



*Catherine III. Empress of Russia,
Taken from an Original Bust.*

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THE
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OR
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Commisumque teges et vino tortus et ira. Hor:



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THE
SCIENTIFIC MAGAZINE,

AND

FREEMASONS' REPOSITORY.

FOR JANUARY 1797.

EMBELLISHED WITH AN ENGRAVED PORTRAIT OF
CATHARINE, LATE EMPRESS OF RUSSIA.

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THE PROPRIETOR TO THE SUBSCRIBERS.

AT the commencement of a new Volume, the Proprietor of this Magazine has changed its Title; and that this change may not be unacceptable to his numerous Subscribers, he begs to state the reasons of it. From the time the Magazine became his property, it must have been observed, that an entire new, and he trusts improved, arrangement of it has taken place. This new arrangement has rendered its circulation much more extensive; and it has been suggested, that the number of readers would still farther be increased by a change of title. From its first establishment, the 'FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE' was not confined to subjects of Masonry only, but intended to comprehend every thing that can instruct or adorn human life. Readers, however, uninitiated in the sublime mysteries of the Craft, have been induced to think, from that title, that no one but a Brother could glean either knowledge or pleasure from its contents. But that no one may be deterred, on the threshold, from exploring the elegance and symmetry of the various parts of the building, the Proprietor has altered the design, but he trusts not impaired the beauty, of the porch; and he now offers a welcome to readers of every description.

Such are the Proprietor's motives for the change of title, and he relies with confidence that they will be satisfactory to every one of his present Subscribers. It may, however, be necessary to add, that the present title points to a part of the future contents of the publication. In some future Numbers, it is intended to give Essays and Engravings illustrative of 'the SCIENCES.' At the same time the Fraternity will not find themselves forgotten. Zealous for the Order from principle, the Conductors promote its interests with all their talents and ability; and the FREEMASONS' REPOSITORY will continue to form a complete Masonic library.

On purchasing the Magazine from the late proprietors, a prospectus of its intended arrangement was published; and it is hoped, that every promise then made, has been realized.

The Proprietor has now only to return his sincere thanks for the extensive patronage conferred on the Magazine, and to assure the Subscribers, that liberality in every department shall continue to render it equal to any Monthly Publication extant.

TO READERS, CORRESPONDENTS, &c.

WE have received a letter signed W. claiming the MS. of the Essay on the Character of King William. The essay was sent us by an old correspondent, which removes the blame, if any, from us; but we trust that the reasons we have given in our note, directed as W. requested, will not only convince him that there was no impropriety in making it public, but insure us his future favours.

O. S. T. has our thanks for his communications, more of which will appear in our next.

A variety of poetical and other favours are under consideration.

We beg to inform the Masonic Body in Great Britain and Ireland, that 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 Scientific Magazine will be found a valuable and entertaining Miscellany to Readers of every description.

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THE
SCIENTIFIC MAGAZINE,
AND
FREEMASONS' REPOSITORY,
For JANUARY 1797.

BRIEF MEMOIRS
OF HER LATE
IMPERIAL MAJESTY, CATHARINE II.
EMPRESS AND AUTOCRATRIX OF ALL THE RUSSIAS, &c.

WITH A PORTRAIT.

OF all the sovereigns who have graced the different thrones of Europe, for some centuries past, none have challenged more general admiration, both for greatness of mind and splendour of achievement, than Catharine the Second. Convinced, therefore, of the magnitude of the object we have to consider, we enter into the enquiry of her character, and review of her actions, with all that circumspection which it seems so strongly to require.

SOPHIA AUGUSTA (the maiden name of the empress) was born in the court of Anhalt Zerbst, in the year 1729; and in 1745; when only sixteen years of age, after being re-baptized according to the rites of the Greek church by the name of CATHARINE ALEXIEFNA, was espoused to Peter Feodorovitch, great duke of Russia.

Even in her infancy, Catharine is said to have given promise of those vast talents which have since so much astonished mankind; but the narrow confines of a petty German court afforded no room for their display. Placed, however, by her marriage, in a more exalted station, she soon afforded the most signal proofs of the vigour of her mind and comprehension of her intellect. During the first years of her marriage, the most perfect union subsisted between her and the great duke, which was at length succeeded by mutual aversion and disgust. Peter, whose mind had been warped by a bad education, and who had been purposely kept ignorant of political affairs, was held by the then empress Elizabeth in a state of complete dependence: a prey to idleness, and without the power of amusing himself with the rational occupations of literature, he gave himself up to the most

trifling pursuits, or to the lowest gratifications. At Petersburg, he lived more in the style of a state prisoner, than of a successor to the crown. When Elizabeth removed to Peterhof, he was permitted to reside at his favourite palace of Oranienbaum, where he indulged himself in his passion for military pursuits. Impatient of this restraint, he occasionally broke into open and bitter invectives. These expressions either wantonly exaggerated, or maliciously interpreted, were carried to Elizabeth; and the enemies of Peter had at one time almost prevailed on her to declare his son Paul (the present Emperor) her heir, and Catharine regent, in case of a minority; but upon more serious reflection, she persevered in her former appointment, and Peter's enemies were disgraced.

During the reign of the empress Elizabeth, Catharine employed her hours of leisure in a course of assiduous study; and particularly applied herself to those authors who were eminent for political knowledge: born with superior abilities, she improved them by a constant habit of reflection, and paid an unremitting attention to the cultivation of her mind. Her mild and insinuating manners, her engaging address, the graces of her person, her unwearied assiduities, and a perpetual fund of interesting conversation, had conciliated the favour of the suspicious Elizabeth, who ever treated her with complacency and affection. Even her husband, though in his general behaviour to her contemptuous and unmannerly, occasionally testified great respect for her superior abilities, and usually demanded her advice on every emergency. Whenever any quarrel arose between him and Elizabeth, Catharine was sure to mediate between them; and Peter often owed a favourable reception at court to her influence. Such was the situation of the court, when Elizabeth died, on the 25th of December, 1761.

Upon this event, Peter III. assumed the government of Russia, with all the joy of a person enlarged from a long imprisonment into a state of the most perfect liberty; and immediately proceeded to conduct himself on principles diametrically opposite to those of his predecessor, Elizabeth, at the time of her decease, was, in conjunction with the courts of Vienna and Paris, engaged in a war with the great Frederick of Prussia. But Peter had no sooner ascended the throne, than, sacrificing every other consideration to his enthusiastic regard for the character of that monarch, he dispatched an envoy to Berlin to propose an immediate reconciliation; and in the space of only a few months, Frederick was enabled, by the assistance of Russian troops, to drive the Austrians from Silesia.

Peter having gratified his wishes in this treaty, turned his thoughts to a revival of his claim to the Duchy of Slesvic, and to a reform of the interior administration of his empire; and it must be allowed that Russia dates several useful and important alterations from the short period of his reign; during the first six weeks of which he proposed so many salutary regulations, accompanied by so many judicious reflections, that many persons conceived themselves mistaken in the ideas they had formed of the extent of his capacity; and that, during the reign of Elizabeth, he had, from motives of policy, affected a weakness of understanding. His subsequent conduct, however, proved

that he was both a weak and an imprudent prince: such of his regulations as were beneficial being accompanied by others that were detrimental; and several of his plans of reform being totally repugnant to the customs and genius of his people. He irritated the clergy, by secularizing the estates of the monasteries, and ordering many painted images of saints to be removed from the churches. He offended the army, by the preference which he publicly shewed to his Holstein troops; by introducing the Prussian discipline; and appointing new uniforms to several regiments. He affronted the nobility, by appointing his uncle Prince George of Holstein, generalissimo of the forces; and by the superior confidence he placed in foreigners. He raised great discontents as well by the war with Denmark, as by his alliances with Prussia; and inflamed the general odium by the public contempt he expressed for the Russian nation, for their religion, and for their manners. This impolitic defiance of popular prejudices, destroyed the affection of his subjects; fomented the intrigues of the opposite party; and at length terminated in his dethronement.

