaven."* In the arts he endeavours to supply the parsimony of nature with various improvements, and by the introduction of numerous inventions, to render life more easy and agreeable. Thus, in the hand of man, knowledge is in a progressive state; and, directed by the Author of good, will not cease its increasing influence till all the powers of nature are no more.

These observations will receive still further confirmation from the general history of the world. I pass over in silence those classical accounts of the first ages, however distinguished for their antiquity, or admired for their eloquence; for in them all, poetical fiction, or fabulous narrative, eminently prevails. The book of Genesis is the earliest authentic record of human manners which we possess. There truth and simplicity mutually illustrate each other; whilst both are irrefragably supported by the prevailing arguments of revelation.

Indeed we can have no doubt of the progressive nature of human knowledge, when we behold the improvements which every day take place amongst us. And, *by analogy*, we may conclude, that what we see proceeding in such regular order towards perfection, will not suspend its operations even when the functions of the body cease. This scene of life, though the theatre of improvement, is far from being that of perfection. We must look through the cloud, therefore, and welcome that ray of immortality which brightens all our prospects. For "now we see through a glass darkly; but then, face to face: now we know only in part; but then, shall we know, even as also we are known." †

There is but one presiding principle which regulates and gives stability to every art; that principle is utility. For though the most exquisite symmetry may be found in its execution, though external beauty may prevail in every part; yet if it be not founded in that general benevolence which seeks the good of mankind, it must be still defective. As a partial view of nature, or the delineation of particular habits and customs, which derive their origin from a capricious and fluctuating fashion, would disgrace the work of the artist, or the page of the historian; so he who would wish that his deeds should live for ever, must found them on the broad basis of public virtue.

It is becoming the solemnity of this occasion to point him out, whose benevolent heart projected, and whose strenuous arm hath ex-

* Eccl. i. 13.

† 1 Cor. xiii. 12.

ecuted a scheme difficult and dangerous. It hath pleased the Author of all goodness to permit him fully to accomplish this favourite purpose; at once honourable to himself, and beneficial to this populous and increasing neighbourhood. "Now, therefore, our God, we thank thee, and praise thy glorious name."

'If we consider the local circumstances of this wealthy place, we shall find few situations that more forcibly require so useful a structure. And while we contemplate the dreadful accident by which numbers perished, and behold the tears, on their account, yet streaming in your eyes, we cannot forbear looking up with gratitude to that almighty Being, who is "a strength to the poor, a strength to the needy in his distress, a refuge from the storm, a shadow from the heat."*

'If we look back upon the annals of former ages, we shall discover that founders of bridges were reckoned amongst the greatest benefactors of mankind. And, surely, it must be considered as a material branch of hospitality, to give a safe passage to the weary traveller over the rough and pointed rock, the dangerous whirlpool, or the foaming stream.

'In the middle age, the construction of bridges was ranked among the number of acts of religion; and a regular order was founded towards the close of the 12th century, under the denomination of *pontifices*, or bridge-builders; whose chief object was to be assistant to travellers, by making *bridges*, settling ferries, and receiving strangers in hospitals, or houses built on the banks of rivers.†

'Almost on the spot where we now stand, a religious foundation on the opposite side of the river, the fine arts were first introduced into the north of England. It becomes also your boast, that that material, so long and so justly esteemed the most useful of metals, should in this place—I cannot, perhaps, say with accuracy, for the first time, but *certainly* for the first time on so extensive and excellent a plan—be applied to so beneficial a purpose. In this structure, utility and beauty are united; and one of the noblest of the arts adapted to the noblest design. Like that vast arch, bent by the hand of the Most High, it stands the admiration of all beholders; and,

* Isaiah xxv. 4.

† Encyclopedia, Rees's edition, article Bridge.

St. Benezet, the founder of this order, kept his mother's sheep in the country, being devoted to the practices of piety beyond his age. He was moved by charity to save the lives of many poor persons, who were frequently drowned in passing the Rhone, and undertook to build a bridge over that rapid river at Avignon. The work was begun in 1177, which he directed during seven years. He died when the difficulty of the undertaking was over, in 1184. His body was buried upon the bridge itself, which was not completely finished till four years after his decease. The city built a chapel upon the bridge, in which his body lay near 500 years; but in 1669, a great part of the bridge falling down, through the impetuosity of the waters, the coffin was taken up, and, in 1674, was translated with great pomp into the church of the Celestines (a house of royal foundation) who had obtained of Louis XIV. the honour to be intrusted with the custody of his relics. *Butler's Lives of the Fathers, &c. vol. iv. p. 147.*

as that was a token of a benevolent covenant between God and the earth, so let this remain a memorial of the unity and friendly disposition of that society, which I have at present the honour to address.

‘Order, harmony, and proportion, are the requisites of every building, spiritual, social, or political, which would make any claim to perfection. Let us endeavour, then, so to unite ourselves by those principles of philanthropy, so to build up ourselves in good works, and so to believe and practise the doctrines of our Saviour, which are founded in the purest benevolence, that in whatever character we may appear in the world, we may fulfil our duty, by walking worthy of our vocation.

‘Let us live as men considering the great end for which the goodness of God created us; and let us beseech him who ruleth the universe, and giveth order and motion to the heavenly planets, to direct our goings in the true and right way, that our footsteps slip not; to give us *wisdom to contrive in all our doings, strength to support in all difficulties, and beauty to adorn those heavenly mansions where his honour dwelleth*; that he would promote still more and more those benevolent principles, which it is the glory of human nature to possess, *brotherly love and Christian charity*; and that he would accept the offering of this day, which is not to be considered as a presuming display of the works of man, but as a humble expression of our duty to the Lord of all: thus shall we hear the voice of the Lamb proceeding from the holy mount, and saying, ‘Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy:’ * thus shall an abundant entrance be administered unto us into thy kingdom, O great Jehovah!’

ON DEATH.

HERACLITUS used to say, that the living and the dead, the wakeful and the sleeper, the old and the young, are one and the same thing: he who is past the age of youth becomes old, and this last is succeeded by another newly born. When our neighbour is carried to his grave, we must not only shed a few tears, as Cæsar did on the head of Pompey, or as Metellus on the body of Adrastes, but must prepare ourselves to support the like accident, rather than complain of this.

Life and death are equally natural to us, though the one is only a consequence of the other, and as the manner of living is very different, so is our latter end. Farentius died in his bed, of extreme old age, and prince Metellus in his cradle—Hannibal grew grey in his military achievements, and Alexander, on the contrary, died in the flower of his age.

‘Weep,’ said Thales the Milesian, ‘when thy son is born, because the angel at his birth has marked out a grave for him in the world.’ Socrates lamented the death of his friend Mecenas; but when he found himself going the same way, he wiped away his tears. Diogenes, so

rigid in all his actions, was severely touched with grief for the loss of his disciple Servilius; but at last he buried his sorrow in the tomb of the deceased.

‘Do not be sorrowful,’ said Seneca, ‘for the death of thy friend: if the wind of his fate has made him come to an anchor in the port of the grave sooner than thou, remember thou art sailing on the same sea where his life was shipwrecked. The least blast of misfortune, that shall fill thy sails, will drive thee ashore as well as him. If he was older than thou, his age demanded the preference; if younger, the example of his death ought to prepare you for the same accident, since death does not count days, months, nor years; his scythe levels all without distinction of sex, age, or condition.’

Anaxagoras, hearing that his son was dead, answered, ‘that his hour of death was fixed the moment of his birth, and that he knew very well he had begot him a mortal.’

The accident which put an end to the life of Tullius Hostilius, third king of the Romans, is surprizing; for, being one day in his library looking over the books which his predecessor, Numa Pompilius, had left him, a thunderbolt fell on the building with such violence, that it was entirely demolished, and burnt to the ground, finishing his days in this manner, with his whole family—his palace serving him at once as a funeral pile and a grave. The last hour of the great Pompey was not less lamentable to the world, than unexpected by himself; for, after the battle of Pharsalia he sailed to Egypt, to raise an army under the protection of King Ptolomy: when he drew near the city Pellusium, where the king then was, he sent a messenger to him for leave to enter his territories. The king, yet very young, was governed by an Egyptian called Achilles, and forgetting the favours his father received from Pompey, was advised to admit him, and then put him to death. Such was the end of the renowned Pompey, who, for his mighty deeds, had acquired the title of Great, and who in order to obtain, by the merits of his valour, those triumphs which his youth interdicted, quoted to the senate, that in the ruin of the pirates, and in the conquest of the kingdoms of the East and the North, he had destroyed by the sword, and received prisoners, to the number of two millions and eighty-three thousand men, taken and sunk eight hundred and forty-six ships, forced to capitulation one thousand five hundred and fifty-eight towns and castles.

Philip, king of Macedon, amidst the honours and the glory of his enterprizes, which rendered him famous above all the kings of his age, was killed by one of his own subjects. When he had concluded a peace with the Greeks, he was elected their Captain-general, in order to carry the war into Asia. Much about the same time he married his daughter Cleopatra with Alexander king of Egypt, and while he was celebrating the nuptials, Pausanias, a Macedonian gentleman, irritated that the king had not done him justice in regard to a great Lord called Attalus, and seeing him unattended by his usual guard, gave way to his violent rage, and ran the king through the body with his sword, who dropt instantly dead at his reet.

Cæsar, that great Captain, always victorious, by the arms of valour and prudence, having outdone by his victories all the warriors that ever went before him, was one morning going out of his palace at Rome, but prevented by his wife Calpurnia, who having had some strange dreams and visions the night before, begged of him on her knees not to go out that day: this intreaty of his wife the more alarmed him, as he had never known her addicted to superstitious fears. By her advice, he sacrificed some animals to the Gods; the soothsayers answered, that the omens promised nothing good: he was determined to send Marc Antony to the senate, to dissolve the assembly, but in the mean time arrived Decius Brutus, the beloved friend of Cæsar, who had in his will appointed him his second heir, though he was in the conspiracy of Marcus Brutus and Caius Cassius. He feared, that if Cæsar should put off the assembly of the senate to another day, the conspiracy would be discovered: therefore he began to ridicule the soothsayers, blaming Cæsar for his credulity, saying, 'that he gave occasion to the senate to find great fault with him, because they had been assembled by his order, and they were ready with one voice to declare him King of all the provinces of the Roman empire, Italy excepted.' In conclusion of these words, he took him by the hand, and led him to the senate. The conspirators, who were in number sixty, surrounded Cæsar on all sides, their drawn swords in their hands, so that which ever way he turned, he always found some one ready to strike him. At first he defended himself; but when he perceived Marcus Brutus, the chief of the conspiracy, advancing towards him, who gave him a thrust, he said, 'And thou also, my son!' Saying these words, he made no longer opposition, but wrapping his robe round his head, fell to the ground close to the statue of Pompey, with twenty-three stabs in the body. Thus perished the great Cæsar in the hall of the senate, the 25th of March, in the year of the world 3922, of the foundation of Rome 710, and 42 before the birth of our Saviour. Cassius, after the battle of Philippi, to avoid falling into the hands of Marc Antony and Augustus, run himself through with the same sword with which he had wounded Cæsar. Marcus Brutus, being overcome near the city of Philippi, in the same manner with Cassius, his evil genius appeared to him in the morning without speaking a single word to him. From this silence he knew that his last hour was come; he therefore rushed into all the perils and dangers of the battle; but not meeting the death he wished for, and seeing his party slaughtered every where around him, he went to a retired spot, and, with the assistance of one of his friends, run upon his sword, and died on the spot, murdering himself with the same weapon with which he had pierced the body of the unfortunate Cæsar.

Segigambis, mother of Darius, learning the death of Alexander, who had always treated her in an honourable manner, threw herself upon the ground, wept, and tore her hair; she would not admit the light of the day to be admitted into her apartment, nor take the least nourishment. In a few days she died. Quintus Curtius says of this

princess, that her strength of mind was such, that the death of Darius made no impression on her, but that she was ashamed to outlive Alexander. James Trivulce, a renowned warrior in the history of Italy, died at the age of fourscore years, and was buried at Milan. They say of him, that being on the point of death, he insisted on holding his drawn sword in his hand; because he had been told, that the devils could not endure them. These words were engraved on his tomb—*Hic quiescit qui nunquam quievit.*—‘ Here reposes one, who was never at rest while living.’

The Queen of Navarre, sister to Francis the First, was a very accomplished princess. A rumour was spread at court, that she had died in Auvergne. A courtier and a wit insisted it must be false, the weather had been so very fine a considerable time past: ‘ had the accounts been true,’ added he, ‘ the sky would have wept her loss.’

A Persian officer took in battle a young and very handsome Scythian lady: he set her at liberty, but as soon as he had lost sight of her, he fell passionately in love with her. As she despised him, he was seized with a violent grief, and despair prompted him to die. Before he put it in execution, he sent her these few words: ‘ I have saved your life, and am now going to die for you.’

Charles IX. said, he had rather die a King, than live a Prisoner. His sentiments were very opposite to those of King Solomon, who preferred a living dog to a dead lion. But it is supposed that the ambition of Charles had vitiated his judgment, and made him speak in that manner. Had he consulted nature, he would have thought in a different manner; for, according to one of our writers, there is no King on his death-bed, who would not wish to be the last of his subjects; and no Slave so miserable, who would change his fortune, with a dying King.

PREDILECTION OF THE TURKS

FOR THE
GAME OF CHESS.

THE Turks are very fond of Chess, which is a game that corresponds with the gravity of their tempers. An anecdote was not long since related of them, which proves at once their partiality for this amusement, and their indifference about matters of much higher concern.—An Aga had incurred the displeasure of his Sovereign, and the warrant for his execution arrived, whilst he was engaged at Chess. The game was nearly over, and he begged the officers, who were the messengers of his fate, to delay the sentence for a few minutes, that he might have the satisfaction of beating his adversary. His request was granted; and, when the game was finished, he thanked them for their civility and condescension; kissed the order which deprived him of life; and submitted, with the greatest composure, to the stroke of the executioner.

ESSAYS

ON SUBJECTS CONNECTED WITH

HISTORY AND CLASSICAL LEARNING.No. II.ON THE CHARACTER OF KING WILLIAM THE THIRD.

IN endeavouring to form an accurate and just judgment of the characters of men, we must necessarily encounter many real and serious difficulties. The prejudices of the human mind can seldom be accounted for; and often escape even without observation. Beginning with the ideas in infancy, they increase and strengthen with the advancement of the understanding, and become inveterate with its maturity. The obstacles to a just investigation of character are often equally numerous and equally formidable to cotemporaries, and to those who live at a more distant period. If the judgment of a contemporary be warped by prejudice, or partiality, posterity labour under an equal disadvantage, in being supplied with but fewer facts, and those deprived of their original and native strength of colouring.

Happily for us, we live at a period which affords us every opportunity of forming a just judgment on the character of King William the Third: for many documents have been lately disclosed, which were formerly uncommunicated and unknown to the world. We behold the scene from a distance; placed on an eminence, we overlook the intervening objects which obstruct the prospect from the lower ground. The mist hovering on the surface obscures not the eye that is elevated above it. The fair form of Truth is unveiled, her beaming eye commands silence, her native beauty engages attention, and her tongue will speak persuasion.

Should we fairly establish the generosity and rectitude of William's intentions from one free and unconstrained act, his prudence from another, his bravery from a third;—should we prove from well-founded probabilities, and a concatenation of circumstances, which cannot lie, that he possessed those great qualifications for which his name has been, and will continue to be, extolled; we are confident, that the petty objections to his character will be imputed to the invention of malice or ingenuity.

Reviewing the state of the nation under James the Second, every honest man will see ample reason for the measures that were adopted at the Revolution. The Popish religion at that time peculiarly tended to contract the understanding, and enfeeble the feelings of sensibility and benevolence. The intellects of James were weak and narrow; and education had in him weakened or destroyed the generosity natural to the human heart. The bloody spirit of Popery displayed itself in the persecutions of Louis, and the more sanguinary massacres of the Spanish inquisition; and from the conduct of James, both before and after he mounted the throne, there was

little reason to hope that in his practice the ferocity of its principles would be mitigated, or the happiness of his protestant subjects consulted to the detriment of the holy faith. The power he assigned to the ecclesiastical courts, his conduct towards the universities, his declaration for liberty of conscience, (to which the refractory bishops would have fallen a sacrifice but for that last refuge of violated freedom—a jury of their country) the severity with which he prosecuted those, who disputed the orthodoxy of his religious tenets, the implicit obedience he paid to his evil genius, the jesuit Peters, all prove the persecuting spirit he had imbibed from his religion. And yet, in the outset of his reign, so submissive was the Parliament, so servile the people, that not even the cruelties of a Kirk and a Jefferies, not the power assumed by the monarch of dispensing with the laws, could rouse the nation from its lethargy. Confiding in his faithless promises, the people hoped for blessings, which his preceding conduct did not warrant them to expect. His professions were liberal—the confidence of his subjects unbounded.—The credulous multitude, fond of novelty and gratified by change, were even ready to give ample credit to a succeeding sovereign, and to hope for a display of unwonted generosity. Attentive only to the security of their spiritual, they forgot the defence of their civil interests. And had not James invaded the altar of religion, he might with impunity have sapped the foundations of the temple of freedom. But the plan of his attack was as injudicious, as its execution was incomplete. He ventured too early to assail those rights which were deemed sacred and inviolable. And though the groans of expiring liberty had been unheard, or unattended to, the tears of religion moved her votaries to pity, and roused them to vengeance. Happily for his deluded subjects his precipitation defeated the attempt: for his very virtues (and some he certainly possessed) rendered him the more dangerous to the liberties of his country. Entertaining designs hostile to its religion and constitution, his resolution, bravery, and obstinate perseverance, made them but the more to be dreaded; and his conscience would have revolted at nothing, which might accomplish the objects of his bigotry. Remember his application to the soldiery. It was an execrable attempt to revive in England those horrors which Rome experienced, from the hour when the unbridled insolence of her army first assumed the disposal of her sceptre. The danger of a standing army, entertaining sentiments different from the people, and into whose minds are inculcated principles of absolute submission, is visible to every eye; and had our warlike countrymen been as abandoned as the degenerate sons of Rome, our religion and our liberty would have perished together. None but the most profligate of mankind would have attempted to succeed in his views, however honourable they might seem, by so despicable an instrument. But, thank heaven! he had now brought the merits of his conduct to an issue, on which the meanest capacity might judge for itself. It was not an alarm to the passions, but a calm appeal to the judgment of his subjects, upon their most essential interests.* It availed him

* Junius.

not to have retracted his former measures: the people doubted his sincerity, distrusted his professions, and had resolved upon resistance. Yet 'as those, who are waking from a pleasing dream shut their eyes against the light, and endeavour to prolong the delusion by slumbering again,* the infatuated monarch would still have indulged his dream of sovereignty and controul over religion; but the insulted lion was roused, and this wolf, who had meditated to make the religion and liberties of the nation a prey, fled with fear and precipitation.

Let us not call it an abdication or desertion, it deserves an harsher and stronger appellation. By mal-administration and abuse of power he had broken the original contract, and forfeited his title to hold the reins of government. It is impossible to state every instance in which the Constitution is subverted, and the original contract dissolved: 'We must leave to future generations, whenever the necessity and the safety of the whole shall require it, the exertion of those inherent, though latent, powers of society which no climate, no constitution, no continent, can ever dissolve or diminish.' † Shall we then entertain any doubts of the justice and propriety of a revolution, which had for its object the preservation of liberty by the expulsion of a Prince, who, from infancy to age, had made it his pursuit to corrupt the liberties of England, and to poison the fountains of her freedom?—A Prince, whose tyrannic bigotry—but let his manes rest in peace; we need not, to exalt the character of a patriot, exaggerate the vices of a despot. In such a case, precedent was not wanting to justify the measures that were adopted. 'Let not man seek in the profligate practices of men, what is to be found in the sacred rights of nature.' Though, from the habits and prejudices of education, and the precedents, which former times afforded, we may be inclined to palliate the conduct of the house of Stuart, in assuming a power as extensive as it was unwarranted, we should remember that no precedent can justify, no antiquity sanction what, in all times, and in every state of society, will be as fatal to liberty as the most flagrant and recent usurpation. The decency and subordination which prevailed, even when the helm of State was deserted, and amongst a populace freed from the restraints of civil government and secure of impunity—the secrecy of the nobles entrusted with and privy to the execution of so great a design, are incontestible proofs of the popularity, and no mean proof of the justice, of the cause. Nor need we wonder—the rude hand of philosophy had at length torn away the veil of superstition, and exposed to the eye of reason the mysteries which had for ages enveloped and sanctified religious and civil iniquity. The combination of priestcraft and despotism was dissolved. The doctrine of non-resistance and passive obedience, that baneful tree, under whose shade tyranny, the bastard slip of legal authority, had so long flourished, was blasted by the lightnings of truth. This was the doctrine by which the despotism of Europe was so long supported—this the doctrine by which political

* Hawkesworth, in the *Adventurer*.

† Blackstone.

popery was for centuries upheld;—‘but the doctrine and the despotism were buried in the same grave, and may now sleep together till the trumpet of ignorance, superstition, and bigotry shall sound their resurrection.’*

Taking it for granted, that some strong measures were then necessary for our security, that some barrier was absolutely requisite to prevent the encroachments of regal prerogative and the subversion of the laws, we shall approach the discussion of William’s character without prejudice and without partiality.—Can we shew, that his *ends* were noble and generous, his *means* wise and just, and his *motives* honourable and virtuous, I doubt not but we shall be easily able to obviate the objections to his character, to establish the rectitude of his principles, and to justify the propriety of his conduct.

The Revolution ‘was the child not of choice, but necessity.’* By what other means could its benefits have been obtained? Without it what indemnity would there have been for the past, what security for the future? The calm dispassionate reasonings of philosophy are unable to effect those changes, which alone can rectify an highly disordered state of government. During the reigns of the four Stuarts a continued fever had lurked in the domestic administration, which sometimes broke out into the most violent convulsions, and at length produced a delirium, whose frequent and violent paroxysms could be removed only by the application of a desperate remedy. Without a Revolution, slavery and superstition would have been inevitably entailed upon ourselves and our descendants. The obstinate bigotry of James would never have acceded to a compromise—never would he have made sufficient concessions to the wishes or the wants of his people. A reformation, like an anodyne, might indeed have afforded a temporary suspension to the pain, but could not have removed the cause of the malady. There was no alternative, but the banishment of their sovereign, or the ruin of their independence; yet ‘such is the influence of established government, so averse are men from beginning arduous enterprizes, that, had not an attack been made from without, affairs might long have remained in that delicate situation, and James at last have prevailed in his rash and ill-concerted projects.’ They who had seen the first glorious and regular efforts of liberty against Charles the First, were long since deceased. The survivors, who had been witnesses to the events of the latter part of that unfortunate monarch’s reign, had only beheld the private ambition and anarchy of the pretended advocates for civil and religious freedom. Hence the spirit of liberty was destroyed; her votaries were intimidated; and but for the assistance of the Prince of Orange, aided by their apprehensions for religion, our ancestors had been inevitably enslaved. William interfered not in the affairs of England till solicited by James; nor afterwards resumed his interference till the liberties of the people required it. So general were the invitations he received, so great the

* O’Connor’s Speech in the Irish House of Commons on the Catholic Bill.

* Fox.

characters of many from whom they came, so manifest the injuries of which they complained, that he indeed must have been deaf to the interests of humanity, who, with the power to rescue them, could have remained a silent, a tame, and an indolent spectator of their approaching calamities. What object then was it likely that William had in view? Was it to acquire an unlimited authority, or such as was inconsistent with the happiness of a free people? By ascending the throne of England, he did not so much gratify a selfish passion for power and fame, as the liberal enthusiasm of the patriot, by adding the pecuniary and warlike aid of an opulent and mighty nation to a confederacy formed for the defence of civil and religious liberty.* After securing the rights of the English, he hoped that they would co-operate in the common cause against the insatiable ambition of Louis the Fourteenth. The whole tenor of his conduct confirms the supposition. William did indeed refuse a conditional crown; an uncertain dignity: to such he preferred the honour of remaining the Stadtholder of a petty Republic. But was this from an indifference to the interests of religion? To the liberties of England, or of Europe? Did it not rather proceed from an invincible conviction, that under the proposed limitations he should be unable to support that cause, which was the darling passion of his heart? A train of thinking, which education had encouraged, philosophy had cherished, and a regular series of action, had rendered habitual, independent of the importance of the right he was defending, had taught him to deem resistance to the arms of Louis the first and greatest obligation. After he had reduced James to extremities, the proposals which he made by no means required his flight; and were merely such as were absolutely necessary for the redress of grievances and for future security. A king of sense and spirit might still have retained his situation. Redress for an injured people, by procuring them the concessions necessary to their future welfare and security, (was as the princess's declaration professes) the sole object of his voyage; and though William did certainly expect some return for his generosity, yet had the great body of the people been satisfied with their king, he would have remained content with their favour and co-operation against the common enemy.

The means he adopted were such, and not more violent than the accomplishment of the object required. Necessity, though the tyrant's plea, is sometimes too the plea of those who are the champions of freedom. It is upon a balance of good and evil, on a fair calculation of all the consequences and the probability of each, that mankind are bound to act. In great and important changes, upon which the interests of society, and particularly of religion, materially depend, the more real principle a man possesses, with the less reluctance will he neglect and abandon the duties attached to the relations of private life. The object may be of sufficient importance

* Somerville.---To this admirable and spirited Author it seems necessary to make particular acknowledgments. He hath anticipated the substance of almost every possible eulogy (*consistent with the truth of history*) on the character of King William III.

to demand the sacrifice; and public duties must always be considered as obligations of a superior kind, as well as prior to every duty of a private nature. The Prince, before he assumed the reins of government, obtained the consent of the people in a manner as universal as the nature of the case would admit. Whilst the governments of other countries have grown out of time, or chance, or accident, ours has been established upon the consent of the people, a consent more voluntary, and more general, than any other country can boast, America alone excepted. The alacrity and readiness with which all orders obeyed the directions of their deliverer, were a sufficient proof of their consent; and arguing upon this ground, shall we say, that the invitations from the nobility and people to the Prince for the recovery of their laws and liberty, ought to have been rejected? When rival parties forgot their wonted animosity, when (burying their mutual jealousies and mutual injuries in oblivion) they could secretly concur in a design of resisting their misguided and bigoted sovereign, was William bound, or would he have been justified, in betraying the confidence they had reposed in him? Shall he be considered as criminal for concurring in the secret negotiations which were requisite for the success of their design? Or did the infatuation and confidence of James, in the divine origin of his title, render it incumbent on his nephew to disclose the plans which were forming against him. The same causes, and the same principles, which justified the end, must necessarily justify the means requisite to its attainment. And if from the conduct and apparent designs of James, there were grounds for the fears of his subjects, just reason to dread the assassination of their freedom, in whatever relation William might unfortunately stand, whatever obligations he might owe to the ties of blood or of affinity, who shall dare to say that he ought not to have assisted in the frustration of so wicked a purpose? It is not impossible indeed, that he did begin, in the year 1688, to wish that James might be driven from the throne; but facts seem by no means to warrant so severe a conclusion. If he did, however, we shall shortly judge, whether it was from a thirst after the bubble of sovereignty, or from zeal for the independence of these kingdoms, and regard for the liberties of Europe. The many and great difficulties with which this undaunted Patriot had to contend, are a powerful justification of the means which he was obliged to adopt. How universally does self-interest dispose mankind to resist the most salutary changes! How few revolutions have been accomplished, except the resentment of the people has been first aggravated by magnifying the crimes of ministers and the vices of rulers! And we can but regret, that it should have been necessary to employ so much deceit and hypocrisy to the attainment of so desirable an object, and that the purity of King William's character should have ever been polluted by its unavoidable connection with the foul duplicity of Sunderland. But 'the man, whose squeamish virtue revolts at the profligacy of some members of his party, is fit only for mourning over the ruins of his country.'*

[To be continued.]

CURIOUS ACCOUNT
OF
EDWARD KELLY, THE ALCHEMIST.

[FROM GREEN'S ANTIQUITIES OF WORCESTER, JUST PUBLISHED.]

EDWARD Kelly was born at Worcester, and bred to the business of an apothecary, about the year 1555. He is sometimes called Talbot. He was so good a proficient in chemistry, that he felt himself qualified sufficiently to take an active share in the profitable application of that knowledge, which pretenders, of inferior ability to himself, were daily turning to good account. Nothing despairing therefore, his skill, joined to a competent intrepidity of face, soon put him at the head of the brazen philosophy of the sixteenth century. He pretended to have the grand elixir (or philosopher's stone) which Lilly, in his life, tells us he made, or at least received ready made, from a friar in Germany; whither he travelled with Dr. Dee,* as his chief seer, or skyror, as he calls him. They accompanied Aleski, Palatine of Poland, when he left England, and were entertained by him. From Poland they removed to Prague, where the Emperor Radolph received and entertained them; to whom they shewed, as they had already done to Prince Aleski, the wonderful stone, and disclosed its surprising properties to him. Kelly received the honour of knighthood from the Emperor, and has thence been recognized by Mr. Ashmole as Sir Edward Kelly. Pucel, a learned Florentine, and Prince Rosenberg, of Germany, the Emperor's Viceroy in Bohemia, were long of the society with him and Dr. Dee, and often present at their apparitions, as was once the king of Poland himself. But Lilly observes, he was so wicked, that the angels would not appear to him willingly, nor be obedient to him. He offered to raise up devils before Aleski, June 19, 1581. His spirits told him, 1584, he should die a violent death. Weever allows him to have been a chemist; that he lost his ears at Lancaster, and raised a dead body in that county by necromancy; that Queen Elizabeth sent for him out of Germany, but climbing over a wall at Prague, where it is reported he was imprisoned for a chemical cheat put on the Emperor, he broke his legs, and bruised himself so that he died; this happened in 1587.

What an age of philosophical acumen was this for the sarcastic wit of a Ben Jonson to hold up to everlasting ridicule! What an object for the lacerating thongs of Butler's satiric scourge to lay bare and whip, as a carted knave through herds of posted fools! Princes who would be philosophers, (and of so hopeful a set;) philosophers who would be princes; and the multitude, who could neither be phi-

* For some account of Dr. Dee, *vide* our Magazine, Vol. VI. Page 102.

losophers nor princes; all, all crusaders in this glorious pursuit! nor could even the sagacious penetration of the enthroned Elizabeth wholly shelter her from being infected by the idolatry of this Israelitish credulity, or rescue royal sapience from the suspicion of being a secret worshipper of this golden calf! But peace to their manes! to exult over a fallen foe, however formidable, or however contemptible he might have been, is not for liberal minds to indulge in; but to hold forth the authors and abettors of public imposture to detection and scorn, belongs to the duties of a good citizen. Strict poetical justice having been executed on this caitiff by the Alchemist and Hudibras, there remains but a last duty for history to discharge towards this very eccentric character, and which, indeed, relates rather to the instrument, or *primum mobile*, of his juggling system, than to himself; as, according to our satirist, whose authority few will, at this time, dispute,

' Kelly did all his feats upon
The devil's looking glass, a stone;
Where, playing with him at bo-peep,
He solv'd all problems ne'er so deep.'

Hudibras, Cant. III. l. 631.

The natural history of this stone, in which its species, qualities, and quantities have been deduced, with learned illustration and critical analysis sufficient to have settled the reputation of the corner-stone of the universe, or the better known Pitt diamond (had either been questioned) is thus reported in Dr. Nash's notes on the above quoted text, in his new and splendid edition of Butler's *Hudibras*. This stone, which is large, round, and very transparent, appears to be a volcanic production of the species vulgarly called the black Iceland Agate, which is a perfectly vitrified lava; and, according to Bergman's analysis, contains, of siliceous earth, sixty-nine parts in an hundred, argillaceous twenty-two parts, and martial nine. This stone it was that Dee told the Emperor the angels of God had brought to him, and which was of that value, that no kingdom was of that worthiness as to be compared to the virtue or dignity thereof. This it was that he says he shewed Queen Elizabeth, and to whom he also explained its wonderful properties. This, in fine, was that mirror, through which all the great and wise of that all-great and all-wise age peeped into futurity, and saw *their fate approaching!* before which the whole world stood astound and aghast, so thoroughly and universally had it 'confounded the faculties of eyes and ears!' — plain matter of fact history has only thus much to add to this edifying subject. This stone is now in the possession of the very learned and venerable Earl of Orford, at Strawberry-hill. Its authenticity and identity cannot be doubted, as its descent is much more clearly proved than that of Agamemnon's sceptre. It was specified in the catalogue of the Earl of Peterborough, at Drayton; thence it came to Lady Betty Germaine, who gave it to the Duke of Argyle, whose son, Lord Frederic Campbell, presented it to Lord Orford.

ON THE MUSIC OF THE ANCIENTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE.

DR. Burney acknowledges, that the ancient Music must have been something 'with which mankind was extremely delighted;' as 'not only the poets, but the historians and philosophers, of Greece and Rome, are as diffuse in its praises, as of those arts concerning which sufficient remains are come down to us to evince the truth of their panegyric. And if no more substantial proof were now subsisting of the excellence of the poetry, eloquence, sculpture, and architecture of ancient Greece, than of its Music, we should probably be as incurious and incredulous about them, as we are at present about the Music of the spheres.*

A warm admirer of the remains of Grecian genius will observe with regret, that Dr. Burney, although he has made such acknowledgments, yet appears reluctant to admit that the Grecian Music could have possessed any excellence to be compared with the improved state of that art in modern times; nay, that he has expressly asserted the superior excellence of modern Music, in the 'two grand and essential parts of the art—Melody and Harmony.' He seems anxious to impress on the minds of his readers, that the influence over the human passions and affections, ascribed to the Grecian Music, has been chiefly fabulous and allegorical; and that, as all rude nations are delighted with their own songs or Music, however simple or uncouth, so, notwithstanding the charms which the Greeks found in their own Music, it might, if known, afford little pleasure to ears more refined and cultivated. I have already quoted so much from Dr. Burney, that I shall adduce only one passage out of many, to prove his desire of inculcating the opinion here inputed to him. 'The Music of the Greeks and Romans, of which the effects have been so splendidly described, and which have long remained, and, it is feared, ever will remain enigmas to all, who have the misfortune to be born too late for the strains of swans and syrens.' † The purport of the sneer conveyed in this passage is too obvious to require to be pointed out.

Yet in some of the arts, particularly in poetry, eloquence, sculpture, and architecture; in all those arts, in short, in which specimens of their best efforts have reached us, the Greeks, it must be acknowledged, attained to unrivalled excellence: and some of the philosophers, who have spoken with rapture of the Grecian Music, are universally allowed to have been exquisite judges in all the other arts. Aristotle's treatises on rhetoric and poetry contain principles and precepts so precise and just, that they still continue to be the chief guides of the best critics. Yet his rules were principally drawn from models which had already existed in Greece. But Aristotle

* Burney's History of Music, Vol. I. p. 2 and 32. † Ib. Vol. II. p. 585.

extols Music in a higher strain of panegyric than either Oratory or Poetry; he regards it not only as an innocent amusement, or harmless relaxation, but as a source of elegant enjoyment, contributing to happiness by constituting an essential part of all liberal festivity: whence, he says, that the poets always represented song and music as forming a part of the entertainment at all the feasts of the gods. He represents it also as a balm and cure for the toils and cares of human life. Horace, doubtless, had these sentiments of the Grecian philosophers in his eye, when he thus addressed his lyre:—

O decus Phoebi, et dapibus supremi
Grata testudo Jovis; O laborum
Dulce lenimen—

Nay, Aristotle represents Music as being subservient to purposes still more important, by its efficacy in contracting the passions, regulating the affections, inspiring noble sentiments, and promoting virtue. Hence, in his treatise on politics, he reckons music to be one of the four branches of a liberal education, or of that in which the sons of freemen ought to be instructed. Can we easily conceive, that a judge of such exquisite discernment would have been so warm in his praises, and so earnest in his recommendation, of Music, if it had not surpassed the rude singing of African tribes or American Indians, and had been incapable of affording genuine delight to persons of delicate refinement? This reasoning appears conclusive, however difficult it may be for us to reconcile the notion of much excellence in the Grecian Music with the fancied superiority of modern improvements in that art.

The four branches of education, in which Aristotle thinks that all the sons of freemen ought to be instructed, are, letters, gymnastic exercises, Music, and drawing, or the graphic art.

Plato complains that since the time of the Persian invasion, much degeneracy had taken place in the political constitution, as well as in the manners of the Athenians; and he ascribes it chiefly to the changes and irregularities which had been introduced into their poetry and music. These, he says, had been followed by want of respect and disobedience to fathers, seniors, and magistrates, with a disregard of the laws, of good faith, of oaths, and of the gods. It would appear from some passages in Plato that Music, (doubtless including poetry) with gymnastic exercises, constituted the principal part of an Athenian education; and that it was enjoined by the laws of the Athenians, that the children of citizens should be instructed in both.

When Socrates represents his country as remonstrating with him against any attempt to escape from prison, the following is a part of the expostulation, which he supposes his country to address to him. ‘Do you disapprove of the laws which enjoined your father to instruct you in music and gymnastic exercises?’ In another passage, Socrates is introduced thus addressing a young man: ‘Has not your father given you the same course of education, which the sons of all worthy fathers receive at Athens—has he not taken care to

have you instructed in letters, in playing on the harp, in wrestling, and the other objects of emulation at the public games?' Thus we see, that Music formed an essential part of education, not only according to the custom, but by the laws of the Athenians. Yet unquestionably the Athenians were the most elegant and refined nation of antiquity; and at Athens some of the arts were carried to the highest perfection which they ever yet attained. Even the wise and virtuous Socrates himself became a musical scholar in his old age. Plato, in his system of laws, recommends, that children should begin to learn the literary branch of their education at ten years of age; and the lyre at thirteen; and that they should continue three years at each. But it may be proper to add, that in addition to letters, Music, and the gymnastic exercises, Plato recommends that the children of freemen should be instructed in three other branches of education; one of these was a knowledge of numbers and accounts; the second was, a knowledge of the measurement of lengths, surfaces, and depths; and the third was a knowledge of the heavenly bodies; or in other words, arithmetic, geometry, and astronomy. An abstruse study of these sciences he recommends to a few; but a general knowledge of them to the sons of all citizens.

Plato employs a considerable portion of his dialogues, on politics and laws, in treating of the nature of the Music, and the regulations and institutions respecting it, which ought to be adopted in every well-regulated state. So powerful, in his opinion, was the influence of Music on mankind, that he thought a change of the music of his country must produce a change of its political constitution, or a revolution in its government.

Cicero, with his usual eloquence, describes the powerful influence of Music on the human mind. He assents, in general, to the sentiments of Plato on this subject; only with some qualification of the opinion, that a change in the Music of a country would produce an alteration in its constitution.

I do not know, Mr. Editor, that I should be able to conclude this essay in a manner more likely to atone to your readers for its dulness, than by transcribing the last stanza of a well-known ode, in which the charms and enthusiasm of poetry are employed to enforce the opinion, that the Grecian Music far surpassed the modern.

O Music! sphere-descended maid!
 Friend of pleasure, Wisdom's aid!
 Why, goddess! why, to us deny'd,
 Lay'st thou thy ancient lyre aside?
 As, in that lov'd Athenian bower
 You learn'd an all-commanding power,
 Thy mimic soul, O nymph endear'd,
 Can well recall what then it heard!
 Where is thy native simple heart,
 Devote to virtue, fancy, art?
 Arise, as in that elder time,
 Warm, energetic, chaste sublime!
 Thy wonders, in that god-like age,
 Fill thy recording sister's page.

'Tis said, and O believe the tale,
 Thy humbled reed could more prevail,
 Had more of strength, diviner rage,
 Than all which charms this laggard age;
 Even all at once together found,
 Æolia's mingled world of sound.
 O bid our vain endeavours cease,
 Revive the just designs of GREECE,
 Return, in all thy simple state,
 CONFIRM THE TALES HER SONS RELATE!

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE.

Why draw Marseilles' good bishop purer breath,
 When nature sicken'd, and each gale was death?

SIR,

Dec 10.

WHEN I have been reading in Mr. Pope's Essay on Man the above lines, till very lately, that I met with the following letter, I was not well enough acquainted with the history of this pious prelate, to see the reason for the poet's choice of him, as a person of so signal a piety, as to have seem'd to have been exempted from the malign influence of an air so putrid, that *each gale* thereof *was death*.

As other readers of that essay may possibly be desirous of seeing something relating to him, I send it to you, that, if you think fit, your Magazine may be a repository of an epistle which displays a character so worthy of imitation. I am, Sir, your constant reader,

O. S. T.

THE BISHOP OF MARSEILLES'S LETTER TO THE BISHOP OF SOISSONS, SEPT. 27, 1720,
 N. S. WHEN THE PLAGUE RAGED AT MARSEILLES.

'I wish, my lord, I were as eloquent, as you are full of zeal and charity, to testify my grateful acknowledgment of your liberality, and the charities you have procured us; but, in our present consternation, we are not in a condition to express any other sentiment than that of grief. Your alms came at a very seasonable time: for I was reduced almost to the last penny. I am labouring to get money for two bills for 1000 livres, which the bishop of Frejus was pleased to send us, and six more of Mr. Fontanieu, though just upon the decay of the bills of 1000 livres, they are not very current; yet I hope I shall succeed. You, my lord, have prevented these difficulties, and we are doubly obliged to you for it. Might I presume to beg the favour of you to thank, in my name, Cardinal de Rohan, M. and Madam de Dangeau, and the curate of St. Sulpice, for their charities.