In no light does the inconsistency of this unfortunate emperor's character more strongly manifest itself than in his behaviour to his consort. After his accession, though he frequently gave public marks of deep-rooted aversion; yet he would often behave to her with that deference, which the superiority of her understanding challenged. By an unaccountable act of imprudence, he would, in a full court, invest her with the exterior decorations of sovereignty; while, in the character of a colonel, he presented to her the officers of his regiment. At the blessing of the waters, when the Russian monarch appears in all the pomp of majesty, the céremonial part was left to the empress, and he mounted guard as colonel, and saluted her with his pike. Under all these circumstances, the dignity of her department was so striking, that it was impossible not to contrast her behaviour with the trifling levity of her husband's conduct; and to give the preference where it was so evidently due. Thus this insatuated prince, at the very time he was fully determined to divorce and imprison his wife, imprudently displayed to his subjects her capacity for empire; and, while he proclaimed her forfeiture of his own esteem, adopted every method to secure to her that of the whole nation. Meanwhile the breach between them was continually widened: he would occasionally behave to her with the most brutal contumely; and once, in particular, at an entertainment he gave in honour of the king of Prussia, he publicly affronted her to such a degree, that she burst into tears, and retired from table. Thus his insults, no less than his deference, equally attracted odium to himself, and popularity to Catharine.

It is also a well-known fact, that he more than once avowed an intention of arresting both her and the great-duke, (now Paul I.) whom he proposed to exclude from the succession, and of marrying Elizabeth countess of Voronzof, his favourite mistress. This alarming measure was scarcely adopted before it was immediately conveyed to Catharine, through the imprudence of the countess. By the same, or other means, as well as by the indiscretion of Peter himself, the em-

press obtained early intelligence of every resolution formed against her person. She was thus enabled to seize the decisive moment of enterprize; and to secure her safety by preventing the designs of her husband.

Indeed her danger became every day more and more imminent, and the moment of her being arrested seemed at hand. A brick house, consisting of eleven rooms, had, by the emperor's order, been constructed in the fortress of Schlüsselburgh, for a person of very considerable consequence, and with such expedition, as to be almost finished within six weeks. Peter went himself to Schlüsselburgh with a view to examine it: and no great depth of penetration was requisite to perceive that it was built for the empress. In this important crisis a meeting of her party was held at Petersburg. This party was extremely small, and, excepting the princess Dashkof, and her particular adherents, consisted only of a few among the principal nobility. The most conspicuous of these were prince Volkonski, count Panin, governor of the great-duke, and count Razomofski Hetman of the Ukraine. In the first consultations, for dethroning Peter III. it was proposed, according to the plan of chancellor Bestuchef, to declare the great duke emperor, and Catharine regent during his minority; and this would have been the measure naturally followed in any country, wherein the order of succession was more fixed than in Russia. Nor was it but a few days before the revolution, that the inconvenience attending a minority, joined to the popularity and abilities of the empress, induced the insurgents to adopt the resolution of placing her upon the throne. At these meetings various plans of an insurrection were proposed; but it was at length unanimously agreed to delay their attempt until Peter's departure for Holstein, when Catharine might seize the capital during his absence, and ascend the throne.

The arrest of one of the empress's adherents, a lieutenant in the guards, whose name was Passec, greatly alarmed her friends, as they concluded that the emperor had penetrated their design; and although they soon discovered that it had been occasioned by some irregularity of which he had been guilty as an officer; yet the consternation it had spread among them hastened the execution of their enterprize. Every moment was big with danger; and a discovery seemed inevitable, if the insurrection was delayed until the emperor's departure for Holstein.

The empress, however, who continued at Peterhof, shuddered at the advice to precipitate the hour of action: her resolution at this awful crisis, when immediate decision was necessary, seemed for a moment to fail, and she hesitated to assent; but her party at Petersburg, convinced that the least delay would prove fatal, dispatched, on the evening of the 27th of June, an empty carriage to Peterhof, the appointed signal for her approach to the capital. Catharine, whose greatness of mind soon recurred to support her in this dreadful state of agitation and suspense, instantly escaped from her apartment; and, at three o'clock in the morning, having traversed the garden alone to the place where the carriage was waiting for her, was conveyed with all speed to Petersburg. It had been preconcerted, that count Panin

should attend to the safety of the great duke's person; that Gregory Orlof should remain in the capital to win over some of the guards; and that count Razomofski should prepare his regiment for the reception of the empress. In consequence of this determination, Catharine, upon her entrance into Petersburg, immediately repaired to the quarters of the Ismailofski guards. The hour was so early that Razomofski, the lieutenant-colonel, was not yet arrived: an alarming circumstance, sufficient to have disconcerted a person of less spirit; but the empress, having dispatched a messenger to him, summoned before her the officers and soldiers. A few who had been apprized by Orlof were ready: while the greatest part, being roused unexpectedly from their slumber, made their appearance scarcely half dressed.

The empress instantly laid before them the bad conduct of the emperor; his avowed contempt of the Russians; his aversion to their customs; and his attachment to foreigners. She exposed the dangers which awaited her own person, her son, and the principal nobility; she expatiated upon the probable subversion of their religion and government; and exhorted all those to follow her, who were desirous of saving their country, and of rescuing her and the great duke from certain destruction. Her speech, occasionally interrupted with sighs and tears, was short and pathetic; and, further enforced by the graces of her person, made an instantaneous impression: the greatest part of the soldiers answered her with loud acclamations; a few officers, indeed, at first seemed to hesitate; but the arrival of Razomofski quieted their apprehensions; and the whole regiment offered to sacrifice their lives in her cause. Catharine now proceeded to the church of the Virgin Mary of Casan; being joined in her way by various bodies of guards, and by many of the principal nobility. Service being performed by the archbishop of Novogorod; the empress took the accustomed oath to preserve inviolate the privileges and religion of the Russians; after which the nobles and people flocked in crowds to swear allegiance to the new sovereign. At the conclusion of this ceremony she repaired to the senate, the members of which body acknowledged her **SOLE EMPRESS**. Immediately after this a manifesto was issued by Catharine, announcing the dethronement of Peter and her own accession to the throne of All the Russias. Not the least opposition was made from any quarter to the proceedings of the empress; and, notwithstanding the streets of Petersburg were filled with soldiers, who are generally tumultuous and ungovernable in such dreadful periods, yet the greatest order and discipline were preserved, and no injury was offered to any individuals.

At six in the evening, the empress, habited like a man in the uniform of the guards, with a branch of oak in her hat, a drawn sword in her hand, and mounted upon a grey steed, marched towards Peterhof, accompanied by the princess Dashkof, the Hetman Razomofski, the Orlofs, and her principal adherents, at the head of 10,000 troops. About eight miles from the capital, Catharine entered a public house called Krasnoi-Cabak; and employed herself for some time in tearing and burning a large quantity of papers. She then flung herself in her clothes upon an ordinary bed; slept about an hour and a

half; was on horseback by break of day; and proceeded about four miles further, to the convent of St. Sergius at Strelna; into which she retired while the troops encamped around.

While the revolution was carrying on at Petersburg, the emperor remained in his palace at Oranienbaum, from whence he had made unsuccessful attempts to obtain possession of the strong fortress of Cronstadt, or to make his escape to Holstein. The great policy, therefore, on the side of Catharine, was to obtain possession of his person without effusion of blood, and to amuse him, without driving him to desperate measures: for she was well aware that it was yet in his power with his Holstein troops to defend himself to the last extremity, or by his escape to involve the empire in all the horrors of civil war. The judicious manner in which she conducted this delicate affair, shews her no less able in the arts of negotiation, than in the spirit of enterprize.