'It is just I now give you some account of a desolate town you was pleased to succour. Never was desolation greater, nor ever was any like this. There have been many cruel plagues, but none was ever more cruel: to be sick and dead was almost the same thing. As soon as the distemper gets into a house, it never leaves it till it has

swept all the inhabitants one after another. The fright and consternation are so extremely great, that the sick are abandoned by their own relations, and cast out of their houses into the streets, upon quilts or straw beds, amongst the dead bodies which lie there for want of people to inter them. What a melancholy spectacle have we on all sides! We go into the streets full of dead bodies half rotten, through which we pass to come to a dying body, to excite him to an act of contrition, and give him absolution. For above forty days together, the blessed sacrament was carried every where to all the sick, and the extreme unction was given them with a zeal of which we have few examples. But the churches being infected with the stench of the dead flung at the doors, we were obliged to leave off, and be content with confessing the poor people. At present I have no more confessors; the pretended corrupters of the morality of Jesus Christ (the jesuits) without any obligation, have sacrificed themselves, and given their lives for their brethren; whilst the gentlemen of the severe morality (the jansenists) are all flown, and have secured themselves, notwithstanding the obligations their benefices imposed on them; and nothing can recall them, nor ferret them out of their houses. The two communities of the jesuits are quite disabled, to the reserve of one old man of 74 years, who still goes about night and day, and visits the hospitals. One more is just come from Lyons purposely to hear the confessions of the infected, whose zeal does not savour much of the pretended laxity. I have had twenty-four capuchins dead, and fourteen sick, but I am in expectation of more. Seven recollects, as many cordeliers, five or six carms, and several minims, are dead, and all the best of the clergy, both secular and regular, which grievously afflicts me. I stand in need of prayers, to enable me to support all the crosses that almost oppress me. At last the plague has got into my palace, and within seven days I lost my steward, who accompanied me in the streets, two servants, two chairmen, and my confessor; my secretary, and another, lie sick, so that they have obliged me to quit my palace, and retire to the first president, who was so kind as to lend me his house. We are destitute of all succour; we have no meat; and whatsoever I could do, going all about the town, I could not meet with any that would undertake to distribute broth to the poor that were in want. The doctors of Montpellier, who came hither three or four days ago, are frightened at the horrid stench of the streets, and refuse to visit the sick till the dead bodies are removed, and the streets cleansed. They had been much more surprized had they come a fortnight sooner: then nothing but frightful dead bodies were seen on all sides, and there was no stirring without vinegar at our noses, though that could not hinder our perceiving the filthy stench of them. I had 200 dead bodies that lay rotting under my windows for the space of eight days, and but for the authority of the first president they had remained there much longer. At present things are much changed; I made my round about the town, and found but few; but a prodigious number of quilts and blankets, and of all sorts of

the richest clothes, which people would touch no more, and are going to burn. There are actually in the streets to the amount of 200,000 livres. The disorder and confusion has hitherto been extremely great, but all our hopes are in the great care of the chevalier de Langeron, governor of the town. He has already caused some shops to be opened. The change of the governor, and of the season, by the grace of God, will be advantageous. Had we not affected to deceive the public, by assuring them that the evil which reigned was not the plague; and had we buried the dead bodies which lay a whole fortnight in the streets, I believe the mortality had ceased, and we should have had nothing to do but provide against the extreme misery which necessarily must be the sequel of this calamity.

'You cannot imagine the horror which we have seen, nor can any believe it that has not seen it; my little courage has often almost failed me. May it please Almighty God to let us soon see an end of it. There is a great diminution of the mortality; and those that hold that the moon contributes to all this, are of opinion, that we owe this diminution to the decline of the moon; and that we shall have reason to fear when it comes to the full. For my part, I am convinced, we owe all to the mercies of God, from whom alone we must hope for relief in the deplorable condition we have been in so long a while. I am, &c.

HENRY,
BISHOP OF MARSEILLES.

ORIGIN AND HISTORY
OF
PROMISSORY NOTES AND PAPER CREDIT.

[CONCLUDED FROM PAGE 185.]

THUS the trade of the Goldsmiths grew and flourished till the year 1667, when an alarm taking place in consequence of the Dutch sailing up the Thames, and burning some ships at Chatham, a run was made on the Goldsmiths, and their credit was shaken. They seem, however, to have been recovering from that blow, when Charles the II. in 1671-2, took the violent measure of shutting up the Exchequer, and impounding there between thirteen and fourteen hundred thousand pounds of their principal money, beside the current interest due upon it.

Previous to this period, their prosperity was so increasing, and money came so fast into their hands, that they were perpetually employed in devising new modes of disposing it to advantage, without being under the necessity of having recourse to their own Paper-credit to support their trade. But the shutting of the Exchequer threw the whole commerce of the City into confusion, and made extraordinary expedients necessary to sustain every part of the system.

It is just about this time * that we find the Goldsmiths to have first issued their *promissory notes*. This date of their first introduction seems to be pretty clearly ascertained.

The success which attended the adoption of *promissory notes*, one of the projects urged in vain during the period of the Commonwealth, seems to have suggested the notion of reducing others also, connected with that, into practice. Accordingly, in 1683, the scheme of a general Bank supported by a numerous association of subscribers, (a scheme which had been proposed in different shapes under Cromwell) was revived by Dr. Chamberlain and Mr. Robert Murray, who had lately established the Penny Post. Though this scheme of a Bank did not take effect, yet it probably gave the hint of the Bank of England, erected by other more fortunate projectors about eleven years after.

This formation and establishment of the Bank of England in 1694 is the great epoch in the history of Paper-credit; and here we have, on the authority of Parliament, some material evidence applying to our immediate object. In the Act of Incorporation, there is a clause which plainly indicates the true birth and parentage of *promissory notes* as derived from the *bills of debt*, or *bills obligatory*, of former times. The original *Bank Notes* were actually sealed bills, and bore an interest of two-pence by the day for every hundred pounds.

The establishment of the Bank of England gave a new spring to the minds of projectors; and among other plans soon after published, was one for promoting the circulation of notes of hand and letters of credit. This plan did not take effect; but the circulation gained ground. Soon afterwards this sort of paper credit had the sanction of the state. In 1696 Exchequer bills were first issued. In the mean time, however, the Common Law had made a powerful stand against the notes of the Goldsmiths; especially against the legal operations which their inventors and patrons endeavoured to give them. It was attempted to assimilate them to bills of Exchange, and to bring actions upon them in the same manner, under the custom of merchants.

In the second year of William and Mary, a case arose upon one of these bills, when the Jury found a verdict against one Coggs, a Goldsmith, on his promissory note; but upon motion in arrest of judgment it was ruled that such notes were not bills of exchange. It would be to no purpose to mention every case in which the Goldsmiths were defendants on their promissory notes. The Court of Common Pleas seemed at one time much inclined to favour these notes as a great convenience to trade; but the Court of King's Bench was strenuous in opposing them. It was in the first year of Queen Anne, that the doctrine was there settled on various points in different cases. A variety of actions on these notes were established in the Court of Common Pleas, and the judgment reversed by writ of Error in the King's Bench. But the merchants still persisted; and, in 1703, judgment in a case being postponed, Chief Justice Holt at length declared that he had been informed by *two of the most famous merchants in London* that it was very frequent with them to take such notes, that they

* About 1670.

locked upon them as bills of exchange, and that they had been used for a matter of thirty years; and that not only *notes*, but *bonds* for money, were transferred frequently, and indorsed as bills of exchange.' He nevertheless continued firm in the conscientious discharge of his duty against the Law-merchant; and the merchants were foiled in all their attempts. Nothing therefore remained, but that resource, which Malines tells us was the wish of many good Lawyers, as well as merchants, in his days.—'An Act of Parliament to establish this course in England.' Accordingly, in the fourth year of Queen Anne, a law passed making all promissory notes recoverable by action 'in the same manner as inland bills of exchange drawn according to the custom of merchants.' In consequence, *bills obligatory* under the seal of the Bank of England, and under the seals of individuals, disappeared together; all men substituted *notes of hand*, which were of rather more accurate spelling and terser phraseology: and 'I promise to pay' universally succeeded to 'memorandum that I owe.' But the time of future payment continued to keep its station for many years in the body of the note; and placing it in the beginning of the sentence, in the present form, seems to be of very late date.

On looking back there is much in this little historical outline to arrest and occupy a contemplative mind. What was recommended in vain as a public benefit to the Grandfather (for to King James was the work or Malines dedicated) was at last the lucky consequence of an arbitrary act, to which the Grandson was driven by his prodigality: and the system of Paper-credit, which thus had its origin in the bad faith of the last Protestant King of the House of Stuart, when after the revolution it had acquired strength, solidity, and body, from the establishment of the Bank of England, became a main prop and pillar of the settlement by which the immediate heirs of the House of Stuart were excluded for ever from the throne.

Much ability and talent have been employed to point out the disadvantages resulting from the extension of the system of Paper-credit. But without entering into a controversy on the subject, it cannot be denied that we have witnessed, and still witness, the most happy effects in the public prosperity. The whole real and imaginary opulence of the nation is brought to bear effectively on commerce, like the capital of one firm. Even vices, the most selfish, are made to co-operate for the good of the Commonwealth. Avarice itself becomes liberal in parsimony and accumulation; and while, by trusting the custody of its hoards to the Banker, it escapes half the torments which are its immediate and natural punishment in the eternal order of things, it furnishes funds for the advances of the manufacturer, the adventures of the merchant, and the vast operations of the statesman to maintain or extend the happiness, power, and glory, of his country. Perhaps the pre-eminence of England among the States of Europe at this hour, compared with her subordinate rank then, even after the glorious reign of Elizabeth, is more to be attributed to the force of her public credit under this system, which commands the great military powers on the Continent, than to the native strength of her own arms.

EXCERPTA ET COLLECTANEA.

—HEC SPARSA COEGL.

DISCOVERY OF CONCEALED MURDER.

THE following singular anecdote was found among the papers of a relation lately deceased, by a correspondent, who has favoured us with it for insertion.

'In the year 1668, a young gentleman of the West-country came to London, and soon after, as ill luck would have it, he wedded a wife of Wapping, the youngest daughter of Mrs. Aliceald. In the space of fifteen months, the providence of God sent the husband a daughter, which was left under the care of the grandmother, the husband and his wife retiring to their house in the country. By the time the daughter came to the age of six years, the grandmother died, and the daughter was taken home. After a stay of about three years, Mrs. Myltystre, a widow, Mrs. Aliceald's eldest daughter, having greatly increased her means, forsook the canaille and low inhabitants of Wapping, came into a polite part of the town, took a house amongst people of quality, and set up for a woman of fashion. Thither, in the year 1679, did she invite her sister, her daughter, and the husband, to come and pass the winter. This Mrs. Myltystre had a husband's brother, who, under the cloak of a Captain, covered a most notorious gamester; she had also a relation that was an apothecary. It happened that these all dined together at Mrs. Myltystre's, on a certain day, the birth-day of the daughter; and after dinner, retiring into the parlour, and passing the time in common chit-chat, the little daughter took up a sword that was in the room, and pointing it directly to the husband, cried, 'Stick him, stick him, stick him!' 'What,' says the husband, 'would you stick your father?' The child replied, 'You are not my father!—Captain Myltystre is my father!'—Upon which the husband gave her a good box on the ear. Upon that, the Captain drew the sword, and thrust it through his body.—Down he dropped, and the wife, sister, and apothecary, in order to make sure work, all of them trampled upon him till he was quite dead. They huddled up this horrid affair, and buried him privately; and it was given out that he was gone into the country. Some time after, a relation of the murdered came to see him, and was told, that he was gone into the country. He then asked for the wife: Mrs. Myltystre told him, she was very much out of sorts—what with the grief for her husband's absence, and the melancholy accident of the house being lately burnt; but, says she, I do what I can to comfort her—I intend to give my brother 2000 or 3000*l.* to enable him to rebuild his house. The relation applauded her kindness, and so departed. Some time passed away; no appearance, no tidings of Mr. Stobbine, for that was his name. Messengers were sent to enquire after him—Not the least intelligence could be procured concerning him—He had never come into the West. The

wife pretended to go distracted, and was sent to a village a few miles out of town, where the Captain had a little box for his convenience. There they took their full swing uninterrupted. Some time after the daughter was sent to school; but she had not been there long, before the remembrance of what she had been a witness of awoke her conscience in most horrid and frightful dreams. Says the young lady, that was her bed-fellow, 'What is the reason that you start and scream so?' 'There's a spirit in the room!—there's Mr. Stobbine's spirit!—See how dreadful it looks!'—In the morning, the young lady acquainted the school-mistress with the accident of the preceding night. She sent for a clergyman to talk with the young Miss, to whom she discovered the whole affair. It was communicated to a diligent justice of the peace in the neighbourhood, who dispatched proper warrants, and he soon had the parties concerned in his power, who were all brought before him, without any knowledge of one another's being taken up, till they all met together, in the greatest confusion and dismay, which evidenced their guilt. They were committed to the Gatehouse, and brought the next sessions to the Old Bailey, tried and condemned upon the evidence of the child, to the entire satisfaction of the court and country, and all present. The Captain was condemned to the gibbet; Mrs. Myltystre was hanged; and thrown into the gully-hole, to rot, near the house in Wapping, where she had formerly lived; the apothecary was anatomized; and the wife was strangled and burnt, according to custom in such like cases. They were attended at Tyburn by an Irish Priest of the Romish Church, called Mac-Arthy, who gave them absolution, and they all died negative.

*FATAL PESTILENCE IN THE AIR,
IN THE REIGN OF HENRY III.*

[FROM A SCARCE OLD CHRONICLE.]

THE 13th day of March (says an ancient record from which this account is taken) the newe moone was seene, where the change by nature should not have beene tyll the 16th day following, and for the space of 15 days that then next ensued, the sunne, the moone, and starres, appeared of a red colour. And herewith the whole face of the earth seemed as it had been shadowed with a thicke myst, or smoke, the winde notwithstanding remaining north and north east. And herewith began a sore drought, continuing a long time, the which, together with morning frosts, and northerly windes, destroyed he frutes and other growing things, which were blasted in such wise, that although, at the first, it was a very forward yeare, and great plentie towards of corne and fruite, yet by the meanes aforesaid, the same was greatly hindered, and specially in the summer season, which the sunne's heat increased, and the drought still continued. The residue of suche frutes as then remaind, withered away, so that scarce a tenth part was left, and yet there was indifferent store. For if the abundaunce which the blossomes promised had come for-

warde, the trees had not been able to have borne the same. The grasse was so burned up in pastures and meadowes, that if a man took up some of it in his hands, and rubbed the same never so little, it straight fell to poulder, and so cattle were readie to starve for lacke of meate: and because of the exceeding hote nightes, there was such an abundaunce of fleas, flies, and guattes, that people were vexed, and brought in case to be weary of their lives. And herewith chaunced many diseases, as sweates, agues, and others. And in the harvest tyme there fell a great death or murreyn amongst cattel, and specially in Norfolke, in the fennes, and other partes of the south. The infection was such, that dogs and ravens feeding on the dead carrynes, swelled straight wayes and dyed, so that the people durst eate no bief, least the flesh happely might be infected.

Also this was noted, not without great wonder, that young heyfers and bullockes followed the mylche kine, and as it had been calves sucked the same kine. Also apple-trees and peare-trees, now after the tyme of yeelding their ripe fruite, began againe to blossome, as if it had beene in Aprill. The cause of the death of cattel was thought to come hereof. After so great a drought, which continued from Aprill to July, when there followed plentie of raine, the earth began to yelde her encrease most plenteously, though not so wholesome as usual: and the cattel, which before were hunger-starven, fed now so greedily of thys new grasse, sprung up in an undue season, that they were suddenly puffed up with fleshe, and such unnatural humours, as bredde infectious amongst them, whereof they dyed.

REMARKABLE ROBBERY.

DURING the course of that war, which was terminated by the peace of Utrecht, the French supplied their armies in Italy, chiefly by remittances by way of Geneva; where some eminent merchants had undertaken the affair, and used frequently to send very large sums in specie, passing along the side of the lake, through Switzerland, to the republic of the Valais, from whence they crossed over Mount Sampion, and so at once got into the duchy of Milau. As these countries are perfectly free from all danger of robbers, and the Chablais, and those parts of Savoy which bordered on the lake and the Valais, were in the hands of the French, they were under no sort of apprehension of any danger; and the escort that guarded the money was very small and weak. However, some Savoyard gentlemen, urged to it by their necessities (their country being totally ruined, and in the hands of the French) and who, besides, by means of their frequent intercourse with Geneva, were extremely well acquainted with the manner in which, and the times when, these convoys of money set out, laid a scheme for seizing one of them. They first provided themselves with commissions from the Duke of Savoy, Victor Amadeus, afterwards King of Sardinia, their sovereign, as officers sent on party; after which, having informed themselves exactly of the time of the convoy's departure from Geneva, they privately assembled at Thonon and Evian, towns on the

Savoy side of the lake, and, crossing it in boats, contrived to meet the convoy just as it was upon French ground; for on that side of the lake, the different territories of France, Berne, and Geneva, are so intermixed, that in the space of a few miles, you go a little way on Geneva land, then on French, then on Swiss, then on French again, and once more on Geneva, and then at last on Swiss territory. The place where they stopped the convoy is near Seligny, a district belonging to Geneva, where the French land comes down close to the sides of the lake, and is separated from that of Berne by a little brook; which as soon as the convoy had passed, they attacked it, and made themselves masters of it without difficulty, and without bloodshed, except that of the horses and mules, every one of which they killed upon the very spot, in order to ascertain the scene of action, and prove that it was not committed in the jurisdiction of the canton of Berne. After which they shared the money (which, it is said, amounted to 50 or 60,000 louis d'ors) by hatfuls, measuring it out in that manner: then, embarking on board of their boats, they retired to Geneva, which, being a neutral town, had no time to interfere with their having (authorised by commission from their own lawful sovereign) attacked a convoy, going to his enemies, in the enemies country; and the Geneva merchants had the sensible mortification of seeing the Savoyards make a figure, and live jollily, before their faces, with their money, and they unable to help themselves, and forced to be quiet.

INTREPIDITY OF BRITISH SAILORS.

THE following is an extract from the letter of an officer who was present at the late reduction of the French Island of Martinique. 'As soon as we were all safely disembarked at Cas Navire, our engineers were immediately set to work in raising batteries, as well to establish our footing on the island, as to cover us in our approaches to dislodge the enemy from their posts. For this purpose, all the cannon, and other warlike stores, were landed as soon possible, and dragged by the Jacks to any point thought proper. You may fancy you know the spirits of these fellows, but to see them in action exceeds any idea that can be formed of them. An hundred or two of them, with ropes and pullies, will do more than all your dray-horses in London: let but their tackle hold, and they will draw you a cannon or mortar, on its proper carriages, up to any height, though the weight be ever so great. It is droil enough to see them tugging along with a good heavy twenty-four pounder at their heels. On they go, huzzaing and hollowing, sometimes up hill, sometimes down hill, now sticking fast in the brakes, presently foundering in the mire, swearing, blasting, damning, sinking, and as careless of every thing but the matter committed to their charge, as if death and danger had nothing to do with them. We had a thousand of these brave fellows sent to our assistance by the Admiral, and the service they did us, both on shore and on the water, is incredible.'

REVIEW
OF
NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Travels in the Year 1792, through France, Turkey, and Hungary, to Vienna, concluding with an Account of that City. In a Series of Letters, to a Lady in England. By William Hunter, Esq. 8vo. pages 451. B. and J. White.

[CONCLUDED FROM OUR LAST.]

IN our last Number we introduced our Readers to Mr. Hunter as a pleasing and elegant Writer, and we proceed with pleasure to give a farther account of his Travels. While in Constantinople he visited the Hippodrome, the description of which we shall give in his own words.

‘ The first place we were conducted to, was the Hippodrome, where horse races and other amusements of the same nature were formerly exhibited. The Turks have indeed reserved it for similar purposes, and are very dexterous in the management of their horses, which are surprisingly fleet.—Here it is they also frequently practise throwing the jirid, which is one of their favourite diversions, and at which they are astonishingly expert.—But the Hippodrome is stripped of all that magnificence and splendour with which the Greek Emperor adorned it, and is now nothing more than a large irregular square, inclosed with irregular buildings. Near its centre there is an obelisk of porphyry, which is in a perfect state, and, although very lofty, is of one stone. The four sides of it are covered with hieroglyphics, which is perhaps a proof that it is of Egyptian workmanship. It rests on four brazen balls, supported by a well-proportioned pedestal, on which there are various bass-reliefs, and inscriptions, both in Greek and Latin, mentioning, that it was restored by Theodosius to its present condition.

‘ At a small distance from this obelisk, there is another, which, from its mutilated appearance, bears the marks of very remote antiquity. It is composed of several pieces of stone, and, from the numerous holes in its surface, it is evident, that it was formerly covered with plates of bronze or some other metal.

‘ The famous brazen triple serpent, of which Mahomet II. broke one of the heads, when he triumphantly entered the city, still continues to attract strangers to the Hippodrome, and to remind them of the foolish arrogance of that haughty despot.—Exasperated at the long and vigorous defence that had been made, he regarded this inoffensive serpent as a tallian, which had inspired resistance to his arms, and, for such a length of time, rendered his efforts ineffectual. When it was in his power, he accordingly took this impotent revenge.—This remarkable pillar is very ancient, and is said to have been brought from Delphi, where it served to support the celebrated tripod of gold, which the Greeks, after the battle of Platæa, consecrated to Apollo.’

Mr. Hunter might have added more of the history of this tripod. It was the workmanship of one of the first artists of Greece, and remained in the Temple of Apollo, at Delphi, till the conquest of that place by the Romans, when it was carried to Rome, and placed in the Forum; from whence it was transferred to its present situation, upon the removal of the seat of empire to Byzantium by Constantine the Great.

Of the benevolence of our Author’s sentiments and the misery of the Turkish Peasantry, the following passage, from a letter dated Galatz, on the Danube, affords a specimen.

‘ During the war (between the Russians and Turks) this unfortunate country was completely drained of its wealth by the Pacha and other people in power ; and the contributions which were levied on these miserable villages were altogether astonishing. One in particular, called Cajamari, where there are only eight hovels, and where the majority of the inhabitants have only a coarse shirt to veil their nakedness, paid, annually, one thousand piastres. Who can listen to a tale of such villainy and distress, without giving way to the emotions of indignation and horror?—Let us not, therefore, attribute that savageness of character, which I have already remarked, to any natural defect of disposition, but rather to the unrelenting cruelty and oppression of their insolent rulers : for human nature, when harassed by continual aggravation, loses, by degrees, all its mildness and benevolence, and necessarily engenders the seeds of distrust and revenge.—Though frequently crushed to submission, the innate love of liberty still exists, and the delusive persuasions of hope will, at intervals, rouse it to activity.—Anxious for redress, and panting, with eagerness, for emancipation, if an opportune moment arrive, whilst the transitory flame of irritated passions animates the breast, we are not to be surprized, if it endeavour to assert its rights, and to retaliate those injuries by which it has been aggrieved.’

The following observations on the condition of the female sex in Turkey entitle Mr. H. in our opinion, to the thanks of all his fair country-women.

‘ With regard to the women, you must depend on the accounts of others, as no man, but he to whom they belong, is ever permitted to see them.—As, however, I have mentioned them, I shall beg leave to add, that my ideas of their happiness are totally opposite to those of a justly celebrated female writer ; and, I think, that by a reference to the strongest principles of our nature, the force and propriety of my opinion may be easily established.

‘ In a country where a plurality of wives is authorized by law, and where one man, in addition to this licence, is also permitted, without any breach of the morality which he has been taught, to immure in his haram as many female slaves as his purse can purchase, the sex must infallibly be tyrannised over, and degraded. It is deprived of its natural rights. It is denied its natural protection. It is forbidden the chaste enjoyments of reciprocal friendship and love. It is robbed of its dignity and its honour, which are its brightest attractions. It is compelled to pay obedience to a wretch whom it despises, and, whilst it despises, to submit itself to the gratification of his lust. Can any thing be more unjust ? Can any thing be more horrible ?—Are these the suggestions, the dictates of Nature ?—No !—They are an abandoned perversion of her purest, her most valuable sentiments.—They are a shameless, insulting tyranny, achieved by the powerful and strong over the weak and helpless : and, whatever is so wide, so revolting a deviation from those propensities and principles, which Nature has, with her own hand, in distinct and indelible characters, written in our hearts, cannot possibly be productive of any thing but hatred, discontent, and misery.’

We could wish to add other extracts from this very pleasing volume, did our limits allow. We cannot, however, conclude without strongly recommending it to the perusal of all those who in Books of Travels wish to mingle instruction with delight.

Donald Bane ; an Heroic Poem. In three Books. By George Skene, Esq. pages 111. 8vo. 2s. 6d. Robinsons.

MR. Skene, in a short Preface to this Poem, informs us, that it is founded upon the *remembrance* of an old historical manuscript, preserved at the family seat of Mr. Skene, of Skene : a gentleman certainly of a very ancient family in the county of Aberdeen. We are not enabled to judge of the authenticity

of the manuscript; but the power and independence of the Lord of the Western Isles of Scotland, and his frequent invasions of that kingdom, render the subject probable. Those who doubt or deny the historical accuracy of this work, may yet read it with pleasure. The verse is Miltonic; and the unrelenting spirit and brutal courage of Donald is well preserved, and highly coloured. When furiously pursuing the Scotch army, the spirit of one of his slaughtered chieftains seems to arrest his progress, and fix him in a trance of terror:

‘ The broad-back’d hero then, to rouse his lord,
Thus bellow’d in his ear: “ Awake! awake!
The Scot approaches.” Starting from his dream,
As when the lion from his tawny mane
Off shakes the drowsy mood, and dreadful roars,
Donald aroused, with voice indignant, thus,
Loud as a brazen trumpet, shook the vault
Of heaven, and all the mountains echoed round:
“ Avaunt, ignoble shade!--I am resolved
To die with glory!--What is life with shame?”
Then with redoubled wrath he stalks, inflamed,
To battle, frowning like a thunder sky.
-----His tartans all were torn.
His arms -----
Up to the shoulder naked, smok’d in blood.’-----

We could produce various instances of the sublime in the description of this tremendous chieftain, but they would too much extend this article. There are not wanting passages of a religious nature in this poem, as in the beginning of the second book, where the stream of *justice*, springing from heaven, wanders and is polluted on the earth, but, returning to heaven, pours itself into the lake of *mercy*, beside the throne of God,

‘ Wherein the seraphims may bathe unsoiled,
‘ And view undazzled the Creator’s form.’

In the conduct of the loves of Flora and Pitfour we frequently meet with pathetic passages, as when the lover supports his mistress above the raging waters; and though nearly drowned, and his utterance choked, his voice bubbling through the wave, is heard tenderly to pronounce her name. The Author seems to possess a manly genius for the epic that bids fair for distinction.

A Treatise on the Police of the Metropolis: containing a Detail of the various Crimes and Misdemeanors by which public and private Property and Security are, at present, injured and endangered; and suggesting Remedies for their Prevention. By a Magistrate acting for the Counties of Middlesex, Surrey, Kent and Essex, &c. 8vo. 7s. 6d. Dilly.

WEALTH, luxury, and refinement, in large cities, multiply crimes by multiplying artificial wants, and presenting a thousand temptations, as well as a thousand modes, to the profligate and abandoned, of eluding detection and punishment. The corruption and vast population of ancient Rome seemed, in the mind of one of her historians, (Sallust) to have been coupled together by a natural association, and to have been considered, in some measure, as synonymous ideas. Solitude, by affording opportunity for reflection, and giving leisure to the conscience to act its part, often keeps men from vice, and is very favourable to the influence of religion and moral rectitude. In cities, men are hurried out of themselves by the din and bustle of business and dissipation, and are regardless, or frequently altogether forget the rebuke of the monitor within their breast. Hence the origin, or at least one chief source, of the vices existing in great capitals.

The very curious and important volume now before us proves at once the immense extent and deep corruption of the City of London; both, indeed, far

surpassing what we had conceived on the subject. The facts brought to light by this worthy and public spirited Magistrate (whom we understand to be Mr Colquhoun) are many and alarming, not only to the citizen who is concerned for the common welfare, but to every father of a family, and every individual who regards the welfare of his own relations and connections. In perusing this valuable work, we are struck with the great connection there is between vice and misery. Many parts of it inculcate, in the strongest and most impressive manner, the necessity of industry, self-command, and circumspection to human happiness; and in this respect it is preferable to volumes of sermons. But it would be an endless task, and not within our limits, to point out the various reflections it must produce in the moralist, the politician, and the man of business.

From a fair and candid estimate, our author supposes that the unhappy class of mortals who support themselves in and near the metropolis by pursuits either criminal, illegal, or immoral, amounts to no less than one hundred and fifteen thousand! and that the amount of the robberies annually committed on the public exceeds two millions of money! *O ye Legislators, here is room for Contemplation even to madness!*

The Peeper; a Collection of Essays, Moral, Biographical, and Literary. 8vo. pages 347. price 4s. boards.

THIS Collection of Essays comes from the pen of Dr. Watkins, and will do no discredit to the Author's literary reputation. He does, indeed, himself speak of his performance in the most modest terms, as being 'the very humblest of its kind, and submitted to the candour of a discerning public, with no other pretension than an earnest desire to serve the interests of Virtue.' This important purpose, we are happy to say, the Peeper is admirably calculated to advance. In chaste and correct language, by just and impressive arguments, and by appropriate and well-drawn characters, the moralist endeavours to make virtue and religion peculiarly amiable, and endearing to his young readers. In some places he is solemn, but never fanatical; in others he is lively, but not flippant or impetuous; and frequently he is argumentative, but never pedantic. He censures with just but strong severity the desolating schemes of our political reformists; and ridicules with admirable irony the too-prevalent custom of corrupting our language by the introduction of foreign words and phrases.

The biographical articles, which give great relief to the work, are novel and curious, particularly the lives of the eccentric John Henderson of Oxford, and the learned Samuel Badcock of Devonshire.

Essays on some of Shakspeare's Dramatic Characters. To which is added, an Essay on the Faults of Shakspeare. The Fifth Edition. By William Richardson, M. A. F. R. S. Edin. Professor of Humanity in the University of Glasgow. page 401. price 6s. Murray and Hightley.

MR. Richardson's Essays contain a philosophical view of the nature and conduct of the human mind and heart, particularly violent emotion and passion; as these are happily and justly illustrated by that child of nature, Shakspeare. These Essays are replete with criticism worthy of attention; and form a happy contrast to the laborious inanity of Steevens, Malone, and others. "In the year 1774 was published, "A philosophical Analysis and Illustration of some of Shakspeare's Dramatic Characters." In the year 1784 were published, "Essays on Shakspeare's Dramatic Characters of Richard the Third, King Lear, and Timon of Athens;" to which were added, "An Essay on the Faults of Shakspeare, and additional Observations on the Character of Hamlet." Soon after were published, "Essays

on Shakspeare's Dramatic Character of Sir John Falstaff; and on his Imitation of Female Characters;" to which were added, "Some General Observations on the chief Objects of Criticism in the Works of Shakspeare."—These different performances are now collected into one volume, with one uniform title. They are commodiously arranged, and have received, in the present edition, such corrections and improvements as have occurred to the Author, and been suggested by his friends, in the course of several preceding editions. So that this publication is still more worthy of the favourable acceptance with which it has been honoured by the public.

This edition is dedicated (we doubt not by permission) to Mr. Graham, of Gartmore, lately Lord Rector of the University of Glasgow, and member of parliament for the county of Stirling. Mr. Graham is a man of letters, of an elegant and liberal mind, as well as fortune.

Utrum Horum? the Government or the Country? By D. O' Bryen. 8vo. pages 132. price 2s. Debrett.

A very spirited and elegant reply to the arguments of Mr. Burke in his Thoughts on the Prospect of a Regicide Peace, in which Mr. O'Bryen endeavours to prove, that an immediate Change of Administration, and a Peace with the French Republic, can alone save this country from ruin. By the term Government, in the title, Mr. O.B. wishes us to understand not the Constitution of England, but the present Administration.

The Rights of Nature, against the Usurpations of Establishments: a Series of Letters to the People of Britain, on the State of Public Affairs, and the recent Effusions of the Right Hon. Edmund Burke. By John Thelwall. Letter I. 8vo. pages 96. Price 2s. Symonds.

WERE we to estimate the importance of publications by the quantity of valuable information and just reasoning which they contain, and apportion the length of our criticism accordingly, short indeed would our account be of the performance before us. But works are not always *relatively* insignificant, in proportion to their *absolute* ignorance or stupidity. Writings and discourses, in *themselves* silly and contemptible, may do great mischief to those who are not able, from knowledge and habits of reasoning, to discover their ignorance, wickedness, and falsehood. We shall bestow on Mr. Thelwall's pamphlet an attention proportioned not to our opinion of its literary ability, but of its noxious design.

It must be obvious to every man conversant with mankind, that a very great degree of art is compatible with a very small degree of understanding. In artifice, the common Clerk of an Attorney could very easily outdo Charles Fox; and through Mr. Thelwall's declamatory ribaldry we may easily perceive the consistency of mischievous design, as will appear, from considering the jet of the work. Its object is to persuade the populace that they are in a very miserable state, and may expect to be in a worse, if they will not *rouse*. He sets out with much common-place cant, *intended* to make them fancy that they are *Slaves*, that *established Government* is *Usurpation*, and that nothing but a *total revolution* can restore them to what he calls their Rights. To stimulate them to set about this Revolution with speed and vigour, he speaks to their fears and hopes. From a metaphorical expression of Mr. Burke, about the cautery and knife, he pretends to infer that Government have a plan of superseding Trial by Jury, and substituting Military Massacre in its stead, and that Burke, knowing that intention, recommends its execution. We say, Mr. Thelwall pretends to infer that, because we cannot believe that he (who, though not a man of education or learning, does not appear to be a fool) really can have formed an opinion so totally inconsistent with common sense.

Having tried to excite the indignation of the populace by the view of present or intended evil, he next addresses himself to their hopes: he encourages the disaffected with an expectation of the approaching overthrow of the establishment.

‘ If this is not sufficient to open your eyes, the last trump alone can awaken you. If this is not sufficient to rouse you to fresh vigilance, fresh exertion, *closer intercourse*, and *intrepid unanimity*, ye are dead—ye are lost, not only ‘ in the oblivious pool,’ but

“ In bottomless perdition; there to dwell
“ In adamantine chains.”

Think, I conjure you:—what is the prospect held out to you? For yourselves—unqualified submission, or the prompt and destroying vengeance of some new mode of legalized massacre, or military execution:—for your children—the tombstones of progenitors, who, though born to a degree of freedom, which they were bound to improve, and had no right to alienate, yet relinquished the patrimony, with criminal supineness, and left to them, for their inheritance, beggary, and accumulating chains!

‘ Compare what ye are with what ye have a right to be. Compare your powers and your faculties with your condition: the bounty of nature with your scanty enjoyments, and unsatisfied wants; the wealth resulting from your productive labour, and the abject wretchedness of your general state.—Compare these things, and consider well the causes. Trace them to their sources, in the nature of some, and the corruptions of other, of those very institutions of the old Germanic, or Gothic customary, at the prospect of whose approaching overthrow, the volcanic imagination of Burke points out such deluges of flame and smoke. Contrast the gloomy intricacy of these oppressive systems—these antique temples of fraud and violence, with the simple plans of reason, and of nature; and learn what to avoid, and what to pursue.’

The means, proposed for effecting the desired overthrow, he details in another part of the pamphlet; and concisely generalizes to be unanimity and intrepidity in speaking in such an authoritative tone as shall overawe Government and its Head.

‘ Next to the abuse of Government, Irreligion and Blasphemy is the chief constituent of this work. Joseph Gerald, transported from Edinburgh to Botany Bay, is compared, in his merits and sufferings, to the Founder of our Religion and Author of our Salvation. Mr. Thelwall’s impious as well as other revolutionary doctrines, are second-hand from Thomas Paine. Among the lower classes of Jacobins, Paine has bred numbers both of democratical and deistical parrots:—Paine, bad as he is, is an original thinker, not a mere funnel of the noxious doctrines of others.

· If the design of Thelwall’s pamphlet be Tragedy, the execution is frequently Farce. He draws a modest parallel between himself and Socrates. Socrates, as he says, was the first Democratical Lecturer: an assertion from which the Classical Reader will probably suppose him to be as much acquainted with Socrates’s lectures, as he afterwards shews himself to be with his history. Socrates (he says) was put to death by a conspiracy of Lawyers acting for an Oligarchy. Had Mr. Thelwall read the history of that time, he would have seen that the Oligarchy (which, by the bye, arose from Democratic folly) had then ceased to exist; and that one of the first acts of the restored Democracy was the condemnation of Socrates; that his accusers were two lecturing Demagogues, and his judges five hundred of the populace. This was his opinion; this is the account given by Xenophon and Plato, his cotemporary Biogra-

phers, the wisest of his disciples, and the best acquainted with his history and opinions. From Socrates Xenophon first derived that dislike of Democracy, which his experience of its effects in Athens confirmed, and his writings in general, particularly his two treatises upon the polity of Athens and Sparta, manifest. Plato's Republic is anti-democratical, as it supposes, of three classes, one, by much the most numerous, to be mere rabble, totally unfit for military or political direction. We are sorry, on Mr. Thelwall's account, that we do not recollect who are the Translators of Xenophon and Plato into a language which he might understand, as the perusal of translations might prevent his falling into so very gross blunders.

Mr. Thelwall speaks of *plain Socratic reasoning*. From the epithet *plain*! applied to the reasoning of Socrates, we apprehend his knowledge of the subject to be similar to that which the sage Mrs. Weston has displayed in her lectures to Sophia. Mr. Thelwall dwells with much exultation on his acquittal. That sentence proved that the facts sworn to by the witnesses did not constitute the species of guilt charged in the indictment, and proved nothing more. The fertile invention of wickedness may devise modes of guilt not anticipated by legislating definers, and consequently, in a country governed by free laws, not the subject of judicial condemnation.

Mr. Thelwall throws out much abuse on Dr. Bisset's 'Sketch of Democracy,' which, in a former number, we recommended as an excellent antidote against democratical poison. We are not surprised, that a book, which, from irrefragable facts, exposes, in the true colour, mob government and seditious demagogues, should displease Mr. Thelwall. Mr. T. however, though angry is prudent: he does not attempt either to disprove the series of Dr. Bisset's narrative, or to impugn his reasoning: he rests himself contented with *railing*. The prudence of Mr. Thelwall, in not entering into a general disproof of the facts alleged by Dr. Bisset, is rendered more strikingly manifest by the only instance in which he particularly charges Dr. Bisset with misrepresentation—Doctor Bisset's account of the trial and death of Socrates. In that, Thelwall, without advancing any evidence to support his charges against Dr. Bisset, advances enough to be undoubted evidence that he himself is totally ignorant of the history and doctrines of Socrates, as we have shewn in a former part of this article. Dr. Bisset's narrative appears to us to be supported by the best and most authentic historians; but if it were not, we apprehend it would require more knowledge, than Mr. Thelwall shews himself to possess, to detect either error or misrepresentation in a subject of CLASSICAL HISTORY.

An Examination of the Principles of the French Revolution. By a late Dignitary of the Gallican Church. 8vo. pages 97. Price 3s. Cawthorn.

OF the very many and learned defences of a Monarchical Form of Government, which the French Revolution has produced, we regard this performance as one of the most complete. The author of it deduces all his arguments from first principles; and, with a very few exceptions, his modes of reasoning and his deductions are logical, forcible, and accurate. To enter into a regular review of the whole of his examination, would be impossible in the small space allotted to this part of our miscellany; we cannot, however, content ourselves without extracting the preliminary introduction, since it affords a general outline of the plan and intention of the work.

'In the long train of revolutions which form the history of empires, there is not one to be compared with the French. All others were only local and momentary shocks, the effect of which was confined to the transfer of power from one hand to another; or, at most, to a change of the form of a Govern-

ment. In it foreigners took no interest, any further than as they were connected with the leaders of one party or the other; and whatever was the issue, the agitations of one country shook not the constitution of other states.

The French Revolution hath taken, from its origin, a different character. Without grievances, without pretexts, without visible leaders, in the midst of a profound peace, and under a government the most mild, a nation hath been entirely convulsed by a sudden change of opinions. The most powerful monarchy in Europe hath given way to a philosophical system, the principles of which, being applicable to every people, menace every government. The plan of this astonishing revolution embraces the universe: all nations are invited to enjoy its blessings, or to partake of its disasters.

Hitherto this system hath not the suffrage of experience in its favour; and though it were certain that posterity would reap the fruits of the crimes and calamities of the present generation, their remote success would not absolve the innovators from the dreadful evils to which they have condemned us. The hope however of such happiness to come is forbidden: the revolution promises to our descendants only what it hath given to ourselves. The real state of France is the necessary consequence of its spirit and its principles; and whilst these principles and this spirit prevail, the laws will continue without force, the passions without controul, and property without ought to secure it. Wherever they penetrate, they will carry with them anarchy, plunder, and crimes.

That this important truth may be seen in its full light, I have undertaken to expose the spirit and principles of the French Revolution. There are throughout Europe, men of understanding, who detest the crimes of our revolution, but imputing them to accidental and local causes, are persuaded, that the principles, expressed in the declaration of the rights of man, contain nothing but what is conformable to nature and sound policy; that they have become unfortunate to France, only by the abuse arising from the volatility and thoughtlessness of the nation, and that other people might easily profit by our lights and our faults to stop in the precise point whence liberty degenerates into licentiousness.

To these superficial observers I will prove that the Revolution and all its horrors have flowed from the false notions and seditious maxims which the people have drawn from this famous declaration; that licentiousness and anarchy are not simple abuses, but the means and necessary consequences of the revolutionary system: that there can be no compounding with the French Revolution, which must either be received with all the disorders and all the crimes that have deluged France with blood; or that the destructive principles must be repelled, in favour of which their revolution has been established. I will go back to the ephemeral constitution of the first National Assembly, and conclude this Examination of the Principles of the Revolution, with a transient view of this republic, without constitution, without laws, without government, and which appears to maintain itself no longer than whilst, under a continued change of its forms, anarchy can persist in retaining the name.

Happy! if this weak effort may preserve from contagion those hospitable countries where I have found an asylum from persecution; if it might convince all who have a country, a family, property, that their happiness is inseparable from public tranquillity, the stability of government, submission to lawful authority, and, above all, respect for religion. More happy! if the French, at last disabused, after so long an error, might one day admit the doctrine and the sentiments transmitted by their fathers, and which for fourteen centuries, constituted the happiness and the glory of their nation.

The Examination, like the works of the most celebrated Writers on Government, is divided into chapters; each of which, under a separate

head, is treated of in a distinct series: for though the subject of each be different, yet every one is connected with those which precede.