On the first news of the revolution, the emperor had dispatched general Ismailof with a message to the empress, offering to resign his crown, upon condition that he should be permitted to retire into Holstein with his mistress Vorontzof and his favourite Godovitch. But the wisdom of Catharine soon saw the impolicy of permitting this. She, therefore, calmly represented to Ismailof the madness of any attempt to oppose her now in full possession of sovereign authority; she pointed to her troops who were posted in large bodies upon the adjacent grounds; adding, that Peter's resistance would only draw on himself and his party the vengeance of an enraged army; and, therefore, proposed that the emperor should repair to Peterhof where the terms of his abdication should be adjusted. Ismailof, now finding the tide of success turned on the side of the empress, and perceiving the clergy, the army, and the principal nobles, engaged in her cause, was convinced that nothing was left to Peter but submission. Seduced by the insinuating eloquence and engaging address of the empress, he undertook to persuade his unhappy master, by immediate submission, to save an effusion of blood, which could be productive of no effectual advantage to his cause. With this view he returned to Oranienbaum between ten and eleven, and found the emperor in the palace with Muncic, Elizabeth Vorontzof, Godovitch, and others, anxiously expecting his arrival. Having retired into another apartment, the result of their conference was, that in less than an hour the emperor, with Elizabeth Vorontzof, Godovitch, and Ismailof, entered the carriage, in which the latter had returned to Oranienbaum. Peter quitted that palace without a single guard or attendant; but he had scarcely proceeded a mile, before a corps of Hussars, of the empress's party, surrounded the carriage, and accompanied it to Peterhof, where he arrived about half past twelve. He was immediately separated from his companions. The empress declined a personal conference; but sent count Panin, who was admitted alone. What passed during this awful interview between that nobleman and his deposed sovereign, is not, nor probably ever will be, disclosed to the public; but nothing can convey a stronger picture of the emperor's weakness and pusillanimity, than the formal abdication which was the result of their conversation.

As soon as he had signed this abdication, he was conveyed a prisoner to Robscha, a small imperial palace twenty miles from Peterhof; and the empress returned to Petersburg. About seven o'clock in the evening she made her triumphant entry on horseback, amidst continued huzzas; the streets were filled with a prodigious concourse of people, who were drawn up in lines, and kissed her hands, which she held out to them; and the clergy who crowded the avenues of the palace, were treated by her in a manner expressive of the highest deference.

Thus did the vigour and policy of this extraordinary woman, without any right of blood, seat her on the throne of the Czars; and thus was a revolution, which transferred the greatest empire on earth, effected in a few hours, without bloodshed and almost without confusion or tumult. Over the conclusion of the story of the unfortunate Peter we could wish to draw a veil; but the pen of history must record facts impartially. Such a prisoner, it is natural to suppose, could not remain long in that condition. On the ninth day subsequent to his seizure it was reported he had a disorder in his bowels, and soon after his death was publicly announced. We know no more. History, in some future age, may possibly elucidate his end; but in this century it is not likely such a secret will be divulged.

Though we would not, however indirectly, appear to apologize for crimes, yet justice requires we should say, that beside state policy (by which mankind are too apt to justify fraud and force) the empress might plead self-defence, if not even self-preservation, as a motive for her conduct. Peter, as has been already stated, had concerted, and would have carried into execution, the most severe measures against her, if he had not been prevented by the vigour and celerity with which Catharine acted in bringing about the revolution, and these reasons will, perhaps, induce us to look with candour on an action, which policy first seemed to require, and subsequent circumstances rendered unavoidable.

We now come to consider the acts of Catharine when seated on the imperial throne; and foremost among these must be placed her regulations for the internal administration of the empire. Many sovereigns subsequent to the time of Alexey Michaelovitch, and particularly Peter I. had framed the project of amending and reforming the Russian jurisprudence, but had never carried it into execution: the completion of this great and arduous undertaking was reserved for Catharine II. who in 1767, summoned deputies to Moscow from every part of her extensive dominions, and having appointed commissioners for composing a new code of laws, delivered to them her Grand Instructions, which she had previously composed in the true spirit of genuine legislation. In conformity to these instructions, the first part of a new code made its appearance in 1775, and a second part in 1780; both of which have been received in many of the new governments into which the empire has been divided. To give an ample detail of all these regulations would be in our limits impossible; we cannot, however, forbear enumerating a few of the most striking peculiarities, in the extensive plan which changed and modified the whole system of government.

The Russian empire, which had been divided by Peter the Great into nine extensive governments, is now divided into five times that number, each upon an average containing not more than from 3 to 400,000 males. One or more of these governments is superintended by a *Namestnick*, or lord-lieutenant; and each of them has a vice-governor, a council, and civil and criminal courts of judicature; some of whose members are appointed by the sovereign, and others are chosen by the nobles. By this institution Catharine set, in some instances, bounds to the royal prerogative, by diminishing the power of those tribunals which were dependent only on the crown; by transferring it to the nobles; and investing them with many privileges with respect to the administration of justice.

By establishing or separating the different boards of finance, police, &c. from the courts of law, which before impeded each other by meeting in the same place, she facilitated the dispatch of business, and rendered the administration of justice more speedy. And by increasing the salaries of the judges, who before, from the narrowness of their incomes, were necessarily exposed to the almost irresistible temptations of bribery, she has rendered the administration of justice pure and uncorrupt.

To these regulations must be added the settling of the proper boundaries between the several governments, which has prevented many dissensions and law-suits; the appointment of regular physicians and surgeons, stationed in the various districts, at the expence of the crown; the foundation of schools for the education of the nobility, and of others for the children of inferior persons; the establishment or augmentation of new seminaries for those intended for holy orders; the grant of freedom to numerous vassals of the crown; and the plans made for facilitating the means of giving liberty to the peasants. The society for the promotion of agriculture, at Petersburg, is an institution too important and useful to be overlooked; the more so, as it owes its origin to the empress.

But of all the regulations made by her majesty, none claims greater pre-eminence than the establishment of the academy at Petersburg, for the instruction of 200 students, designed to be masters of the provincial schools. This academy is provided with professors of history, mathematics, rhetoric, and natural history; with a German master, and a drawing master. The students are selected from the different seminaries of the Russian empire; and, as they have received their education as priests of the regular clergy, understand Latin. They are admitted at twenty years of age, and remain at Petersburg three years; during which period they are instructed in history, geography, the various branches of natural philosophy, and natural history. They are all boarded, lodged, and instructed at the expence of the sovereign. At the conclusion of their term, their places are supplied by others, and they are distributed in the various parts of Russia. Each provincial master thus distributed is to instruct others as preceptors of the schools in the lesser towns. The regulation of this useful establishment is entrusted to a committee of five members, who superintend the whole.

[TO BE CONCLUDED IN OUR NEXT.]

ON SUICIDE AND MADNESS.

[IN A LETTER FROM A CELEBRATED DIVINE TO A FRIEND.]

MY DEAR FRIEND,

WHEN your sister has so excellent an adviser always near her, I should not have ventured to say thing about the state of her health, but from a full conviction, that no evil that afflicts the human species can exceed nervous disorders, when they rise to any considerable height. A man's virtue has never been tried, till he has felt something equal to the pungent misery which they produce in their last stages: and, therefore, when I hear of any person distinguished for the sweetness of his nature, goodness, or integrity, it is of no weight with me, unless these virtues have for their basis the sincere love of God, to that degree, that a man can say from the bottom of his soul, 'O my God! thou knowest that my whole delight is in thee; that my heart is continually adhering to, longing, and thirsting after thee: where-ever I go, and whatever I do, I know that thou art intimately present in and to my soul; and that thou art the sum and center of all my thoughts, words, and actions.'