In the course of our perusal, we have observed the author's obligations to different writers on the subject of Civil Polity, more particularly to Burlamaqui, Puffendorf, and Montesquieu; but their arguments are introduced with great care and judgment. We understand that the work was originally written in French, by a *ci-devant* French Prelate, and that the translation is from the pen of a distinguished literary character. It is dedicated to Mr. Windham, the Secretary at War, in a very modest manner, by the Editor. We cannot close the article without strongly recommending it as a powerful antidote to the democratic poison which has of late been so widely disseminated.

Abroad and at Home. A Comic Opera, in three Acts. Now performing at the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden. By J. G. Holman. 8vo. price 2s. Cawthorn.

MR. Holman, who has long been one of the most shining ornaments of the Drama as an Actor, has in this Opera commenced his career as a Writer, and with the most favourable omens of success. The intention of the piece is to point out the absurdity of education, either too much in the vortex of high life, or too far removed from it. The fashionable life of *young Flourish*, and the rustic ignorance of *young Testy*, eventually introduce them together in the same place—the King's Bench. The outline of the story is as follows:

'Sir Simon Flourish and Old Testy have a rich Ward (Miss Hartley), and it is mutually agreed between them, that she shall be married to either of their sons she may give the preference to. Young Flourish, to finish his education, is sent by his father *abroad* to visit the *different Courts of Europe*; but, from his attachment to fashionable follies, does not get farther from *home* than the verge of the *Court of King's Bench*, where, at the opening of the piece, he is supposed to be immured. Young Testy, on the contrary, is not suffered by his father to quit the country mansion in Yorkshire, till he is old enough to launch into life; and the first consequences of his ignorance are, his being duped out of his money by a sharper, and marrying an Abigail: while Miss Hartley, in the *dénouement*, is married to her Lover Harcourt.'

From these materials a very comic and interesting superstructure is raised; all the parts of which are correct and uniform. Or to drop the metaphor, the characters are drawn with discrimination and judgment, and the language is pointed and appropriate. The following scene we select as a specimen of the Author's comic talents.

'*Scene the King's Bench. Enter a Servant belonging to the Prison.*

Serv. Mr. Flourish, Sir, has sent you the book of travels he borrow'd; and says he will call on you presently.

Har. That good humour'd whimsical fellow, Flourish, is always welcome to me.

Serv. It is queer enough that his father, Sir Simon Flourish, should be humn'd so as to think he is going the Tour of Europe, when, all the while, he never got a step farther than St. George's Fields. [Exit.]

Har. Here he comes. [Young Flourish singing without.]

Over the hills and over the main,
Through Flanders, Italy, and Spain,
'Tis Fashion leads and we obey,
Over the hills and far away.

Enter in a shabby light coloured Coat, with black Breeches and Boots,
T. F. Ha! my boy, Harcourt, how are you?

Har. Why, Jack, what makes you booted?

Y. F. A man ought to be booted, when he's on a journey. A'n't I going the tour of Europe?

Har. Oh! I beg your pardon. I had forgot; but you don't seem furnish'd with a very elegant riding-dress—boots and black are not very correct—hey!

Y. F. The customs of countries differ; but to tell you the truth, so much travelling has made vast havock among my leather, and as for my black small clothes, I wear them as mourning for the demise of my last colour'd pair.

Har. But, my dear Jack, what can be the joke of your staying in this sad place?

Y. F. All the joke was in getting here. Staying is nor quite so comical.

Har. But, Jack, I must know what brought you here?

Y. F. Poll.

Har. Poll!—what Poll?

Y. F. Not know Poll? where the devil have you liv'd?—Not know Poll?—Why Poll is the rage—In Hyde Park every morning—rides the best horse—drives the best curricle—gives the best dinners—damme, the first Dutchess in the land envies Poll!

Har. I beg Poll's pardon for not knowing her.

Y. F. So you ought: for Poll's familiar and kind, she'd have no objection to knowing you. But the thing is, father said I shou'd be a Man of Fashion, and so I am, a'n't I?—Damme, you still look at my legs—well, black legs don't make me less a Man of Fashion.

Har. Oh! by no means.

Y. F. Well.—But about Poll—As I was to be a Man of Fashion, who so proper to make me one as Poll? Poll has made and unmade half the fine men of the day. I kept Poll when I was at school; Poll stuck to me at college; and when father fix'd I should travel, and see the world, who so fit to shew it me as Poll?

Har. Well, why did n't Poll shew it you?

Y. F. She did, she shew'd me here.

Har. But why not take her abroad with you?

Y. F. She would not go. Poll said she would do any thing but cross the water with me. And I could not find in my heart to go abroad without her. So I touch'd father's cash, and resolv'd to finish my education in my own country.

Har. Very patriotic; truly!

Y. F. Well, father went to Bath—I staid in town—the money flew—Poll knew how to dash it. When all was gone, it was natural enough to come here, you know.

Har. But how were you able to leave Poll?

Y. F. She did not trouble me to think about that: when the money was gone, Poll left me.

Har. So Poll would not follow your fortunes to the King's Bench!—How unkind!

Y. F. So I told her—“ Ah, Poll!” said I, “ 'tis damn'd ill-natur'd to leave me.”

Har. And what did she say?

Y. F. She only laugh'd and said,—“ She told me at first, she'd do any thing but cross the water with me.”

Har. You must throw yourself on your father's mercy at last, and the sooner you do it the better.

The piece, from its first representation at the Theatre, has been received with the greatest applause; and we cannot conclude, without strongly recommending it to the notice of every lover of the *truly comic*.

POETRY.

BEAUTY,

AN ODE.

BEAUTY, of celestial frame,
Smiling still, and still the same,
Ever fresh and blooming found,
Decks the wide creation round.

Let the quick aspiring eye
View her in the spangled sky,
View her when by night she plays,
Silver'd o'er with CYNTHIA'S rays.

See, in rosy garments drest,
How she beautifies the East,
And, on purple pinions borne,
Smiles auspicious on the morn.

View her in her ev'ry grace,
Painting earth's extended face,
Flow'ry meads, and silver rills,
Humble vales, and haughty hills.

When the winds are lull'd asleep,
View her on the azure deep:
When the sunny sky is clear,
See her charms in heav'n appear.

See her, in a summer's day,
Fann'd by zephyrs, frisk and play;
From each grove her songsters hear,
Warbling raptures to the ear.

View'd in nature's mighty whole,
Jove himself the quick'ning soul,
Charms below, around, above,
Raise our wonder, and our love.

But if all her charms you'd see
Join'd in one epitome;
If you'd gaze on ev'ry grace,
View a lovely female face:

There you'll find, and there alone,
Beauty smiling on her throne;
There her brightest glories shine,
All collected, all divine.

Tell me, youth, and tell me true,
Can you there her graces view?
Proof against them can you prove,
View, and yet forbear to love?

Love you must ; but tell me more,
 Can you view, and not adore ?
 Soon you'll feel the pleasing smart,
 Gently thrilling thro' your heart.

While the sweet infection flies,
 Swift as light'ning, from her eyes,
 Mixing anguish with your joy,
 She shall all your thoughts employ.

Eager to promote your bliss,
 You shall long to snatch a kiss,
 Snatch a kiss, and something still,
 All your wishes to fulfil.

While you bless the gentle flame,
 Pleas'd you'll own, the passion came
 Nor of ocean, earth, or air,
 But of Beauty's queen the Fair.

Edinburgb.

FLORIO.

WINTER,

AN ODE.

NO more the Morn, with tepid rays,
 Unfolds the flow'rs of various hue,
 Noon spreads no more the genial blaze,
 Nor gentle Eve distils the dew:

The ling'ring hours prolong the night,
 Usurping Darkness shares the day,
 Her mists restrain the force of light,
 And Phœbus holds a doubtful sway :

By gloomy twilight half-reveal'd,
 With sighs we view the hoary hill,
 The leafless wood, the naked field,
 The snow-topt cot, the frozen rill.

No music warbles thro' the grove,
 No vivid colours paint the plain,
 No more with devious steps I rove
 Thro' verdant paths now sought in vain !

Aloud the driving tempest roars,
 Congeal'd, impetuous show'rs descend,
 Haste, close the window, bar the doors,
 Fate leaves me Stella, and a fiend.

In Nature's aid let Art supply
 With light and heat, my little sphere;
 Rouse, rouse the fire, and pile it high,
 Light up a constellation here.

Let Music sound, the voice of joy !
 Or Mirth repeat the jocund tale ;
 Let Love his wanton wiles employ,
 And o'er the season wine prevail.

Yet time Life's dreary winter brings,
 When Mirth's gay tale shall please no more,
 Nor Music charm, tho' Stella sings,
 Nor Love nor Wine the Spring restore:
 Catch then, O! catch the transient hour,
 Improve each moment as it flies,
 Life's a short summer, man a flow'r,
 He dies! alas! how soon he dies!

SONNET,

ON SEEING JULIA GATHERING ROSES IN THE DEW.

FROM balmy sleep by restless fancy torn,
 As slow their devious path my steps pursue,
 Dark they were printed in the morning dew,
 That hung its trembling lustres on the thorn.
 Is it Aurora, breaking to adorn
 The misty landscape with her rosy hue?
 Ah! no, to Julia's beauty vibrates true
 This heart, and owns her brighter than the morn.
 Were ever lillies with the blushing rose
 So sweetly blended, as her fingers cull
 Now here, now there, each bud that opening blows,
 The various tinted nosegay to compose,
 With dews besprinkled, and of fragrance full;
 But mine its thorns, in added love and woes.

EPITAPH,

ON AN OLD FAVOURITE DOG.

HERE lies a pattern for the human race,
 A dog that did his work and knew his place:
 A trusty servant, to his master dear;
 A safe companion and friend sincere.
 In spite of bribes and threats severely just,
 He sought no pension, and he broke no trust.
 The midnight thief and strolling gypsy found
 That faithful *Sancho* watch'd the mansion round:
 Strange pigs and foxes, vermin, ev'ry foe,
 All felt how far his honest rage could go.
 To walk obsequious at his master's side
 Was trusty *Sancho's* pleasure, and his pride:
 No squire, than he, more zealous for his knight,
 By day to serve him, and to watch by night;
 By ways so various he was skill'd to please,
 That spleen and vapours soften'd into ease;
 The shame of two-legg'd mortals higher born,
 By worth superior he retorts their scorn:

Truth warm'd his breast, and love without disguise ;
 His heart was grateful, and his actions wise :
 In him, through life, all social virtues shone ;
 Blush, foolish man, by brutes to be outdone !
 —May no rude hands disturb his peaceful grave,
 Who us'd as nature taught, what nature gave ;
 For nature's gifts to use in nature's way,
 Is all the duty beast or man can pay.

D. S.

A SONG.

WHILST zephyr gently swells the sail,
 And odours breathe in every gale,
 Observe, my fair, how smooth the stream,
 How mild the sun's reflected beam,
 What various objects we descry,
 What pleasing scenes amuse the eye.
 In fortunes bark let others sail,
 Deluded by the flatt'ring gale,
 Or fondly seek the distant shore,
 To grasp the rich Peruvian ore :
 Nor wealth, nor fame should me beguile,
 Oh! would my fair Belinda smile.
 Wou'd she some tender pity show,
 The wand'ring streams should cease to flow,
 The fish no more in waters glide,
 Nor ships the swelling waves divide,
 Nor northward should the needle move,
 If e'er my heart forget to love.

D.

A SONG.

NOT the soft sighs of vernal gales,
 The fragrance of the flow'ry vales,
 The murmurs of the crystal rill,
 The vocal grove, the verdant hill ;
 Not all their charms, tho' all unite,
 Can touch my bosom with delight.
 Not all the gems on India's shore,
 Not all Peru's unbounded store,
 Not all the pow'r, nor all the fame,
 That heroes, kings, or poets claim,
 Nor knowledge, which the learn'd approve,
 To form one wish my soul can move.
 Yet nature's charms allure my eyes,
 And knowledge, wealth, and fame, I prize ;
 Fame, wealth, and knowledge, I obtain,
 Nor seek I nature's charms in vain :
 In lovely Stella all combine,
 And, lovely Stella! thou art mine.

REPORT
OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BRITISH PARLIAMENT.

THE FIRST SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12.

THEIR Lordships met at three o'clock, and by Commission under the Great Seal, gave the Royal Assent to the Indemnity Bill and the Three Million Exchequer Bill.

Lord Walsingham afterwards moved, that the House do adjourn to Monday the 28th inst. and their Lordships adjourned accordingly.

Monday, 28. Heard Counsel in the Scotch Appeal, Macdonald and Burt.

A Petition was presented from the Earl of Errol, praying, that the Order for the Meeting of the Committee of Privileges, to consider of the Petition from the Earl of Lauderdale, against the return of the said Earl of Errol as one of the sixteen Peers of Scotland, might be discharged, and that the Meeting of the said Committee might be fixed for the first Tuesday after the Christmas recess.

The Earl of Derby, on the part of the Earl of Lauderdale, said, that he acquiesced in the Prayer of the Petition; but that he hoped the House would then peremptorily proceed in the business. Ordered. Adjourned.

Tuesday, 29. In the Scotch Appeal, Alexander Macdonald, Appellant, Robert Burt, Respondent, the Decree of the Court of Session was reversed. Adjourned.

Thursday, Dec. 1. Lord Radnor attended, and took the oaths. After which two Petitions for Private Bills were presented by the Duke of Portland. Adjourned to Monday.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MONDAY, October 31. (Continued.)

MR. Fox was of opinion, that a mere declaration of the country being in danger, was not a sufficient reason for blindly subscribing to the measures of the very men, by whom the danger had been brought upon us. He looked upon it as extremely improper to put so many men under martial law, and officers of the Crown, without any of the safe-guards contained in the old Militia Acts, at a time when the building of barracks evinces a design of separating the soldiery from the people, and when gentlemen talk of making the latter deaf, if they cannot make the former dumb. Sir, said he, much as the term has been ridiculed, I declare myself an alarmist---I am alarmed at the state of the country--- I believe that there is a faction who wish and endeavour to increase the power of the Crown at the expence of the liberties of the people. With these feelings nothing but the necessity of risking every thing can reconcile me to the measures proposed.

After some further conversation between Messrs. Pitt, Fox, Sheridan, Curwen, and Sir James Pulteney---The House resolved itself into a Committee of the whole House, and a clause was proposed and agreed to, "That Counties, or Districts of Counties, where persons might choose to form themselves into Volunteer Corps, should be at liberty to do so, provided they should have been so associated before the day of the appointed ballot."

After the Bill was re-committed, the House was resumed, and the Report ordered to be received.---Adjourned.

Tuesday, November 1. A ballot took place for a Committee to decide on Mr. Tierney's petition, complaining of an undue election for the borough of Southwark; and also for a Committee on the Malmesbury petition.

The Report of the Committee on the Floating Debt being brought up, the resolutions were read, and agreed to, after a short conversation between Mr. Pitt and Mr. Fox.

The Report of the Militia Augmentation Bill, with the Amendment, was brought up by Mr. Hobart.

The Report of the Cavalry Bill being brought up, the Lord Mayor produced a clause for protecting the rights and immunities of the City of London against the operation of the Bill.

Mr. Pitt gave notice, that he should, on the morrow, bring in the Bill for embodying the game-keepers.

Wednesday 2. Five Members took the Oaths and their seats.

Mr. Abbott called the attention of the House to the present insufficient means of promulgating the Statute Laws, and moved for a Committee to devise a more effectual one. The motion was carried.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer moved the third reading of the Militia Augmentation Bill, and brought up a clause for making an allowance to the families of Militia men, during the twenty days of service.

The Order of the Day for receiving the Report of the Cavalry Bill being moved,

Gen. Tarleton compared the conduct of Ministers with that of our ancestors on similar occasions, thought an Invasion at this moment unlikely, and stated the amount of the force at present in England at 110,000 men, supported at an expence of 15 millions per annum.

Mr. Fox asked, why the present measures were not brought forward sooner, if the necessity existed at the opening of the sessions? It had occurred since, what were the new events that had given it birth? as to an Invasion, his opinion had been different at different times. In 1779 nobody apprehended an Invasion more --- In 1796 no body less. As to Ireland, indeed, he had greater apprehensions; but even there military measures were not likely to be the most effectual. An administration upon the principles of Lord Fitzwilliam's, and a real constitution given to the Irish, instead of a mockery of a Parliament, would be more advantageous, he doubted not, than sending thither an army of 20,000 men.

Mr. Ryder animadverted severely upon Mr. Fox's speech, which he called a complete collection of inflammatory topics.

Mr. Wilberforce joined Mr. Ryder in his condemnation of Mr. Fox's speech, and gave it as his opinion that Opposition would see, without regret, a small mischief befall their country, for the sake of a triumph over Ministers; and would even suffer something themselves for the purpose of involving them in a slight discredit.

This called up Mr. Sheridan:---A slight discredit, exclaimed he---Good God! is it possible that such language can be used by the boldest partizan of men who came here rather as culprits than ministers?---A slight discredit!---What discredit is now wanting to men disgraced and degraded, besmeared with blood, and dragged in the mire? It has been said that Mr. Fox's language was in all likelihood such as would be used by an invading General---This was true: for when did a politic enemy ever hold forth *false* grievances as motives to join his standard?

The Bill respecting game-keepers being brought up, and read a first time,

Mr. Sheridan hoped that the Minister would not press the second reading, which Mr. Pitt agreed to postpone. Adjourned.

Thursday, 3. The Indemnity Bill was presented, and read.

A new Writ was ordered for Ayrshire, in the room of Hugh Montgomery, Esq.

The order for considering the Petition of J. B. Howel, Esq. complaining of an undue Election for Cirencester, was discharged, that Gentleman not having entered his recognizance.

The Cavalry Bill was read a third time.

The Order of the Day being read for the second reading of the game-keepers' Bill, Mr. Pitt said, that as this was the Bill which, of those now pending, had excited the greatest opposition, he wished to give gentlemen further time for consideration, and should therefore move, that it be read a second time on the 25th instant.

Mr. Hobart brought up the Annual Bill for allowing Dissenters a further time to qualify. Adjourned.

Friday, 4. The Order of the Day for the Report of the Bill for a Supplemental Militia for Scotland being read, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

The Order of the Day being read for the further consideration of the Cavalry Bill, it was read a third time, and the Engrossing Clerk was at the table, receiving the amendments from the Clerk of the House, when a person in the front seat of the gallery rose, and, leaning over the gallery, with a paper in his hand, exclaimed, "*Treason!---Treason!---I offer myself to the House, and submit myself to the Serjeant at Arms, or to any custody they shall direct!*"

The Speaker immediately ordered the gallery to be cleared, and this person withdrew with the crowd into the adjoining room, where the Serjeant at Arms spoke to him, and he seemed to understand that he was to wait till he should be taken into custody. Being interrogated by some gentleman, he said, his name was Matthews; that some years ago he had been employed to effect an accommodation between this country and France; and that he had learned, what he now intended to discover, that three millions in money and diamonds had been received by persons in this country, for treasonable services rendered to France.

Being asked who these individuals were? he replied, "Members of the Government."

The House having in the mean time adjourned to Monday, the adjoining rooms were cleared, and this extraordinary visitor went out with the others. He is about 40 years of age, of a very decent appearance, and his style in speaking was as accurate as his matter was extravagant. Adjourned.

Monday, 7. The Chairman brought up the Report of the Committee of the Malmesbury Election, by which it appeared, that it was the opinion of the Committee that John George Philips, Esq. was duly elected.

Tuesday, 8. The Land Tax Commissioners Bill was read a first time; and several other Bills, in different stages.

Wednesday, 9. The Bill for Funding the Navy Debt was read a third time and passed.

Thursday, 10. Mr. Baldwin brought up the Report of the Committee appointed to try the merits of the Election for the Borough of Camelford, which declares the right of Election to be vested in the inhabitants paying scot and lot.---G. J. Dennistone and J. Angerstein, Esqs. to be duly elected; but the Petitions of the Hon. Augustus Ludlow and Robert Adair, Esq. not to be frivolous or vexatious.

Friday, 11. Mr. Ross moved, that a new writ be issued for the Borough of Westloe, in Devonshire, in the room of John Buller, Esq. Adjourned.

Saturday, 12. Sir Edward Knatchbull reported from the Committee appointed to try the merits of a Petition complaining of an undue election for the Borough of Southwark, "That the allegations in the petition of Mr. Tierney against the return of George Woodford Thelluson, Esq. as one of the Representatives in Parliament for the Borough of Southwark, and the evidence that had been adduced on behalf of Mr. Tierney's petition, to shew a violation of the act of the 7th of William III. cap. 3, sect 4. were sufficient to make the same a void election.

"That a new Writ should therefore be issued for the election of a Representative, in the room of the said G. W. Thelluson."

The House then adjourned to the 28th instant.

Monday, 28. A new Writ was ordered to be issued for the election of a Mem-

ber to serve in Parliament, for Bath, in the room of Lord Viscount Weymouth, called up to the House of Peers, upon the death of his father, the Marquis of Bath.

Mr. Whitbread presented Mr. Tierney's 2d Petition, complaining of an undue election for Southwark, and founded on the following points. Mr. Thelluson's ineligibility, in consequence of the decision of the Committee; the employment of prize-fighters at the last Election to obstruct the Poll; the votes given for Mr. Thelluson by persons confined for debt; and lastly *bribery*.