Till a man's virtues are built upon this solid rock, let them be ever so specious, ever so attracting, yet in the day of trial he will assuredly sink under them.

This I have often deeply experienced in myself, and have as frequently observed in others of great pretensions. And it effectually demonstrates this great truth, that there is no inherent goodness in man, merely as of himself; but that it is the gift of God, and must be communicated to the soul by the Deity, and received into it by the awakened hunger of that divine seed which is implanted in the depth of the heart of every son of man, just in the same manner, and from the same ground, as the sun communicates, and the vegetable world receives, that prolific virtue, which is the cause of all the beauty and perfection with which we see the face of nature adorned.

It is a groundless conception, that man, by his natural powers, is able to sustain himself in the most trying circumstances, and even to work out his own salvation: this is the cause of vast misery to human creatures; and, amongst the learned and thinking part of mankind, I can assign no other reason for the horrid act of suicide.

Cato and Brutus, two distinguished names in the heathen world, are universally acknowledged to have possessed as many great and excellent virtues as ever dwelt in the soul of any, whom the great Apostle denounces only the mere natural man; and yet history informs us of the tragical issue of their lives, when the disorders of adverse and contending interests were brought to a crisis. Now, as we are perfectly acquainted with the natural innate firmness of their souls, and the excellency of their natures, and how strong the love of life is implanted in the nature of all men; to what cause can we ascribe their having recourse to

such desperate remedies for relief, but to their relying upon their own natural powers, to bear them up under the severest trials? Standing upon this ground, the properties of their nature were, by many great and trying adversities, worked up into a state of extreme contrariety, anxiety, horror, and despair; till at last these raging, contending qualities grew intolerable; and, as the only relief from the anguish they felt, both had recourse to suicide. And as human nature is invariably the same in all ages, so the very self-same cause must be assigned for the many deplorable instances of the same act of desperation, even in these days of more enlightened knowledge.

Man's life becomes a burthen, when, by adversity and distress, the evil that is in him is violently excited. To fly from himself is impossible; and finding all his own endeavours to remove his misery ineffectual, he thinks that happiness is for ever flown from his breast; and, no longer able to bear the pungent reflections of his own mind, he breaks the sacred bonds of life, and rushes headlong into eternity.

To a mind tenderly affected with the distresses of human nature, how lamentable is this condition, which drives our fellow-creatures to such immediate destruction! But, lamentable as it is, yet with respect to every son of fallen man, till he feels himself in some measure in the state above described, that is, till the properties of his natural life find the want of a higher good, he has no awakened sensibility of himself, no just conception of the depth of misery and happiness which lies hid in human nature. And would but men, upon these trying occasions, as their condition surely demands, give themselves up totally to God, they would infallibly find a remedy adequate to the depth and burthen of their misery: the working, contending properties of their nature would soon be appeased, by the entrance of the heavenly power into their afflicted souls; and an inward joy and peace would gradually succeed, proportionate to the distresses they have endured.

If Cato and Brutus had had recourse to this sovereign remedy, I am well assured, from the nature of man, neither of them would have perished with the ruin of their country; nor yet under the tumultuous struggles of their own nature, far more insupportable than all outward miseries. For this heavenly remedy is always near at hand to every son of man; and as soon as he feels the burthen and wretchedness of his own nature (as feel it he will, sooner or later) and in the earnest desire of his heart, cries out to God, the divine goodness will then communicate itself to the soul, as freely as the sun does its virtues to the fruits of the earth, which would perish, had they not their proper nourishment thus imparted to them, and derived into their natures. As this is an undeniable truth, which the face of nature demonstrates, so it is no less undeniably true, that a supernatural goodness, flowing from God, must be derived into the soul of man, in the same manner as the virtues of the sun must be derived into the fruits of the earth, before he can possibly arrive to that state of goodness and perfection which his nature wants. And as nothing less than an inward growth of the divine life can be our Saviour and Deliverer, so it is the mistaken consideration, that God is only an outward good, who has no

other than an outward relation to us, that leaves men uncured of all their natural disorders and corruptions: for a God merely outward, can do no more good to the soul, than an excellent medicine, which, though known to exist, is yet never inwardly applied, can do to the body.

Now, what a wretched condition must that intelligent creature be in, who feels himself in the state of incessant misery above described, and has no God that stands in a nearer relation to him than this outward good! And yet this is the only God which the systems of modern infidelity, and nominal Christianity, set before us. It is true, they both represent Him as a being of infinite perfection, and require us to have magnificent conceptions of him; but when these two truths are established, all the essential relations, as he is our Redeemer, Purifier, and inward Holiness, (which are the most important to his creatures) are left out of the question; and then, when these high ideal conceptions fail a man, and he feels that his own natural stock of integrity and goodness is not of itself sufficient to sustain him in the hour of home-felt distress, he has recourse to suicide, or else is driven into madness: and all this is no fault of nature: for it unavoidably follows from its working in a state of blindness, void of God; in which state, with all its dreadful consequences, in a greater or less degree, Nature must always work, till it is united to the sovereign Good, who can alone satisfy the boundless desires of the heart of man. But this cannot be done by any ideal conceptions of God, however great and just, but by simply turning the working will and desires of our souls to him: for these are the strong powers in man, which can alone unite with the Deity, and by their magnetic virtue draw the divine nature in'o our souls. And when, according to the beloved Apostle, he dwells in us, and we in him, then all the restless working properties of our nature, which drive us on to suicide and murder, will be appeased, and blessed with a fulness of peace and satisfaction: so that a man can truly say to himself, 'I think there breathes not on earth a man more happy than myself.' And, as a consequence of this happiness, his heart continually rises into higher degrees of love and gratitude to God, and the most diffusive benevolence to every creature in the universe.

I am, &c.

O. S. T.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SCIENTIFIC MAGAZINE.

SIR,

THE following singular relation of an imposture, practised in the last century, is extracted from Piot's History of Oxfordshire. And as it may prove entertaining to many of your readers, I beg your insertion of it in your valuable Miscellany.

'Soon after the murder of king Charles I. a commission was appointed to survey the king's house at Woodstock, with the manor, park, woods, and other demesnes to that manor belonging; and one Collins,

under a feigned name, hired himself as secretary to the commissioners, who, upon the 13th of October, 1649, met, and took up their residence in the king's own rooms: his majesty's bed-chamber they made their kitchen, the council-hall their pantry, and the presence-chamber was the place where they sat for the dispatch of business. His majesty's dining room they made their wood-yard, and stored it with the wood of the famous royal-oak from the High Park, which, that nothing might be left with the name of king about it, they had dug up by the roots, and split and bundled up into faggots for their firing.

Things being thus prepared, they sat on the 16th of the same month for the dispatch of business, and in the midst of their first debate, there entered a large black dog (as they thought) which made a dreadful howling, overturned two or three of their chairs, and then crept under a bed and vanished: this gave them the greater surprise, as the doors were kept constantly locked, so that no real dog could get in or out. The next day their surprise was increased, when sitting at dinner in a lower room, they heard plainly the noise of persons walking over their heads, though they well knew the doors were all locked, and there could be nobody there; presently after they heard also all the wood of the king's oak brought by parcels from the dining-room, and thrown with great violence into the presence chamber; as also all the chairs, stools, tables, and other furniture, forcibly hurled about the room; their own papers of the minutes of their transactions torn, and the ink-glass broken. When all this noise had some time ceased, Giles Sharp, their secretary, proposed to enter first into these rooms, and in presence of the commissioners, of whom he received the key, he opened the doors, and found the wood spread about the room, the chairs tossed about and broken, the papers torn, the ink-glass broken, (as has been said) but not the least tract of any human creature, nor the least reason to suspect one, as the doors were all fast, and the keys in the custody of the commissioners. It was therefore unanimously agreed, that the power who did this mischief, must have entered the room at the key-hole.

The night following, Sharp, the secretary, with two of the commissioners servants, as they were in bed in the same room, which room was contiguous to that where the commissioners lay, had their bed's feet lifted so much higher than their heads, that they expected to have their necks broken, and then they were let fall at once with so much violence as shook the whole house, and more than ever terrified the commissioners. On the night of the 19th, as all were in bed in the same room for greater safety, and lights burning by them, the candles in an instant went out with a sulphurous smell, and that moment many trenchers of wood were hurled about the room, which next morning were found to be the same their honours had eaten on the day before, which were all removed from the pantry, though not a lock was found opened in the whole house. The next night they still fared worse, the candles went out as before, the curtains of their honours beds were rattled to and fro with great violence, their honours received many cruel blows and bruises by eight great pewter dishes, and a number

of wooden trenchers being thrown on their beds, which being heaved off, were heard rolling about the room, though in the morning none of these were to be seen. This night likewise they were alarmed with the tumbling down of oaken billets about their beds, and other frightful noises, but all was clear in the morning, as if no such things had happened. The next night the keeper of the king's house and his dog lay in the commissioners' room, and then they had no disturbance. But on the night of the 22d, though the dog lay in the room as before, yet the candles went out, a number of brick-bats fell from the chimney into the room, the dog howled piteously, their bed-cloaths were all stripped off, and their terror increased. On the 24th they thought all the wood of the king's oak was violently thrown down by their bed-sides, they counted 64 billets that fell, and some hit and shook the beds in which they lay; but in the morning none were found there, nor had the door been opened where the billet-wood was kept. The next night the candles were put out, the curtains rattled, and a dreadful crack like thunder was heard, and one of the servants running to see if his master were not killed, found three dozen trenchers laid smoothly under the quilt by him.

But all this was nothing to what succeeded afterwards; the 29th, about midnight, the candles went out, something walked majestically through the room, and opened and shut the windows; great stones were thrown violently into the room, some of which fell on the beds, others on the floor; and at about a quarter after one, a noise was heard as of forty cannon discharged together, and again repeated at about eight minutes distance. This alarmed and raised all the neighbourhood, who coming into their honours room gathered up the great stones, fourscore in number, and laid them by in the corner of a field, where, in Dr. Plot's time, who reports this story, they were to be seen. This noise, like the discharge of cannon, was heard through all the country for sixteen miles round. During these noises, which were heard in both rooms together, the commissioners and their servants gave one another over for lost, and cried out for help; and Giles Sharp, snatching up a sword, had well nigh killed one of their honours, mistaking him for the spirit, as he came in his shirt from his own room to theirs. While they were together, the noise was continued, and part of the tiling of the house was stript off, and all the windows of an upper room were taken away with it. On the 30th at midnight something walked into the chamber treading like a bear; it walked many times about, then threw the warming-pan violently on the floor; at the same time a large quantity of broken glass, accompanied with great stones and horses bones, came pouring into the room with uncommon force; these were all found in the morning, to the astonishment and terror of the commissioners, who were yet determined to go on with their business.

But on the first of November, the most dreadful scene of all ensued; candles in every part of the room were lighted up, and a great fire made; at midnight, the candles all yet burning, a noise like the burst of a cannon was heard in the room, and the burning billets were tossed

about by it even into their honours beds, who called Giles and his companions to their relief, otherwise the house had been burnt to the ground; about an hour after, the candles went out as usual, the crack as of many cannon was heard, and many pailfuls of green stinking water were thrown upon their honours beds; great stones were also thrown in as before, the bed curtains and bedsteads torn and broken, the windows shattered, and the whole neighbourhood alarmed with the most dreadful noises; nay, the very rabbit-stealers that were abroad that night in the warren, were so terrified, that they fled for fear, and left their ferrets behind them. One of their honours this night spoke, and, 'in the name of God, asked what it was, and why it disturbed them so?' No answer was given to this, but the noise ceased for a while, when the spirit came again, and, as they all agreed, 'brought with it seven devils worse than itself.' One of the servants now lighted a large candle, and set it in the door-way, between the two chambers, to see what passed, and as he watched it, he plainly saw a hoof striking the candle and candlestick into the middle of the room, and afterwards making three scrapes over the snuff, scraped it out. Upon this the same person was so bold as to draw a sword, but he had scarce got it out when he felt another invisible hand had hold of it too, and pulled with him for it, and at length prevailing, struck him so violently on the head with the pummel, that he fell down for dead with the blow. At this instant was heard another burst like the discharge of the broadside of a ship of war, and at about a minute or two's distance each, no less than nineteen more such: these shook the house so violently, that they expected every moment it would fall upon their heads. The neighbours on this, as has been said, being all alarmed, flocked to the house in great numbers, and all joined in prayer and psalm-singing, during which the noise still continued in the other rooms, and the discharge of cannons was heard as from without, though no visible agent was seen to discharge them. But what was the most alarming of all, and put an end to their proceedings effectually, happened the next day as they were all at dinner, when, a paper in which they had signed a mutual agreement to reserve a part of the premises out of the general survey, and afterwards to share it equally amongst them, (which paper they had hid for the present, under the earth in a pot in one corner of the room, and in which an orange-tree grew) was consumed in a wonderful manner, by the earth's taking fire with which the pot was filled, and burning violently with a blue fume, and an intolerable stench, so that they were all driven out of the house, to which they could never be again prevailed upon to return.'

This wonderful contrivance was all the invention of the memorable Joseph Collins, of Oxford, otherwise called Funny Joe, who having hired himself for secretary, under the name of Giles Sharp, by knowing the private traps belonging to the house, and the help of *pulvis fulminans*, and other chemical preparations, and letting his fellow servants into the scheme, carried on the deceit, without discovery, to the very last, inso much that Dr. Plot, in his natural history, relates the whole for fact, and concludes in this grave manner: 'That though tricks have

been often played in affairs of this kind, many of the things above related are not reconcilable with juggling; such as, the loud noises beyond the power of man to make, without such instruments as were not there; the tearing and breaking the beds; the throwing about the fire; the hoof treading out the candle; and the striving for the sword, and the blow the man received from the pummel of it.

THE GHOST OF STERNE IN LONDON.

A PLAGUE of long stages! I'd rather be shampoo'd by all the barbers of Hindostan, than venture myself among such a set a second time:—cooped up in a crazy coach, with a brandy merchant's wife, as fat as a porpoise, on one side;—a raw-boned Caledonian, whose sharp shoulder bones could hardly be prevailed upon to stay within his skin, on the other;—and a Welchman opposite, whose reddening face seemed to threaten me with a box on the ear every time my knee touched his!—Worse still! a fellow has spit a quid of his cursed tobacco on my stocking!—Well,—never mind;—'tis all over now. We are safely landed; but my foot sleeps confoundedly.

'Stamp it on the ground, Mr. Thersites,' (which was the name I had assumed, to prevent the fear which ghosts commonly create) said the lady, with the pimple on her nose.—

'I will, ma'am,' said I.—It cured my foot, but the stone on which I stamped, was loose, and splashed the white breeches of an Irish gentleman; whom, if I am not mistaken, I had seen wearing a turban at Constantinople.

'Upon my soul, sir,' said he, 'you do not act like a gentleman, in splashing me so.'—

'I am sorry for it, indeed sir,' said I, 'for if I were only killing a louse, I would try to do it in a gentleman-like way.'