Some doubts were suggested by the Speaker, as to the propriety of taking the Petition into consideration, no certificate from the returning officer having been made to the House; but his objection was combated by Messrs. Grey and Whitbread, and the Petition was ordered to be taken into consideration on the 15th.

The Speaker for the satisfaction of the House, announced that the return had been made at the Crown Office. Adjourned.

Wednesday, 30. The House in a Committee of Ways and Means voted 420,000l. being the overplus of the Grants for 1796, to report.

Mr. Manning presented a Petition from the Merchants of the City of London, stating, that from the great increase of Trade, some farther accommodation was necessary for the shipping of the Merchants, and praying that the House would grant such relief as might be deemed proper. Referred to a Committee.

Sir William Young moved for a copy of the Report of the Commissioners of the Customs to the Lords of the Treasury, upon the subject of the Plans, referred to them, for providing further accommodation for the Shipping of the Merchants, on account of the increased trade of the City of London.

Mr. Alderman Anderson expressed his satisfaction at such a motion having been made; he hoped that the Report would be printed, and would be in the hands of all the Members, particularly as the City of London had evinced the greatest readiness to procure Plans for the better accommodation of the Merchants. The Report was ordered to be laid before the House.

Mr. Pitt moved, that it is the opinion of this Committee, that the sum of 420,000l. remaining in the Exchequer, be issued and applied, being the disposal overplus of the grants of 1796. Agreed to.

Thursday, Dec. 1. The Report of the Committee of Ways and Means, respecting the disposal overplus of 420,000l. remaining in the Exchequer, was received, read twice, and a Bill ordered to be brought in, pursuant to the Resolution of the Committee.

Friday, 2. Mr. Coke rose, and begged leave to bring in a Bill for the purpose of allowing actions and indictments, within limited jurisdictions, to be tried in the county at large. Formerly, said he, when men were better than at present, it might answer the purposes of justice to try people at their own doors; but now, when a cause is prejudged in every alehouse in the neighbourhood, it is very difficult for a man to obtain a fair trial in the limited jurisdiction where the offence was committed. From the operation of this Bill, he should move to except the City of London. Mr. Lefevre seconded the motion, and leave was given to bring in the Bill.

The Order of the Day being the second reading of the Gamekeeper's Bill; the Chancellor of the Exchequer said, that a clause might be introduced into some other Bill, exempting from the Supplemental Militia, such Gamekeepers as should voluntarily make themselves liable to be called with the Militia of the district. He therefore moved to postpone the second reading to this day six months. Agreed to.

The House having then resolved itself into a Committee of Supply, the Secretary at War, after observing that the estimates, by being so much matter, of course left him little to say, moved that 70,000l. be granted for horse furniture for the ensuing year.

General Tarleton took occasion to observe, that by the estimates on the Table, it would appear, that the army expences next year would be six millions; and that he understood it was intended to persevere in the ruinous war in the West

Indies, as well as to send ten or twelve thousand men to Portugal. He reprobated the inconsistency of sending troops out of the kingdom, when Ministers had spread the alarm of an invasion, and feared that our troops would be able to achieve little in concert with so small, so ill-disciplined, and so ill-appointed a body as the Portuguese army; while France, by stimulating the sluggishness of Spain, and by availing herself of her proximity, might reduce Portugal to as low a condition as that of some other of our *ci-devant* allies.

The Secretary at War then proceeded to move the rest of the estimates, which gave occasion to much incidental conversation. The most remarkable points were Mr. M. A. Taylor's assertion, that the Cavalry Bill was totally unintelligible, and Mr. Pitt's admission of the propriety of an explanatory Act.

The precise sums voted were---

L. 70,000	o	o	for Horse Furniture and Cloathing to Augmentations.
7,500	o	o	for Allowances to reduced American Officers.
52,500	o	o	upon account of ditto.
4,500	o	o	for Scotch Roads.
125	3	4	for Allowances to reduced Horse Guards.
118,874	16	8	for reduced Officers of Land Forces and Marines.
180,000	o	o	for increased Rates of Subsistence for quartering Soldiers.
136,675	o	o	for Full Pay to Supernumerary Officers.
1,000	o	o	for Officers late in the Service of the States General.
136,779	17	1	for Allowances to Paymaster General, Secretary at War, &c.
653,573	1	7	for Ordinary of the Navy.
768,100	o	o	for Buildings and Rebuildings of Ships of War.
1,009,024	9	2	for Ordnance Land Service, 1797.
114,553	19	9	for Ordnance Land Services not provided for in 1795.
74,830	o	3	for Ordnance Sea Service not provided for in 1795.
425,366	10	6	for Ordnance Land Service not provided for in 1796.
7,000	o	o	for the Civil Establishment of the Province of Upper Canada.
5,915	o	o	for the Civil Establishment of Nova Scotia.
4,550	o	o	for the Civil Establishment of New Brunswick.
1,900	o	o	for the Civil Establishment of the Island of St. John, America.
1,840	o	o	for the Civil Establishment of Cape Breton.
1,232	10	6	for the Civil Establishment of Newfoundland.
4,100	o	o	for the Civil Establishment of the Bahama Islands.
580	o	o	for the Salary of the Chief Justice of Bermuda.
600	o	o	for the Salary of the Chief Justice of Dominica.
5,523	10	o	for the Civil Establishment, &c. of New South Wales.

The House being resumed, the Report of the Committee was ordered to be read on Monday.

Mr. Grey moved, That there be laid before the House an Account of the Extraordinaries of the Army incurred and paid from the 20th of December, as far as they can be estimated---Ordered.

Monday, 5. The Master of the Rolls presented a Petition, signed by several Freeholders of the County of Flint, complaining of the return of Sir Thomas Morten as their Representative, he being under the age of twenty-one years, of which the Petition stated that due notice had been given to the Sheriffs, previous to the election.

Alexander Morris being brought to the Bar, was informed by the Speaker, that he stood there in consequence of a report from a Committee appointed to try the merits of the Southwark Election; and was desired to say whether he had any thing to offer in his behalf.

Alexander Morris acknowledged the receipt of the warrant; but said that he had been kept out of the way by private business; that he was not aware of giving offence to the House; and that he hoped they would be as lenient as possible.

Sir Edward Knatchbull moved, that Alexander Morris was guilty of a breach of privilege, which was agreed to.

Mr. Fox said, that before the punishment of the offence was decreed, it might be proper to enquire into the motives.

The Speaker suggested that Morris should be called in, and the mace suffered to remain on the table, by means of which every Member might put such questions as he thought fit.

This being done, Mr. Grey proposed the following question: 'Did any person, after you received the Speaker's warrant, converse with you upon the subject of attending the Committee?'

Mr. Anstruther objected to the question, and moved, that he be brought again to the Bar to-morrow.

Wednesday, 7. Mr. Grey, after a few observations respecting the impropriety of calling Alexander Morris to the Bar, previously to the examination of those persons who were supposed to have been guilty of tampering with him to disobey the order of the Committee of the House, moved, that the order for his appearance to-morrow should be discharged.

The Speaker said, such a motion was perfectly regular, in the way it had been put; indeed there was no necessity for having the party at the Bar at all, when the punishment was declared: the House could proceed to punishment although he was absent. Agreed to.

General Fitzpatrick referred to a Motion which he had made two years ago, respecting the unjustifiable imprisonment of that unfortunate and oppressed man, Monsieur La Fayette. He said, he should take the opportunity, on to-morrow se'night, of making a similar Motion, in order to ascertain whether the present Parliament would imitate the conduct of the last, by giving a sanction to the detention of that gentleman, so contrary to the laws of nations and the rights of humanity.

Mr. Fox said, it was his intention, on Monday the 13th of February, to move for a repeal of the two obnoxious and unconstitutional Bills passed during the last Session of Parliament, and which had so much occupied the attention of the people in general. The names of those Bills, he believed, it was perfectly unnecessary to mention.

THE BUDGET.

The House having resolved itself into a Committee of Ways and Means, Mr. Pitt rose, and declared that he should abstain from all preliminary observations, and hasten to state the supplies necessary for the year, the mode of their application, and the sources whence they were to be drawn.

The first great charge was the Navy: for this the charge for 1797 would be 7,660,000*l.* to which was to be added a vote of credit of 2,500,000*l.* to prevent a further accumulation of debt, making the total amount 10,160,000*l.* For the Army ordinaries and extraordinary 10,913,000*l.*---the Ordnance 1,623,000*l.*---Miscellaneous Services 378,000*l.*---Deficiency of Land and Malt 350,000*l.*---For liquidating the National Debt 200,000*l.* There also appeared as a surplus of grants 420,000*l.* but as this arose from a mode of making up the accounts, he should place the same sum on the opposite side. The total amount of Supplies would therefore be 27,647,000*l.*

To meet this confessedly large expenditure, the Ways and Means were as follow:

Loan	-	-	L. 18,000,000	Brought forward	-	L. 22,025,000
Land and Malt	-	-	2,750,000	Surplus of grants	-	420,000
Consolidated Fund	-	-	1,275,000	Lottery	-	200,000
				Exchequer Bills	-	5,500,000
Carried forward	-	-	L. 22,025,000			
						L. 27,945,000

Making a surplus of 298,000*l.* beyond the estimated supplies.

On the Loan and Exchequer Bills, Mr. Pitt said, it might be necessary to make some remarks. On the former, the interest was no more than 5*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* per cent. subject to further reduction, should the funds rise, as might be expected in the event of Peace.

[TO BE REGULARLY CONTINUED.]

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY-LANE.

Tuesday, Dec. 7. A New Comedy called the FORCE OF RIBBICLE, which had been announced for the Tuesday preceding, but delayed from some misunderstanding between the Managers and Miss Farren, was brought forward at this Theatre. To enter into a detail of the plot is almost impossible, as the confusion was very great before the end of the first Act.

The Comedy was scarcely begun, nor were the characters fully developed, before marks of disapprobation were heard. We know not whether this is to be ascribed to the rumour that it was the production of a gentleman (Mr. Holcroft) whose political tenets excite the fury of faction, or whether it arose from any more private cause; but we certainly never saw the character of a piece so perfectly anticipated.

In the third scene the clamour began; and it was necessary, in the very beginning of the second act, for Mr Palmer to request the indulgence of the company to hear the play out, with an assurance from the Managers, that if it had not the good fortune to gain the approbation of the House, it should not be repeated. After this Address the piece went on, but its own vigour was not calculated to overcome the first impression. It wanted that spirit and gaiety which the House had hoped for from its title; and though it had plot and character, it was finally condemned. After the Epilogue, which Miss Farren spoke with fluttering and yet enchanting sweetness, Mr. Palmer came forward and said:

‘I am commissioned by the Proprietors to say, that the Writer of this Piece has, on more than one occasion, been honoured with your flattering approbation. We have only to regret that, in the present instance, he has failed, and therefore the Piece is respectfully withdrawn.’

Saturday, Dec 17. A new Comic Opera, in two Acts, entitled the SHIPWRECK, was brought before the public tribunal, and obtained a favourable verdict. The story is briefly as follows:

An honest Tar being called to sea, in the discharge of his duty, is followed by his sweetheart *Fanny*, who, disguised as a sailor, enters on board of the same ship; where she continues fifteen months, in the course of which time she is the means of saving his life. On their return to England they are shipwrecked on the coast; and after a variety of perils incident to such an event, an *eclaircissement* takes place, and the lovers are made happy. There is a second story made up of the other characters: *Michael Goto* (one whom misfortune has made desperate) is introduced as the chief of a gang of wretches, called Wreckers, who procure a livelihood from the miseries of their fellow-creatures, by plundering vessels cast on the coast. He has a daughter, whose lover, *Selwyn*, is on board the same ship with *Fanny*; and who, having escaped from the wreck, is received into his house. *Michael Goto* and his companion, *Sbark*, fearing that *Selwyn* may discover their nefarious practices, determine to murder him; but his life is preserved by the fidelity of *Goto's* daughter, and the courage of *Fanny*, who arrives at the critical juncture. After which all the characters are made happy.--- There are two other characters, *Stave*, a parish-clerk, and *Sally Shamrock*, an Irish ballad-singer, but they have no connection with the Piece.

It will be easy to discover, that the greater part of this story is taken from the popular Opera of *No Song No Supper*. *Stave* is the counter-part of the Attorney, in the latter Piece; and *Sally Shamrock* is, as well as *Margaretta*, a ballad-singer. The counter-part of every other character may easily be traced. All claims to originality, therefore, fall to the ground. The dialogue and songs have very little to recommend them: they are altogether patch-work, made

up from a variety of garments that once were fashionable. The Music is pretty; but, in general, not above mediocrity. The hornpipe Song of Miss De Camp, in the second Act, we think the best in the Piece.

We understand this opera to be the production of the younger Arnold, son of the Composer; and we cannot but regard with a certain degree of pleasure every thing which springs from the union of family talents.

MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND.

ANNIVERSARY OF ST. ANDREW.

EDINBURGH, Nov. 30, 1796.

THIS being St. ANDREW's * Day, the Tutelar Saint of Scotland, the different Lodges of the Most Ancient and Most Honourable Fraternity of FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS, in this city and neighbourhood, with the Proxies and Wardens from Lodges in the country, met in the New Church aisle,† in order to elect the Office-bearers of the Grand Lodge for the ensuing year; when the following Noblemen and Gentlemen were voted into office, viz.

The Right Honourable and Most Worshipful FRANCIS STUART, LORD VISCOUNT DOWNE, *Grand Master.*

The Right Honourable GEORGE LINDSAY CRAWFORD, Earl of CRAWFORD and LINDSAY, Viscount GARNOCK, Lord Lieutenant of Fifeshire, &c. *Depute Grand Master.*

THOMAS HAY, Esq. Chamberlain to the City of Edinburgh, and Surgeon to the Royal Edinburgh Volunteers, *Substitute Grand Master.*

JOHN CLARK, Esq. R. W. M. of the Ancient Lodge of St. Mary's Chapel, No. 1, and Lieutenant R. E. V. *Senior Grand Warden.*

ROBERT MOIR, Esq. R. W. M. of the Cannongate Kilwinning Lodge, No. 4 *Junior Grand Warden.*

JOHN HAY, Banker, *Grand Treasurer.*

The Rev. JOHN TOUCH, D. D. *Grand Chaplain.*

Mr. ROBERT MEICKLE, *Grand Secretary.*

Mr. THOMAS SOMMERS, His Majesty's Glazier for Scotland, *Grand Clerk.*

Mr. WILLIAM REID, *Grand Tyler.*

WILLIAM CAMPBELL, Esq. of Fairfield, was appointed *Provincial Grand Master* for the Southern District of Scotland, in room of ALEXANDER FERGUSON, Esq. of Craigdarroch, deceased. See Vol. VI. p. 438.

After the Election, Brother T. SOMMERS, G. C. presented a Petition to the Grand Lodge, praying for their sanction to an intended Publication of his, to be entitled, '*The Freemasons' Instructor.*' The Grand Lodge granted the sanction accordingly.

The Brethren afterwards spent the evening in their own Lodge-rooms. S.

* Some account of St. ANDREW will be given in a future Number.

† The Cathedral Church of St. Giles, the Patron Saint of the City of Edinburgh, is now divided into four places of public worship, and some other apartments, for various purposes. An account of this building will be given hereafter in our Miscellany.

 MONTHLY CHRONICLE.

 IMPORTANT STATE PAPERS.

LORD MALMESBURY'S EMBASSY.

 [CONTINUED FROM OUR LAST.]

NOTE FROM LORD MALMESBURY TO THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

THE Court of London having been informed of what passed after the receipt of the last Memorial delivered, by their order, to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, find that there is not any thing whatever to be added to the Answer made by the Undersigned to the two questions which the Directory thought proper to address to them.

They wait then, and with the greatest anxiety, for an explanation of the sentiments of the Directory, with regard to the principle proposed, on their part, as the basis of the Negotiation, and the adoption of which appeared to be the best means of accelerating the progress of a discussion so important to the happiness of so many nations.

The Undersigned has, in consequence, received orders to renew the demand of a frank and precise Answer on this object, in order that his Court may know, with certainty, whether the Directory accept the said proposition; whether they desire to make any change or modification whatever in it; or, lastly, whether they will propose any other principle that may promote the same end.

Paris, Nov. 26, 1796.

MALMESBURY.

ANSWER OF THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS TO LORD MALMESBURY'S NOTE.

In Answer to the Note delivered yesterday, November 26, by Lord Malmesbury, the Undersigned, Minister for Foreign Affairs, is instructed, by the Directory, to observe, that the Answers made on the 5th and 22d of last Brumaire, contained an acknowledgment of the Principle of Compensation; and that in order to remove every pretext for farther discussion on that point, the Undersigned, in the name of the Executive Directory, now makes a formal and positive declaration of such acknowledgment.

In consequence, Lord Malmesbury is again invited to give a speedy and categorical Answer to the Proposition made to him on the 22d of last Brumaire, and which was conceived in these terms:—"The Undersigned is instructed by the Executive Directory to invite you to designate, with all possible expedition, and expressly, the objects of reciprocal Compensation which you have to propose."

Paris, Nov. 27, 1796.

CH. DELACROIX.

 INTELLIGENCE OF IMPORTANCE

 FROM THE LONDON GAZETTES.

THE GAZETTE of November 22 contains a letter from Capt. Bowen, of his Majesty's Ship *Terpsichore*, dated at Gibraltar, the 23d of October, giving an account of a gallant action fought between that ship and a Spanish Frigate. Of this action, being the commencement of hostilities with Spain, Capt. Bowen gives the following detail:

"On the morning of the 13th inst. at day-light, we discovered a Frigate to windward standing towards us. About eight, I could perceive her making every preparation for battle, and was then apparently in chace of us. Our situation altogether was such, as to prevent my being over desirous of engaging her. Out of our small complement of men, we had left thirty at the Hospital, and we had more than that number still on board in our sick and convalescent lists, all of whom were either dangerously ill, or extremely weak. We were scarcely out

of sight of the spot where we knew the Spanish Fleet to have been cruising only two days before; and, in fact, we had stood on to look for them, with a view of ascertaining their movements. A small Spanish vessel which we conjectured to be a sort of Tender, was passing us, steering towards Carthagena, so that I could hardly flatter myself with being able to bring the Frigate off in the event of a victory, or of even escaping myself, if disabled. On the other hand, it evidently appeared that nothing but a slight and superior sailing could enable me to avoid an action; and to do that from a Frigate apparently not much superior to us, except in point of bulk, would have been committing the character of one of his Majesty's Ships more than I could bring myself to resolve on. I therefore continued standing on without any alteration of course.

Having, with infinite satisfaction and comfort to myself, commanded the *Terpsichore's* Crew for two years and a half, through a pretty considerable variety of services, I well knew the veteran stuff which I had still left in health to depend upon, for upholding the character of British Seamen; and I felt my mind at ease as to the termination of any action with the Frigate in sight only.

At half past nine she came within hail, and hauled her wind on our weather boom; and as I conceived she only waited to place herself to advantage, and to point her guns with exactness, and being myself unwilling to lose the position we were then in, I ordered one gun to be fired, as a trier of her intention. It was so instantaneously returned, and followed up by her whole broadside, that I am confident they must have done it at the sight of our flash. The action of course went on, and we soon discovered that her people would not, or could not, resist our fire. At the end of about an hour and forty minutes, during which time we had twice wore, and employed about twenty of the last minutes in chase, she surrendered. At this period she appeared almost entirely disabled, and we had drawn up close alongside, with every gun well charged and well pointed. It was, nevertheless, with extreme difficulty that I prevailed on the Spanish Commander to decline the receiving of such a broadside by submitting; and from every thing which I have since learned, the personal courage, conduct, and zeal of that Officer, whose name is Don Thomas Ayalde, was such, during the action, notwithstanding the event of it, as reflects on him the greatest honour, and irresistibly impresses on my mind the highest admiration of his character. After (from the effect of our fire) all his booms had tumbled down, and rendered his guns unserviceable, all the standing rigging of his lower masts shot away, and I believe nearly every running rope cut through, and a great number of his people killed and wounded, he still persevered (though he could rally but few of his men) to defend his Ship, almost longer than defence was justifiable. Had there been the smallest motion in the sea, every mast must inevitably have gone by the board.

Our loss (which will appear by the enclosed list) has been less than could have been expected; but our masts, sails, and rigging, were found to be pretty much cut up.

The spirited exertions of every officer, man, and boy, belonging to the Ship I command, as well in the action as in the securing two disabled Ships, and bringing them instantly off from a critical situation, by taking the prize in tow, and by their incessant labour ever since, will, I trust, when their small number is considered, place them in a light superior to any praise which I could bestow.

The name of the Prize is the *Mahonesa*, carrying on the main deck twenty-six Spanish twelves (weighing eighteen ounces more than ours) eight Spanish sixes on the quarter deck, and a number of brass colbours, swivels, &c. had on board two hundred and seventy-five men, besides six pilots, qualified for the Mediterranean, as high as Leghorn, and to be put on board Admiral Langara's Fleet, which she had been sent from Carthagena to look for. She was built in 1759 at Mahon, is of very large dimensions, measuring eleven hundred and fourteen tons and a half Spanish, was, before the action, in complete good condition, and is considered by the Spanish Officers the fastest sailer, one of the best constructed, and, what they attach considerable importance to, the handsomest Frigate in their Navy. Both Frigates have this moment anchored in safety. I am, &c.

R. BOWEN.

The Terpsichore mounts thirty-two twelve and six pounders; complement of men two hundred and fifteen.

Killed, none.---Wounded, Mr. Richard Hobbs (Acting Boatswain), slightly in the foot; John Roberts (Quarter-Master), lost his left thigh; and two seamen.

Mahonesa, by the best accounts I have been able to collect, had about thirty killed or died of their wounds the day of the action, and about the same number wounded, several of whom are since dead.

The GAZETTE, of Nov. 26, contains a letter from Col. Craufurd to Lord Grenville, which gives an official account received by the Archduke Charles, Nov. 11; from General Davidovich, stating his having beaten the corps that was opposed to him, and taken a thousand prisoners. His advanced guard had taken possession of Trente, which place, as well as the strong position behind it, were abandoned by the enemy without resistance.

The same GAZETTE contains also another letter from Col. Craufurd, dated Nov. 13, respecting the operations on the Rhine, from which the following are extracts:

‘ On the 26th ult. Generals Simpichen and Rosenberg were attacked by two divisions of the army of the Sambre and Meuse. The action lasted several hours, and the enemy, notwithstanding so very great an inequality of numbers, was repulsed with considerable loss.

Early on the 27th ult. the French renewed the attack, and advanced in several columns from Creütz nach, to turn the left of the Austrians; but the latter, by an exertion of much ability and steadiness, maintained their position. In the evening, however, the Generals determined on retiring behind the Seltz; and the retreat was executed with perfect order.

The loss of the Austrians on this occasion consists in nineteen killed, one hundred and eighty-four wounded, ninety-six missing; on the whole two hundred and ninety-nine men, and eighty-nine horses.

The enemy’s was certainly considerable; two hundred of them were taken prisoners, and brought into Mayence.

‘ On the 7th instant the French attacked General Hotze’s line, near Manheim. Their principal efforts were directed against the left wing, and the fire of artillery and small arms continued a great part of the day; but the enemy were repulsed, and General Hotze still maintains his posts in front of the entrenched camp, extending from the Reebach, by the village of Maubach, to Franckenthal.’

The GAZETTE, of Nov. 29, contains a dispatch from the Governor and Council of Madras, dated June 22, 1796, from which the following are extracts:

‘ It appears by Rear-Admiral Rainier’s dispatches, dated the 27th of March, and 18th of April last, and which reached us on the 11th inst. by the Orpheus Frigate, that the British troops were in possession of the islands of Amboyna and Banda, with their several dependencies, comprising, as it was thought, the whole of the Dutch islands, excepting Pornate, yielding cloves, nutmegs, and mace. This acquisition has been attained without the smallest loss on our side.

‘ Amboyna and its Dependencies were delivered up on the 16th of February, and Banda and its Dependencies on the 8th of March.

‘ The Admiral found in the treasury at Amboyna 31,112 rix dollars, and in store 515,940 pounds weight of cloves; in the Treasury at Banda 66,675 rix dollars, and in store 84,777 pounds of nutmegs, 19,587 pounds of mace, besides merchandize and other stores at each place, upon which no value had been then put.’

The GAZETTE, of Dec. 20, contains dispatches, of which the following are extracts, received from Major-General Gordon Forbes, Commander of the British troops in the Island of Saint Domingo, dated Port-au-Prince, Oct. 9:

‘ I am happy to have the power of assuring you, that our situation in St. Domingo is by far more favourable at this time than since his Majesty has been in possession of any part of it. The success of the very judicious arrangements

made by Major-General Bowyer at Jeremie, and the divisions amongst the enemy in the South part of the Island, where almost all the Republican Whites have been massacred since their defeat, has assured the safety of the important quarter of the Grand Ance.

'The same spirit of discord prevailing also in the North, and the success of our troops towards the Spanish frontiers, have encouraged the remains of Jean Francois' Army to co-operate with us; they have, in consequence, fought several battles with the Republican Party, and have sent us a number of prisoners.

'St. Marc's and Mole St. Nicholas are also in a state of perfect security, and the parish of L'Arcanaye was never in a higher state of cultivation, nor the negroes more peaceably and orderly than at this moment. Indeed such is the public confidence, that the Planters are now actually importing from Jamaica a considerable number of new negroes.'

The same GAZETTE contains also dispatches from Robert Craufurd, Esq. dated, Head-quarters of the Archduke Charles, Offenburg, Nov. 23, of which the following are extracts:

'I have the honour to inform your Lordship, that in the night from the 21st to the 22d, the trenches were opened before Kehl, on the right bank of the Kinzig. The first parallel of this attack, with its communications, proceeding from the right and left flank of the right wing, of the line of contravallation, were so far completed during the night, that before day-break the men were tolerably covered. The enemy did not attempt to interrupt the work, nor had he yet fired a single shot upon the trenches; but early next morning (the 22d) he made a sudden attack upon the left wing of the line of contravallation, and, after an action, than which nothing could be possibly more severe, was driven back into his works with very great loss.

'The enemy having, in the course of the night from the 21st to the 22d, brought over a large body of troops from Strasburg, formed his columns of attack close behind the chain of his advanced posts, with so much silence that they were not perceived. Just before the break of day (which, however, was rendered extremely obscure by a very thick mist that lasted the greater part of the forenoon) these columns began to advance. The instant the Austrian Videttes and Centries gave their fire, which was the only notice of the approaching attack, the enemy's infantry rushed on with the utmost impetuosity, without firing a shot, and in an instant they were masters of two redoubts of the left of the first line. The village of Sundheim was attacked in the same manner, and with equal success; after which, coming in the rear of the curtain that connects the village with the first redoubt to its left, the enemy immediately carried that work, one face of which was not quite finished. Upon this large bodies of their infantry rushed through the openings in the curtains on the whole front of this wing; and, whilst part advanced against the second line, the others endeavoured to make themselves masters of the remaining redoubts of the first; but these, though perfectly left to themselves for a considerable time, entirely surrounded, cut off from every assistance, and attacked with fury by the enemy, who frequently got into the ditches and attempted to climb the parapet, were defended in a manner that reflects the highest honour on the officers and troops that were in them. The loss in all of these redoubts was considerable, and in one the artillery drivers were at last obliged to fire the guns, but all the attacks were repulsed.

'The enemy's right column, after occupying the two works which they had carried, pushed on between the dykes to attack the left of the second line; but Prince Frederic of Orange (whose gallant and judicious conduct cannot sufficiently be praised) having rallied his brigade, placed a part of his infantry behind the dyke, which connects the third redoubt from the left of the first line with the work which is on the left of the second; and in this situation he resisted the most severe attack that can be imagined upon his front, whilst those bodies of the enemy's infantry, which had pierced between the redoubt of the first line, were actually in his rear, he not only maintained his post, but completely checked the enemy's progress on this flank.

' A great part of the troops of the left wing had been working in the trenches on the right of the Kinzig. General Latour, who commands the army of the Siege, formed three of the battalions which happened to be just returning from work, and retook the village of Sundheim, which he maintained, though the enemy made great efforts to dislodge him. Lieutenant-General Staader (who commands the left wing) drove back the enemy, who had advanced against the right of the second line of it, and retook the redoubt on the left of Sundheim: and the Prince of Orange, advancing between the two dykes, defeated the column with which he had been so severely engaged, and recovered the redoubts it had carried. The enemy then retired into his entrenched camp.

' The loss of the Austrians amounted to forty officers, and about thirteen hundred men killed, wounded, and missing, which, considering that not more than one half the left wing was engaged, is certainly considerable; but the loss of the enemy must have been much greater. The ground round the works was in some parts covered with their dead bodies, and I am very much within bounds in stating their loss at two thousand men. During this time the French were in possession of the redoubts on the left, they found means to carry off five pieces of cannon. The officers were all retaken.'

SHIPS OF WAR CAPTURED FROM THE ENEMY.

A French Lugsail Privateer, of two guns and eighteen men, was captured, off Dungeness, on the 12th of December, by the Marechal de Cobourg Cutter, Lieut. Webb: the Hazard French Privateer, mounting two carriage guns and two swivels, and seventeen men, was captured by the Lion armed Cutter, off the Owers, Seaford Roads, on the 14th of December: La Sphinx French Privateer, of six guns and twenty-six men, by the Eurydice Frigate, Capt. Talbot, off Dunkirk, on the 15th of December: L'Aventure French Privateer, of sixteen guns and sixty-two men, off Barfleur, on the 19th of December, by the Greyhound Cutter, Capt. James Young: L'Hirondelle French Cutter Privateer, of 10 guns and 53 men, by Capt. Drew of the Cerberus, off the coast of Ireland.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

ARMY OF ITALY.

BUONAPARTE, COMMANDER IN CHIEF, TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTORY.

Head-quarters, Verona, Nov. 14.

CITIZEN DIRECTORS,

' I inform you of the operations since the 12th. I was informed that an Austrian advanced corps was encamped on the Piave. I immediately sent General Massena with a corps of observation from Bassano on the Brenta, with orders to retire to Vicenza, the moment that the enemy passed the Piave. I also ordered Gen. Vaubois to attack the enemy's posts on the Trentin, and particularly to drive them from their positions between the Lavio and the Brenta. The attack took place on the 12th, and there was a sharp resistance. General Guieux carried St. Michel, and burnt the enemy's bridge; but they baffled our attack on Seganzano, and the 85th demi-brigade, notwithstanding all its valour, was severely handled. We took 500 prisoners, and killed a vast number of the enemy.

' On the 13th, I ordered the attack to be renewed on Seganzano, which it was necessary to take; and hearing that the enemy had passed the Piave, I proceeded with the division of Angereau; at Vicenza we joined the division of Massena, and on the 15th marched in front of the enemy, which passed the Brenta.

' The combat was brisk, warm, and bloody; the advantage was on our side; the enemy repassed the Brenta; we remained masters of the field of battle. We made 500 prisoners, killed a very considerable number, and took one piece of cannon. General Lanus received a wound from a sabre, and all the troops covered themselves with glory.

' Nevertheless, on the 13th, the enemy attacked General Vaubois in several

points, and threatened to turn him, which obliged that General to retreat to La Pietra, his right strengthened behind by the mountains, and his left by Mori.

‘ On the 16th the enemy did not shew himself; but on the 17th the battle that ensued was one of the most obstinate. Already had we taken two pieces of cannon, and made 1,300 prisoners, when, in the beginning of the night, a panic terror spread itself through a part of the troops. On the 18th the division took up its position at Rivoli and Corona, by a bridge which I had thrown across expressly for that purpose. The loss of the enemy must have been considerable.

‘ Having been in part apprized of what had passed in the Tyrol, I hastened my departure at the break of day of the 17th, and on the 18th at noon we arrived at Verona.’

THE GENERAL OF DIVISION, CHIEF OF THE ETAT MAJOR OF THE ARMY OF ITALY, TO
THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTORY.

Head-quarters at Verona, Nov. 19.

‘ The activity in which we have been for this fortnight past would not permit me to write as often as I could have wished; but the Commandant of Lombardy, to whom I sent a summary account of our movements, must have transmitted you a copy of the same.

‘ Since our last affair at Caldero, which took place on the 22d, (Nov. 12,) and wherein, after an obstinate combat, the two armies remained in their positions; General Alvinzi had effected his junction with a column from Tyrol, and had an army of upwards of 40,000 men.

‘ On the 24th, (Nov. 14th,) the hostile army was in presence, and preparing to give a pitched battle. General Buonaparte, apprized of the enemy’s intentions, immediately made manœuvres to frustrate them.

‘ In the night between the 24th and 25th, (Nov. 14th and 15,) he ordered the division of General Vaubois to guard the position of Rivoli, to keep in check the column of the enemy’s right wing, commanded by General Davidovich. The castle and Citadel of Brescia, Verona, the posts of Peschiera and Legnago, were in a respectable state of defence. The Commander in Chief stationed some corps of light troops and firing artillery to defend the passage of the Adige; in the same night he had a boat-bridge raised at Ronco, to pass the Adige, to fall unexpectedly upon General Alvinzi’s rear, cut off his communication, seize his magazines and his park of artillery, deprive him of all means of subsistence, and at last to attack him from the rear. Before day-break the divisions of Massena and Angereau had already crossed the Adige, and advanced on two roads, which cross an impassable marsh of several miles.

‘ The column of the left, commanded by General Massena, was the first to fall in with some of the enemy’s out-posts, which it worsted; that of the right, commanded by General Angereau, having also repulsed several hostile posts, was stopped at the village of Arcola, occupied by the Austrians, whose fire flanked the dyke on which it was necessary to pass to penetrate thither. A canal, which bordered this dyke on the side of the village prevented its being turned; it was therefore necessary, in order to become masters of it, to pass through their fire, and cross a small bridge defended by several embattled houses, from which the enemy directed a terrible fire. Our troops pushed several times forward with charge steps, to carry the bridge, but not having in the first instance displayed the same boldness as they did at the bridge of Lodi, they were repulsed in their repeated attempts; in vain had General Angereau, with a standard in his hand, advanced at the head of the column to take Arcola.

‘ The Commander in Chief, who was informed of the difficulties which the division of General Angereau had to sustain, gave orders to General Chieux to march down the Adige, with a corps of 2000 men, and to pass this river under cover of our light artillery, at a ferry which was at the distance of two miles below Ronco, facing Albaredo; he had orders to march to the village of Arcola to turn it; but that was a long march, the day was far gone, and it was of the highest importance to capture Arcola, in order to get into the enemy’s rear before they were able to learn our movement.

‘ The Commander in Chief advanced with his whole staff at the head of the

division of Angereau; he reminded our brothers in arms of their being the same men that had forced the bridge of Lodi. He seemed to perceive a sentiment of enthusiasm, and was determined to profit by it. He leaped off his horse, seized a standard, rushed forward at the head of the grenadiers, and ran to the head of the bridge, crying, 'Follow your General!' The column instantly moved on, and we were at the distance of 30 yards from the bridge, when the terrible fire of the enemy assailed the column, and made it fall back the very moment when the enemy were going to take flight. It was at the same instant that Generals Vignolle and Lasne were wounded, and that Muiron, Aid-de-camp to the Commander in Chief, was killed.

'The Commander in Chief and his staff were overwhelmed: the Commander in Chief himself was thrown from his horse into a marsh, from whence, under the enemy's fire, he extricated himself with difficulty: he mounted again, the column rallied, and the enemy durst not come forth from their intrenchments.

'Night began, when General Guicux arrived courageously at the village of Arcola, and finally carried it; but he retired in the night, after having made many prisoners, and carried off 4 pieces of cannon.

'The enemy had time to be aware of our movement; they had begun to send off all their baggage and magazines to Vicenza, and concentrated almost their whole force towards Ronco, to give battle; and before day-break they occupied the village of Arcola with considerable force.

'On the 26th (Nov. 16th) at day-break, the enemy attacked us on all points: the column of General Massena, after an obstinate conflict, worsted the enemy, took 1500 prisoners, and carried off six pieces of cannon and four stands of colours.

'The column of General Angereau likewise repulsed the enemy, but could not succeed in forcing the village of Arcola, which was attacked several times. You will judge of the obstinacy of the different attacks upon this village, where seven Generals were wounded.

'The same evening the Commander in Chief himself marched to the canal on the right of the Adige, with a column who carried fascines, with a view of establishing a passage, which could not be done on account of the current; then the Adjutant-General Vial, who was at the head of the column, forced the canal, up to his neck in water, but he was obliged to re-pass it: it was at that moment that Elliott, Aid-de-camp to the Commander in Chief, was killed.

'The following night the Commander in Chief gave orders to throw a bridge over the canal, and a new attack was combined for the 27th (Nov. 17th). The division of General Massena was to attack on the left of the causeway, and that of General Angereau, for the third time, the celebrated village of Arcola, while a third column was to cross the canal to turn that village. Part of the garrison of Porto Legnago, with fifty horses and four pieces of artillery, received orders to turn the enemy's left, for the purpose of operating a diversion.

'The attack began at day-break, the fight was obstinate, Massena's column met with less obstacles, but that of Angereau was again repulsed at Arcola, and fell back in disorder to the bridge of Ronco, when the division of Massena, who had followed the movement, made a retrograde motion towards the division of Angereau, and disposed itself to join it for the purpose of making a fresh attack upon the enemy, who were by this time put to flight, and who, seeing themselves turned by the left, were forced at Arcola: then the route was complete; they abandoned all their positions, and retreated to Vicenza in the night.

'On the 28th (Nov. 18th) at day-break, part of the French army pursued the enemy to Vicenza, took several barges laden with pontoons and stores, picked up some prisoners, and many wounded, and the others arrived under the walls of Verona.

'During our success at Ronco, our left wing, commanded by General Vaubois, was forced in its positions at Rivoli, which place the enemy occupies at this very moment. The right wing of the Imperial army, commanded by General Davidovich, will be attacked to-morrow by superior forces, and must entirely fall into our power; or if it evacuates the place, it will be pursued to Tyrol. Then the army of Alvinzy, separated and half destroyed, must give us Mantua in a few days.

'In these different combats we took about 5000 prisoners, 57 of whom are officers; killed 4000, and as many wounded; took four stands of colours and 18 pieces of cannon, many caissons, several barges laden with pontoons, and a great quantity of scaling ladders, which the Austrian army had procured with the design of taking Verona by assault.

We had seven Generals wounded, and two of them severely; viz. Lasne, Vignolle, Verdier, Gardanne, Bon, Roberts, and Verne. The Aids-de-camps of the Commander in Chief, Muiron and Elliot, and the Adjutant-General Varde-ling, were killed.

ALEXANDER BERTHIER.'

The following is an extract from the Commander in Chief's letter, describing the battle of Arcola:

'Never was a field of battle so much disputed as that of Arcola; I have scarcely any more Generals; their devotedness and courage are without example. The General of Brigade, Lasne, came to the field of battle before he was cured of the wound which he received at Governolo. He was wounded twice early in the battle; at three in the afternoon, he was stretched upon his bed, and suffering; when he learned that I was myself at the head of the column, he threw himself from his bed, mounted on horseback, and came to find me. Being obliged to remain on horseback, he received, at the head of the bridge of Arcola, a blow which laid him senseless.---I assure you, that all this was necessary to our conquering; the enemy were numerous, and exasperated, with the Generals at their head, of whom we killed several.

General Berthier's second letter, dated Nov. 28, states, that immediately after the battle of Arcola, the Commander in Chief attacked the column commanded by General Davidovich, and repulsed it from position to position. His rear-guard was cut off on the heights of Rivoli, of which the French remained masters. 1,100 were made prisoners, among whom is Colonel Count Lherbach, beside four pieces of cannon and six caissons taken.

PARIS, NOV. 28, 1796.

A letter is received from General Moreau, stating that on the 22d inst. the garrison of Kehl made a vigorous sortie to reconnoitre the line of circumvallation of the enemy. The whole line of the enemy was forced, without a shot being fired: the enemy abandoned all their artillery, which was instantly spiked. We made from six to seven hundred prisoners, amongst whom are twenty officers, including a Colonel and a Major. Such was the result of this sally.

This battle was one of the most violent of the war, and must have occasioned a considerable loss to the enemy. They cannot deny that the advantage was entirely ours. General Devaix had his horse killed under him, and was slightly wounded. General Lacombe had his horse wounded in two places.

Paris, Nov. 30. We are given to understand that the future progress of the negotiation will not be made so public as the previous steps have been. It is said that Lord Malmesbury intimated to M. Delacroix,

'That he had assurance of being authorised to propose specific terms of concession; but that his Britannic Majesty did not think that the object of the negotiation was likely to be promoted by the habit of publishing the official communications on both sides, and thereby exciting the passions of the public on the topics in discussion before they were maturely weighed. It was his desire, therefore, to suggest the prudence of abstaining from this practice, so new in diplomacy, and to recommend that the specific terms of concession on both sides should be concealed until the propositions had undergone, at least, a fair and un-influenced discussion.'

The Answer of the Directory to the foregoing suggestion is stated to have been to the following effect:

'That they had chosen the course of public discussion, that all the world might be made parties to the negotiation, and judge between the two governments; but if it was the desire and taste of the English Court to prefer a close deliberation, they could have no objection.'

It is understood, therefore, that the propositions, which are confidently looked for from St. James's, are not to be made public; and the readiness with which the Directory yielded to this invitation is regarded as a proof of their desire to facilitate the object of the embassy.

ACCESSION OF THE NEW EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.

Petersburgh, Nov. 18. Her Imperial Majesty, Katharine II. died yesterday (*vide our Obituary*) and was succeeded by her son Paul Petrowitz. The first act of the new Emperor, after receiving the oaths of allegiance, was to nominate Count Ostermann Chancellor of the Empire. Count Marcoff, who was the principal adviser of the late Empress, is certainly to be dismissed. This is the only change of any importance which is expected to take place at the date of these dispatches.

Paul I. has ordered the corpse of his deceased father to be taken from its sepulchre in the church of Novieski in Petersburg, to be interred near the remains of his mother, in the family vault of his ancestors. This ceremony was performed under the fire of 21 pieces of cannon. The bodies are to lie in state three weeks in St. George's Hall in the Palace, and three days in the Castle. And in order to shew the highest honours to his father, the new Emperor has sent ten *Chevaliers de Garde* to Moscow, which is 700 miles from Petersburg, to bring the Imperial Crown from thence to place over his father's coffin while it lies in state. The day after the death of his mother, he ordered three pictures of his father to be hung up in the Palace.