He swore, and talked of fighting; but I knew him too well to mind him.—It was a mere flash!

My getting so handsomely rid of this duel in embryo, has put me in such a good humour, that I will tell you a secret of very great importance. But if I should happen to be taken by the watchmen in one of my nocturnal rambles, and carried by them before the city magistrates, I may fare the worse for divulging it:—so I may as well hold my tongue—yet, as it is rather ill-bred to excite your curiosity and not gratify it, I will tell you in a few words, *Kent street is a very filthy entrance into London.* However, out of regard for the respectable body of men just mentioned, I would advise you not to speak of this again;—and, if this should not be sufficient to silence you, I can give you another reason for this precaution, which is—that all the world knows it, as well as yourself.—

'Now for coffee, my fellow-travellers.—What a number of emigrants!—Why, Paris must be quite gutted by this time!'—

'Almost, sir,' said one of them.—'It was a charming place once,'

said I.—‘It is so still, sir,’ said he. ‘There are too many tumults there, sir.’ *N’importe,* said he. ‘It is the capital of France.’ ‘*Mon Dieu, monsieur,*’ said I; ‘no one can live there now with safety.’ ‘*Bagatelle! Les batimens sont magnifiques.*’ ‘*C’est pour les batimens que vous aimez Paris donc, monsieur?*’ ‘*Assurement.*’ This man had been a Parisian *marquis de boutique*, I suppose—‘*Adieu monsieur.*’

Say what you please, I cannot see any great difference between an Englishman and Frenchman.—One of each nation are going to play at backgammon.—Let me observe them, and by contrast, see in what respects they differ.—‘Oh! certainly;’ said a sarcastic voice, behind me; ‘the pleasure must be very great indeed!’

O England, thou art the native soil of humourists, hypochondriacs, and the devil knows what! I hate common-place remarks. This fellow, I see, is endeavouring to palm himself on his hearers for a sensible man.—He has quite broken the chain of my ideas, I protest!—And, if I should go to another box out of hearing, I shall lose sight of my backgammon players. But the Frenchman will let all the company know how the game goes. ‘*Mon Dieu! Quelle betise! Vous gagnerez la partie, monsieur,*’ exclaims he.—The Englishman contracts his eyebrows, leans his cheek on his hand, and discovers no emotion either of hope or fear.—He is successful.

‘*Ab!—Voila un coup de maitre,*’ says the Frenchman—‘*Vous perdrez assuredment, monsieur!*’ ‘Damn the dice!’ says the other. ‘But for that throw, the game was my own!’ He now swears, and offers to double the stakes—He is unlucky.—Strange, that he should bear good fortune with such a grace, while the least reverse makes him mad.—The Frenchman, on the contrary, can, by his manners, give an air of gentleman-like consequence even to poverty itself.—

Were it not for this gentleman-like air, that poor fellow opposite to me would make but a pitiful figure. He seems, from his dress, to have left France in a very great hurry. It consists of a brown-silk coat with white lining;—a black satin waistcoat, stockings of the same colour, and green breeches. The pinch of his hat is too smart to have been moulded by the clumsy hands of an English hatter; and his hair—you had better not touch it, my friend—it appears as if it would prick your fingers.—Though he appears a little depressed, those lines still remain in his countenance, by which you may trace French gaiety;—his features seem to struggle, as it were, to preserve their natural cast, in spite of the gloom diffused over them by misfortune.—Yet he is not in so deplorable a situation as I thought. He has a friend to whom he can relate his sorrow.

‘*Ab! mon ami,*’ says he, ‘*j’ai perdu ma femme & mes enfans, j’ai perdu tout mon bien!*’—His friend, by taking a pinch of snuff, reminded him of another misfortune—‘*Et ma tabatiere aussi, mon cher ami, j’ai perdu ma tabatiere!*’ ‘*Ce n’est pas grande chose,*’ said his friend.

I was exactly of the same opinion. How, said I to myself, can he put the loss of a snuff-box in the same inventory that contains that of his wife and his children?

‘*Ab! monsieur, c’est une tabatiere que j’ai garde—il y a vingt ans.*’

One—two—three—four—five—six—seven—eight—nine—ten—eleven.—Eleven o'clock, I declare! At this hour I should have been at my lawyer's. 'But I'll come back and hear your story,' said I to myself.—

Take me up for an emigrant, because I have an *outlandish* name, as you call it!—It is not right, my gracious sovereign, that a man should be laid fast by the heels, because the letters of his name happen to be combined differently from those of other names. It is an alarming circumstance, and I cannot be at rest till I communicate it to you.

A certain bookseller, who bears a high rank in the city militia, having seen my name at the beginning of this work, said, he could not understand the meaning of *Thersites Prætextatus*. It has a suspicious sound with it.—This man may be a very dangerous enemy; for he is said to be a great adept both in military and literary tactics; (that is to say, the art of scientifically ranging volumes, according to their dimensions, on shelves made for that purpose) and can always have at his heels not only a number of critics, but, what is much more dangerous, a number of well disciplined soldiers. For, you must know, our city militia can march to any tune:—nay, I have seen some of them, when marching, beat time with their heads, as justly as the leader of their band (if they have one) possibly could;—to shew the world, I suppose, that the stiff neck and erect posture of a Prussian soldier are by no means compatible with English liberty.—Now, as I am unwilling to appear in a suspicious light to this illustrious tactician; and, as I fear my uncommon name may excite alarms in the breast of many loyal subjects; and what is worse than all, lest I should have a lodging found for me in the Tower;—all these reasons, I say, have determined me to give an account of myself in form. Indeed I have neglected the most important duty of an author, in not having prefixed the history of my life to this work: for you may have observed that it has been a prevailing custom among great men to do so, ever since the days of David H——, of famous memory.

ACCOUNT OF MYSELF.

AS to my family, colonel, the name I have the honour to derive from my ancestors is a sufficient voucher for its antiquity.—The name of *Thersites*, from whom I can prove myself lineally descended, is well known to all the literary world. It is true, the posterity of that great man have mostly degenerated into jackpuddings, mountebanks, &c; but my father, by marrying the daughter of a Spanish tragedian, acquired a right to have her arms quartered on his own; he likewise assumed her family name (*Prætextatus*); and all the bad qualities belonging to the *Thersitical* breed are corrected in me, by the portion of tragical blood I derived from my said mother. I must own, however, that the *Thersitical* air and manner still predominates in me; and though I endeavour to conceal it as much as possible by my *pra-*

lecta, yet I have always some sudden unaccountable start that betrays me: so that if you can conceive, what sort of figure a jack pudding would make in the character of Cato or Richard the Third, that is exactly the idea which my name ought to convey to you.

‘A very pretty girl indeed,’ said I to myself!—Going into a circulating library too!—She is a boarding-school Miss, I suppose, who reads novels till she has not one idea that bears the stamp of common-sense.—I’ll follow her, however, let her be what she will.

What obsequious puppies!—Lord Monboddo says that—men were originally monkies:—it is said too that all things return to their first principles:—therefore men will, in time, again become monkies. Now, as shopmen and men-milliners are totally different from any other beings we are acquainted with, I look upon them to have degenerated towards the monkey kind much more than any other men, and they may be said to form the link which connects the man and ourang-outang. As for belly-piece makers and petticoat warehousemen, as I never make use of their commodities, I have never had an opportunity of observing them sufficiently to form a decided opinion of them; but I am informed by some female naturalists of my acquaintance, that they are a species of the same genus.

‘You shall have a catalogue immediately, sir,’ said the shopman.

Whoever thou art, fair damsel, when thou takest up Laury Sterne, consider that he labours in every line to raise indelicate ideas: so, if thou hast any regard for chastity of thought, read not his works;—they will certainly corrupt thee.—And yet, thou son of humour and of feeling, who can help admiring thee?—When the fastidious critic is in the very act of opening his mouth to condemn thee, let him but recollect that thou hast wept like a brother over the sorrows of *Le Fevre*,—that thou pluckedst the nettle from off the monk’s grave,—that thou hast told the story of *Maria*, and delineated the amiable character of an uncle *Toby*—and, if he does not change his intended censure into praise, all I say is—Nature has been unkind to him!

Johnson’s works too, with the doctor’s portrait at the beginning, like a porter placed at the door of an auction-room to invite passengers to come in! What a physiognomy!—The head leaning to one side, and the mouth open, are certainly symptoms of deep reflection,—yet it wants the *coup de grace*:—draw a tongue lolling out of his mouth and the figure will be complete. Would you take him for such an excellent writer as he really was?—I am sure you would not.—‘No, indeed one would not, sir,’ said the lady.—‘But I was at the moment you spoke busily reading a page on politeness from the works of Lord C.’ ‘His lordship is a very excellent writer, madam,’ said I. Now I made this answer merely from an instinctive wish to agree with the lady: for I assure you, I did not know what book she meant. But I’ll peep at it by and by.—O, ho! this is the book in question:—‘Instructions for gaining the Art of gracefully blending the Morals of a Whore and the Manners of a Dancing-master, in a Series of Letters from a Nobleman to his Son.’—*Five is bagatelle, mais au diable la libertinage!*—

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

ESSAYS
ON SUBJECTS CONNECTED WITH
HISTORY AND CLASSICAL LEARNING.

No. II.

ON THE CHARACTER OF KING WILLIAM THE THIRD.

[CONCLUDED FROM OUR LAST.]

THE motives of William's conduct may, in some measure, be inferred from the end he had in view; and the end he had in view be sometimes deduced from the motives by which he was actuated. Nor is this reasoning in that logical circle, in which the sophist will frequently entangle himself, but reasoning founded upon a strict observation of life and nature: for the motives we shall infer, are from ends that are confessed and allowed; and the ends we shall deduce from motives, are from such as are previously acknowledged. And, first, I think that that, which both his friends and enemies agree to have been the grand object of his life, carries with it a strong presumption of the motives by which he was actuated. Human nature is incapable of the energies which William displayed against the restless ambition of Louis, if not prompted to exertion by stronger motives than those of pique or prejudice. Even influenced by the purest principles of patriotism, and the most thorough detestation of tyranny, few men could have born with the embarrassments and insults to which William submitted, or supported the labours and the dangers which he surmounted. A virtuous patriotism, aided by a powerful sense of the approbation of heaven, could alone have enabled a man of the greatest fortitude to submit to the distresses to which he subjected himself by resistance. We infer, therefore, from this fact, and we infer it boldly, that William's opposition to the arms of Louis arose chiefly from the purest principles of patriotism—from the most fervent attachment to liberty. His speech to the congress at the Hague, is truly characteristic of his genius, and declaratory of the generosity of his mind. 'Remember,' said he, 'that it is not now a time to deliberate, but to act; you must snatch the liberties of Europe from the grasp of the monarch of France, or submit for ever to his yoke.' And this principle being once discovered, we have a right to conclude, that it was at least one of the chief motives for his interference in the affairs of England. Without a junction with England, the league of Augsburgh would have been unable to defeat the efforts of France; and her assistance could never be expected, while James claimed the power of indulging his own political prepossessions.* This, and no other, is a complete solution of some seeming improprieties of conduct, and some appearances of incongruity in the subsequent parts of his reign. The generosity of his religious prin-

* No prospect of a league with England against France. See BUSSER, Vol. I. p. 479.

ciples not disputed by any detractor of his fame. The whole tenor of his life would refute so gross a calumny.* The act of toleration, his lenity to the papists themselves, his remarkable caution in taking the oath of sovereignty to Scotland, confirm beyond a doubt his liberality on the subject. He refused to concur with James in his attempts to abolish the test act, not because he was hostile to toleration, (for he was, upon principle and good sense, ever as warm a friend to religious as to civil liberty) but because he was well aware, that by these means the monarch intended, silently and insidiously, to introduce his beloved popery. Yet surely the offers that were tendered in return for such a concession, were the most tempting that could be made to a man of an enterprising spirit, and engaged in the views of William. May we not hence infer, that William would not gratify even his favourite policy at the expence of the duty which he owed to religion? And if he entertained this regard for religion, how cogent a motive, how powerful an inducement, must it have been for his engaging in the Revolution!

William was too wise to be much influenced by the attractions of power. He who is engaged in the pursuit of greatness may, indeed, 'like the miser in his golden views,' esteem himself for a time supremely blest; but his pleasure consists not in the rational fruition, but in distant hope and delusive prospects, in fancies which are never realised, and in glories which fade away in the evening of life, like the changeful tinges of a western sky. Ambition might be the predominating principle of his heart; but still, under the controul of his better judgment, power, arrayed in all her gaudy allurements, had few charms for him, but as she enabled him to contribute more largely to the welfare of mankind.

Should a concise enquiry into the blessings attendant on the Revolution be deemed a digression from the subject, let the pleasure we feel in contemplating them, form some excuse for indulging in the pleasing theme. We state them, however, because they seem to us to have something more than a mere relevancy to our argument. The character of our hero is exalted in proportion to the intended benefits which either have been, or must have been, derived from that auspicious event. 'We have ever since enjoyed, if not the best system of government, the most entire system of liberty, that ever was known amongst mankind.' † And what is it but this, that enables us thus to boast of our superiority? What but this, that every action of government is subservient to the laws; and that those laws ensure the continuance of our blessings, or the means of recovering them? Despotism, in the hands of a good and able man, is inferior to a free and enlightened government, only in the want of security which the subject has for its continuing to be so conducted. And yet of such real importance is this security, that no man, with the feelings of hu-

* See the natural, simple, and beautiful description given by Burnet of the princess's resolution with respect to the dignity William should hold in England.

† Hume.

manity, can disapprove of the struggles, both in ancient and modern days, that have been made to obtain it. So little is the confidence we can place in man in such situations, so great the danger that a Tiberius or a Nero should succeed an Augustus, that no expence, no difficulty, should deter us from guarding against it. 'If a king be vested with a discretionary power of dispensing with the laws, what remains deserving the name of a free constitution or settled government? The security of every thing valuable is at an end; and the inhabitants of Britain would enjoy no pre-eminence over the wretched slaves, who bow with terror and submission to the edicts of a tyrannical despot.* Yet nearly such was our condition at the Revolution. The substantial principles of liberty originated with our constitution, and were inseparable from its very existence.—They were still contained in great power and abundance in the trunk of the tree, though the arm of the tyrant might have lopped off some of the branches. Nothing was wanting but a safeguard to its undisturbed vegetation. Nor was it long wanting. Our ancestors struggled, and prevailed. Those powers which were hostile to our liberties, were for ever abolished. The doctrine of resistance was asserted in theory, and confirmed by precedent. A spirit of free enquiry was infused into our political body, which gives a timely check to the abuse of power, or rouses our fellow countrymen to vengeance on their oppressors. By the preservation of the protestant religion, we probably prevented the horrors of catholic bigotry and superstition:—horrors which the furious zeal of Queen Mary had so recently exhibited. In the right of managing and directing the supplies, our ancestors have conferred a privilege, which, if exercised with resolution and integrity, would overthrow a corrupt administration, or prevent the possibility of its existence. At the Revolution, the terms of the original contract were expressly declared, and the reciprocal duties of prince and people stated and defined. Before that time, the executive power had endangered the legislative, by claims of independencé and pre-eminence. Then it was, that, by denying the pretended right of dispensing with the laws, the legislature regained its natural authority, and became the supreme power in the state. But the Revolution, perhaps, deserves as much the attention of the philosopher, for its direct influence on the progress of human opinion, as for its immediate effects on the government of England. A revolution productive of consequences like these, will be depreciated by none but overweening theorists, or wild enthusiasts. They must either not understand its merits, or be pursuing some visionary scheme of their own. The imagination of man can always paint more pleasing pictures than any which can be found in the curious exhibitions of art, or in the beautiful scenes both of rude and cultivated nature. But till mankind shall be more free from their passions and infirmities, the government established at the Revolution, restored to its original purity by such additions and alterations as time and circumstances require, and such