Immediately on his accession to the Throne, he ordered the edict for recruiting more troops to be revoked; the tribute of 40 roubles, which each Lord had a right of exacting from his vassal, was reduced to five; every person (Foreign Ministers and travellers excepted) was interdicted from driving more than two horses in his carriage through the streets of Petersburg, instead of four or six, as was usual. This has been done to promote agriculture in the country, and prevent so many horses being employed in luxury in the capital. The new Emperor, who has been always very popular among the lower class of people, has shewn himself daily about the streets, and been uncommonly well received.

To shew that he bears no enmity to the family of Prince Subow, his mother's favourite, the Emperor has conferred on the brother of that Prince the First Order of St. Alexander. Another Order has been conferred on three Bishops, the first dignity of the kind ever bestowed on the Greek Clergy. Prince Constantine has been named Colonel of the Guards, the first post of honour; and the Grand Duke, his eldest son, is appointed Governor of Petersburg. The Naval Uniform has been changed from white and blue to blue and white; that of the Guards has also been changed.

The present Emperor of Russia is said to be strongly partial to Prussia. A similar partiality in the late unfortunate Peter III. rescued the Great Frederick from the most imminent danger to which he was ever exposed. In 1762, when that unhappy Prince mounted the Russian Throne, he immediately relinquished the system of his predecessor, the Empress Elizabeth; withdrew his victorious armies from the Prussian territory; made Peace with Frederick, and changed the whole face of affairs in Germany.

The new Emperor of Russia, Paul I. is short in stature, and even approaching to the diminutive; his face is round and concave, his nose turned up, and his chin sharp. Having been surrounded by Frenchmen in his youth, he has acquired a considerable portion of that vivacity which so strongly marks the French character, and he has something in his gait and deportment which gives him the appearance of a native of France.

The present Empress of Russia, the Princess of Wirtemberg, sister to the intended husband of the Princess Royal of England, is said to possess considerable ability and address, and to exercise almost unbounded influence over the mind of her husband. It seems to be the fate of the Russian Empire to be governed by women. Four females have occupied the Throne of the country within the last 60 years; a circumstance unparalleled in history.

OBITUARY.

LATELY, in the 87th year of his age, Thomas Reid, D. D. professor of Moral Philosophy in the University of Glasgow. His ingenious and elaborate works, especially his "Inquiry into the Human Mind," and his "Essays on the Intellectual," and the "Active Powers of Man," are noble and lasting monuments of his eminent abilities, his deep penetration, and his extensive learning. Dr. Reid's merit as a teacher and an author is very generally known. He was unquestionably one of the profoundest philosophers of the age, and although some, who think it a proof of weakness to differ from Mr. Hume, have slighted the speculations of Dr. Reid, and undervalued the mathematical precision which he laboured to introduce, his Enquiry into the Senses will, probably, be coeval with our language. It is founded on facts, which must continue to interest men while their constitution continues unchanged.---If any part of this admirable work were to be selected as the most ingenious, the inquiry into the eye, into single and double vision, might be quoted. His other works are of a more popular cast: In all of them, however, there appears, accurate arrangement, and candid argument, with illustrations so clear and copious, as evince a correct knowledge of the subject. Neither his great acquirements, nor the success of his works, slackened his pursuit of new knowledge. He studied the late improvements in Chemistry, he observed the great political events which have happened, and contemplated those with which the time seems pregnant, with the keen interest of one just entering on life. Age, indeed, and a native love of truth, gave him a degree of impartiality, which is now as rare in politics as it has always been in theology; so that he spoke of every thing like a superior being who had purified his perceptions without impairing his humanity. He venerated Religion; not the noisy contentious systems which lead men to hate and persecute each other, but that sublime principle which regulates the

conduct by controuling the selfish, and animating the benevolent affections. When vilified by intemperate Philosophers, he made no reply, being satisfied with having stated what he thought the truth; and when outraged by zealous who most falsely call themselves Christians, he bore the outrage meekly, using no terms either of complaint or reproach. He was, to the last moment, free from that morose, querulous temper, which has been deemed inseparable from age. Instead of repining at the prosperity or enjoyments of the young, he delighted in promoting them; and, after having lost all his own family except one daughter, he continued to treat children with such condescension and benignity, that some very young ones noticed the peculiar kindness of his eye. Every scheme which promised to improve human nature, or to alleviate human misery, found in him the most ardent support. He was uncommonly active in establishing the infirmary at Aberdeen; and he was an early, vigorous, uniform promoter of that in Glasgow.---Besides a very liberal subscription, he seldom visited the infirmary without leaving a new mark of his good will. His end accorded with the wisdom and goodness of his former life. He used sometimes to say, "I am ashamed of living so long after having ceased to be useful," though at that very time, he was acquiring or communicating useful knowledge. During his last illness, which was severe, he complained of nothing but the trouble that he gave his affectionate family; and he looked to the grave as a place not of rest merely, but of triumph. His late compositions contained allusions to his own decay; allusions the more affecting to his friends, because they seemed the genuine offspring of his feelings, and were expressed with all the dignity of virtue. Last winter, in the Literary Society of Glasgow, he read an ingenious discourse on the Muscles; and after stating, from his own experience, the effects produced on them by age, he con-

cluded thus: " May I be permitted to mention, that it was the experience of some of these effects of old age on the muscular motions that led my thoughts to this speculation, which, as it is owing to the infirmities of age, will, I hope, be heard with the greater indulgence. It is both pleasant and useful to contemplate, with gratitude, the wisdom and goodness of the author of our being, in fitting this machine of our body so admirably to the various employments and enjoyments of life."

Mr. T. Bailey, formerly Warehouseman at the University Printing Office, Cambridge; a man of very singular character. The week before his death, being apparently in good health, he ordered his coffin to be made, of red deal, in the rough, which he garnished with herbs, giving also orders for his interment without a shroud; he even proceeded to hire and pay his bearers, predicting his own death on the Saturday following---he lived, however, till Wednesday.

At his house, in Arlington-street, the Most Noble Thomas Thynne, Marquis of Bath, knight of the garter, groom of the stole to his Majesty, a member of the Privy Council, high-steward of Tamworth, and elder brother of the Trinity-house, a governor of the Charter-house, &c. His Lordship languished nearly 6 months, under a complaint arising from a tumour in his neck, which terminated in an abscess that baffled medical skill, but which he bore with the greatest fortitude and resignation---His character as a statesman, a scholar, and gentleman, have long been the subject of admiration; and his amiable domestic qualities as a husband, father, and friend, are well known.---His Lordship was born the 24th of September, 1734, and married in 1759, to Lady Elizabeth Cavendish Bentinck, sister to the present Duke of Portland. He has left by her Ladyship, who survives him, three sons and five daughters; and is succeeded in his titles and estates by his eldest son Thomas.

At St. Helen's Aukland, Com. Durham, Mr. Michael Broadbelt, a most ingenious clock-maker, into which machines he had introduced a great number of improvements and novelties, though his proficiency was the effect of intuitive genius, and of application

unaided by any previous instructions his general skill in mechanics was displayed in a great variety of curious inventions; some of his clocks contain small orreries---and others are furnished with chimes, said to be more strictly consonant to harmonic principles than such machines are commonly found to be---His mind, which, as well as his hands, was continually employed, appeared to have no bounds to its researches; and his most intimate acquaintance are of opinion, that he received little or no information from books; he was seldom known to consult any; and seemed only to have a small acquaintance with the best scientific writers, even on his favourite subjects.---To the superior force, then, of his native genius, must be ascribed the numerous productions which, in a more public situation, would have rendered him eminent! Lately, he planned and constructed an organ, which, by competent judges, was pronounced a good instrument, and was lately sold to a musical gentleman, for a considerable sum of money.

At Renmore, near Taymouth, the seat of the Earl of Bredalbane, in Scotland, Robert Johnson, of Newcastle-upon-Tyne---

" *A youth to fortune and to fame unknown,*" who, if life had been preserved till he had reached the maturity of age, gave fair hopes that he would have carried the fine arts, in some of their most difficult branches, to a perfection they have not hitherto attained in Britain. The few persons who were within the narrow circle of his acquaintance, esteemed him not less for the goodness of his heart, than they prized him for those uncommon talents, which, in spite of a variety of depressing circumstances, shone forth, in him, with a splendor that astonished every one who had an opportunity of observing, and powers to appreciate, them. They now, with the most sympathetic woe, condole with his aged parents, of whom he was the solace and support, and deeply mourn his untimely fate, not as a private misfortune only, but as a national loss, which they cannot indulge the hope of living to see supplied.

On Monday morning, the 24th of October last, at his house in Landvery, Caermarthenshire, of the gout, in the 69th year of his age, Arthur Davies,

Esq. father of Doctor Davies, of Caermarthen, and one of his Majesty's justices of the peace for that county. A gentleman whose death is universally, and deservedly, lamented. The various duties, and offices of social life, he discharged with great zeal and philanthropy.---As a Magistrate, he was eminently useful in his neighbourhood; active impartial, and independent; and he descended into the grave, covered with the highest honour, that of being esteemed, and acknowledged, an honest man!

At Plymouth, on the 2d of November, in the 34th year of his age, after a lingering illness, which he bore with exemplary fortitude and resignation, Mr. Moore, a surgeon of that place, and visiting apothecary to the Royal Naval Hospital. His talents and virtues did honour to a name and family, which have been long characterised, and are still adorned, by learning and worth. He was distinguished by much skill in the exercise of his profession, by rare powers of mind, and by extensive reading; but his mental endowments and literary accomplishments were united with the most valuable properties of character, with independence of principle, with firmness and consistency of conduct. By his family, by his neighbourhood, and by the wide circle of his friends, his death is deeply regretted, and the remembrance of him will be ever affectionately cherished.

The late Mr. Bearcroft, whose death we announced in our obituary for last month, was Chief Justice of Chester and of Flint, Denbigh, and Montgomery, in Wales; a Member of the Royal Society of Antiquaries, of London; a Bench of the Honourable Society of the Inner Temple; one of his Majesty's Counsel; and Member of Parliament for Saltash, in Cornwall. Mr. Bearcroft was an example of industry and perseverance at the Bar. For many years he had scarcely business enough to support himself with the severest economy; he actually, in despair, thought of relinquishing the Profession. In time, however, his good sense and knowledge of the Law excited confidence, and till his hearing latterly became affected, he was one of the most successful of its Professors, particularly in cases in which legal opinions were requisite. For many years he was the only Advocate, whose

abilities and eloquence could, with a chance of success, be employed in competition with those of the illustrious and unequalled ERSKINE.

His remains were interred, on Tuesday, Dec. 6 in the Temple Church, attended by a great number of the most shining ornaments of the Bar. The remains of his amiable daughter, who suddenly followed her worthy father, were interred at the same time.

Lately, At Stockton upon Tees, Mr. W. Murray Johnson, youngest son of the late Rev. George Johnson, of Norton, com. Durham.

At Overseal, after a few days illness, Thomas Wilkes, a very eminent and successful banker, manufacturer, &c. The meekness and suavity of his manners, for which he was eminently distinguished, his extreme punctuality in all his extensive commercial dealings, his readiness to assist and accommodate all his neighbours upon every emergent occasion, which his fortune enabled him to do in an uncommon degree, his universal benevolence and liberality, and the whole tenor of his amiable deportment in the different offices of life, domestic and social, have rendered his loss the subject of extreme grief to his family and relatives, and will be severely felt, as it is justly deplored, by a very numerous body of acquaintance and friends throughout the country.

Mrs. Bradley, relict of Thomas Bradley, Esq. late Merchant and Member of the British Factory at Lisbon.

At Newcastle, Stafford, Mr. Thomas Swinnerton, many years an Alderman of that Borough.

Richard Marshall, Esq. Barrack-master for Glasgow and Dunbarton. Major of the Glasgow Volunteers, and formerly one of the Magistrates of that City.

At Martinique, Dr. Story, Physician of the Staff.

Mr. Thomas Hardcastle, of Woodhouse, near Leeds.

The Rev. Mr. Robert Powley, rector of Sessay, near Thirsk.

At Putney, William Jenkins, Esq.

The Rev. Robert Barker, Rector of Hicking, in Nottinghamshire, and formerly Fellow and Tutor of Queen's College.

At Chelsea, Major Benjamin Dodd, as generally regretted, as he had been through life beloved and respected.

At Ashted, Com. Warwick, Joseph Carles, Esq. late of Handsworth, whose character will not be forgotten by posterity, for his conduct during the disgraceful and never to be forgotten Riots at Birmingham, in 1791. In private life he was an affectionate husband, a tender father, and a sincere friend to those to whom he was attached. He bore a long and painful illness with exemplary fortitude and resignation.

At the Grove, near Envill, Mr. Wolaston.

At Barchill, Berkshire, Mrs. Phillips.

At Cowden, near Dalkeith, Scotland, Mr. Stair Baillie.

At the Manse, of Irongray, Scotland, the Rev. James Finnen, Minister of the Gospel there.

Mr. John Crouse, the Printer of the Norfolk Chronicle upwards of 35 years.

Mrs. Ann Compton, wife of Mr. John Compton, of Charlotte-street, Portland Place.

At Dublin, Mr. Carnac, who was born deaf and dumb.

Robert Hodgkinson, Esq. of Preston, Lancashire, Steward of that town.

The youngest daughter of James Graham, Esq. of Lincoln's Inn.

In Sloane-street, Mrs. Stephen, wife of James Stephen, Esq. Barrister at Law.

At Baconsthorpe, Mr. John Spurrell, in the 102d year of his age. He retained his faculties to the last.

At Exmouth, Devon, Wm. A. Douglas, jun. Esq. of Strathcurry.

At Saffron Walden, Essex, Mrs. Whishaw, widow of Richard Whishaw, Esq. late of Dedham, in that county.

On the 17th of November, at Petersburg, HER IMPERIAL MAJESTY, CATHERINE, II. Empress of all the Russias. She had been somewhat indisposed several days previous to the 16th ult. but, on the morning of that day she was very cheerful, and took her coffee, as usual, to breakfast. She afterwards went to her closet, and as she staid an unusual time, one of her principal female attendants, opened the door, and found the Empress extended on her back, with her feet towards the door, in an apoplectic fit. Three quarters of an hour elapsed before her chief Physician, Dr. Rogerson (a Scotch gentleman) arrived. She was then bled twice, and appeared to be much relieved, but never spoke afterwards. She

remained in this state till the evening (Thursday the 17th) when about a quarter before ten the Physicians pronounced her dead.

On the Empress being opened, two stones were found in her gall-bladder, weighing nearly an ounce and a half.

The character of the Empress of Russia was none of those which we view with indecision and doubt: it had nothing little, nothing petty in it; it was all grand-----all decisive; the features of it were marked and manifest; the lines broad and deeply indented. She had none of those qualities which fluctuate between vice and virtue.--- Her virtues and her vices were all conspicuous. We admire the magnificence of her enterprize, the commanding vigour with which she wielded the energies of her mighty Empire; the liberal encouragement which she afforded to the arts and sciences, and the attempts she made to polish the manners of her people. But our admiration is converted into detestation and dread, when we contemplate her on the theatre of her vices. What an unbroken series of horror and havoc did her immeasurable ambition create!---an ambition restrained by no considerations---limited by no laws, human or divine; which pursued its purpose through blood and carnage; which seemed to be ever craving and never satiated; whose appetite increased with what it fed on! What shall we say to the methodical massacres committed at Ismael and at Warsaw! to the shocking oppression exercised upon Poland, and to the savage dismemberment of that insulted country! a dismemberment, whose authors seem to have rivalled the Huns in cruelty, and to have disputed the pre-eminence of guilt with Attila himself. Perhaps there never was a Sovereign who was more systematic in her ambition, more persevering in her projects, than the Empress of Russia.

20. At St. Andrew's, Scotland, the Hon. Mrs. Murray, mother of Lord Elibank.

24. At Falmouth, Thompson Spottiswoode, Esq. of the Island of Tobago.

25. Miss Elizabeth George, of Aylesbury, Bucks.

At Durham, suddenly, as he was going down a dance, Sir William Dick, Bart. Major of the Mid-Lothian Fencible Cavalry.

At his house in Fitzroy-street, Fitzroy-square, Colonel Philip Glover, late of the Lincoln North Royal Militia. This gentleman some years since went to France in quest of the property of the celebrated Dutchess of Kingston; and has long been well known in the gay and fashionable world. The bulk of his property is bequeathed to his daughter, now about fifteen years old, who will probably be one of the richest heiresses in the kingdom.

27. Mary Jeffries, who has resided several years in Old Pye-street, Westminster, at the advanced age of 115 years: she retained her faculties to the last. She has been supported by the bounty of different persons, and a small relief she received from the parish, for several years past.

Owen Clutton, Esq. of Balcombe Sussex.

17. In Weymouth-street, Portland Place, William Pickett; Esq. Alderman of Cornhill Ward; to which office he was elected in May 1783, and filled the office of Lord Mayor in 1790. As an active and worthy magistrate, his loss is much to be lamented. Few individuals have experienced more domestic afflictions, and fewer still have met them with more fortitude than fell to his share. One daughter only survives him.

At the house of his brother at Twickenham, the Right Hon. Lord John Cavendish, uncle to his grace the Duke of Devonshire. England will have to bewail, by the death of this virtuous nobleman, one of the firmest defenders of her civil and religious freedom.

LIST OF BANKRUPTS.

Nov. 29. W. Jones, Oxford-str. man's mercer. S. Percival, Clerkenwell Close, painter. W. Garner, Margate, bookseller. W. Fane, Whitechapel Road, broker. R. Pashley, Tower-street, wine-merchant. T. Acock, Fletching, Sussex, shopkeeper. M. Reynolds, Abchurch-lane, money-scrivener. J. Robson, Piccadilly, perfumer. M. Smith, Liverpool, joiner. C. Godmond, Kingston upon Hull, wharfinger. J. Martin, Poole, ironmonger. J. Davison, Spittal, Durham, blue-maker. W. Grigg, Winchester, mealman. R. Lees and J. Hague, Hurst, Ashton under Line, Lancashire, cotton-spinners.

Dec. 3. Z. Amisick, Clement's-lane, merchant. W. Hilton and J. Jackson, Oxford Road, linen-draper. W. Wilkins, Wapping Wall, grocer. H. Crafer, Holt, Norfolk, inn-keeper. J. Thompson, Kighley, York, cotton-spinner. J. Coren, Hereford, inn-holder.

Dec. 6. W. Cordy, Fleet-street, vintner. M. Prager, Old Broad-street, merchant. W. Greaves, Hackney, Middlesex, butcher. T. Hawkes, Dudley, Worcester, ironmaster. T. Felton, Bristol, dealer. J. Bancroft the younger, Derby, mercer and draper.

Dec. 10. J. and J. Barnicot, Falmouth, Cornwall, grocers. T. Altken, Alenmouth, Northumberland, merchant. T. and R. Hunt, Bread-street, hesiers. J. Langham, Wotton, brandy-merchant. R. Gifford, Old Gravel-lane, Wapping, stationer. W. Wood, Newgate-street, hostier. W. Mitchell, Gracechurch-str. mariner. T. Hewitt, Wakefield, linen-draper. J. P. Richard and A. H. Aiken, Liverpool, merchants. S. Kegers, Mau-

chester, manufacturer. T. Harrison, Lancaster, merchant.

Dec. 13. J. Conway and J. P. Richard, Liverpool, merchants. S. Whitby, Bolton, Lancashire, cotton-manufacturer. J. Donkin, Wakefield, grocer.

Dec. 17. J. Turner, Wai'dbur-street, timber-merchant. P. Blackstock, Castle-street, Long Acre, cabinet-maker. N. Hodges, Bermondsey, rope-maker. J. Wrenshall, Liverpool, musical instrument-seller. R. Watson, Oxford, grocer. T. Horsefield, Preston, Lanc. cotton-manufacturer. T. Egginton, Hales Owen, Salop, pocket-book-maker.

Dec. 20. J. Beyer, Thayer-street, Manchester Square, upholder. W. and T. Fane, High-street, White-chapel, upholsterers. J. Bromfield, Broad-street, Ratcliffe, plumber. R. Bailey, Wisbech, baker. T. Turner, Penryn, merchant. T. Duddy, Hunton, Kent, butcher. J. Wright, Liverpool, grocer. B. Cope, of Bullock Smithy, Cheshire, callico-manufacturer.

Dec. 24. M. Crutchfield, Foster-lane, victualler. F. Davies, Bell Yard, Doctors Commons, coal-merchant. H. Guest, Shoreditch, oilman. J. Jenkins, Exeter, linen-draper. J. Curry, Manchester, dealer. W. Robinson, Winttingham, Lincoln, grocer. R. Owen, Liverpool, Sawyer.

Dec. 27. G. Curzon Addis, Birchington-lane, watch-maker. W. Hayfield, Portland-lane, Gray's inn-lane, hackneyman. G. Bracebridge, Borough of Leicester, druggist. T. Kaye, Bolton le Moors, Lancashire, money-scrivener. J. Whiteley, Manchester, corn dealer. J. Miller, Holbeach, Lincolnshire, grocer. J. Ellwood, Briscoe, Cumberland, callico-printer.

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