* "State trials.—Sir E. Herbert's Defence."

provisions as may be necessary to retrench the luxuriance of prerogative and the influence of venality, will be found best calculated to promote the happiness and secure the liberties of England. We owe it to our forefathers, to preserve entire those rights which they purchased with their blood; we owe it to posterity, not to suffer their inheritance to be wasted or destroyed: and may we never be insensible to these sacred duties!—Nor let us call this glorious design of our ancestors incomplete in the execution. They only feel the gratitude, and pay the homage due to the authors of the Revolution, who reflect not abstractedly on what they then did, but, considering times and circumstances, how little more they could have done with certainty and safety.

But as we state the blessings attendant on the Revolution, as sources of glory to its leading agent, we must likewise allow, that the evils which resulted from it, will detract from the unbounded praises that would otherwise be due to his merits. Let us observe, however, that mankind cannot foresee all the consequences of their actions, and that (from the very constitution of the human mind, which ever views its own designs with a fond partiality) unexpected evil will oftener arise than unexpected good. Amongst the first of these evils is the war with France, the inevitable consequence of the Revolution, perhaps even the tacit condition upon which William ascended the throne of England. Yet supposing that war, in its effects, to have had an unfavourable influence on the general interests of mankind, (of which, however, there is the greatest reason to doubt) that which has proved its most fatal consequence, the system of funding, can never be admitted as a fair ground of crimination against its conductor. The national debt, that growing burthen which will one day crush a too patient people, has been increased to its now formidable magnitude by the perversion of a precedent, which was not in itself pernicious. If, indeed, the balance of power (the preservation of which was the motive, and, as we contend, at that time the justifiable motive of this expensive war) were always brought to its natural level, rather by its own tendency to restore itself, than by any efforts of a state not immediately connected with it, the war and its material consequences might then perhaps be justly laid to the charge of William. And as far as this war can be deemed to have been unnecessary, William stands convicted of adopting, without necessity, and therefore, without justification, a plan which hath since been perverted to the ruin of our finances, and the diminution of our national prosperity. But if ever there was reason to fear, that the equipoise would be destroyed, it was surely in the career of a monarch, whose power and whose address were exceeded only by the insatiable appetite of his ambition. If then a revolution were necessary either for the support of religion or the rescue of freedom, the expences, with which it was attended, were amply compensated by the independence of England and of Europe. But even conceding this point, (which seems to us so completely defensible) it was not by the intrigues of William that this country was plunged into the contest. Our ancestors entered with

full approbation, and almost unsolicited, into his policy and designs. That want of liberality to foreign nations, that antipathy to France, which unfortunately had been too long prevalent, too long cherished and supported, then flourished in full vigour; and impelled them to engage the enemy, more from their native animosity, than the jealousy with which the projects of Louis deserved to be watched.

Let us now examine with attention, and a rigid impartiality, such objections to his character as seem to have any weight, or to need justification. The massacre of Glencoe—the treaty of partition—his conduct to the Scotch trading company—his opposition to the measures of parliament, and his infringement of domestic obligations. These are formidable objections; and in one of them, we fear we cannot, consistently with truth, pretend to acquit him of some share of criminality. The horrid massacre of Glencoe will leave a spot upon the character of William, which all the waters of the ocean will be unable to wash out.—The signing the warrant of execution may not only be accounted for, but excused and justified. But his allowing the perpetrators and accomplices of that wanton and deliberate butchery to escape with impunity;—his want of justice, his want of feeling, in not enquiring into the transaction,—is inconsistent with every other of the actions of his life. Motives of policy might, indeed, cool or stifle his vengeance; but phlegmatic and little irritable in temper as he was, the suspicions of his subjects demanded some proof of his disapprobation. Every honest man, every feeling patriot, is shocked at the enormity; and while we erect a monument to those many virtues, in which he has been excelled perhaps by none, and equalled but by few, let us drop a tear over the one solitary crime, which but too clearly evinces, that he was subject to the weakness and the failings of humanity.

His grant to the trading company of Scotland, being calculated for the encouragement of industry and commerce, cannot be considered as improper. The construction of his enemies, however, was but too greedily and generally received—that it proceeded from an over-fond attachment and regard to his native land:—a construction which the common feelings of nature would inform us redounded less to the disgrace of the patriot, than to the honour of the man. But that *amor patriæ*, that local partiality we have before mentioned, that envy of their neighbours, and jealousy of successful industry, which then disgraced our countrymen, will account for the illiberal disposition of the nation towards the company, which William had been so eager to patronize, and the consequent impossibility of his redressing their grievances. The only objection to his character, on this charge, arises from his not supporting the privileges he had bestowed, and not preventing those dreadful evils which ensued from the repeal of his grant. Violently opposed by the commons, unaided by ministerial corruption, or the influence of places and pensions, and dependent on a refractory parliament for supplies, a limited monarch could not, without danger, have yielded to the impulses of benevolence, or

the dictates of his own judgment, in opposition to the clamours of his people.

The treaty of partition was the consequence of necessity; for surely, it is better to submit to a certain evil, than to endanger many important interests by a doubtful opposition. Without the complete approbation of parliament, all resistance to the successful arms of France would have been in vain. On the one hand, no firm reliance could be placed on the measures of parliament; on the other, experience might have shewn the inefficacy of his former efforts, though invigorated by the influence of his own personal energies. They only will condemn the measure, whose notions of political integrity exceed the bounds placed by the laws of nature to practical virtue.

The resistance, though of a doubtful and ambiguous nature, which he made to the measures of parliament, may be safely attributed to the unavoidable circumstances of the times, and their adverse tendency to defeat his favourite plans—plans ever formed for the defence of general independence. Many of these measures, undoubtedly, seem to have been well calculated to fortify and perfect the excellence of our constitution; and were such as he afterwards ratified and confirmed. Yet they then might not only appear to be, but probably were, hostile to the success of William's foreign undertakings. Had the love of power been his prevailing passion—had the other parts of his conduct given colour to suspect him of such a propensity—we might then have been authorized to assign it as the dishonourable motive of his resistance. But vague, circumstantial evidence will weigh but little against the positive proof that has been already adduced in favour of his general character, and of the motives by which he was actuated. And the unkind contradiction of parliament, the cruel ingratitude of the people, the peevish jealousy which they entertained of the Dutch, and the opposition which republican principles (then highly favoured) raised even to the legal exercise of prerogative, might have soured the finest temper; and would, in some, have excited a perverseness to which the dignity of William's understanding and the generosity of his nature did not allow him to descend. As to his favouring, by a secret treaty with Louis, the pretensions of James's son to succeed him in the government, it is supported only by solitary testimony; and must necessarily have been attended with those circumstances, the concealment of which is almost impossible, and contrary to the universal experience of mankind.

Let us, for one moment, conceive a powerful monarch of bigotted principles and insatiable ambition, long accustomed to the conduct of war, and regardless of the interests of his subjects or the liberties of mankind, invading his feeble neighbours, and like a deluge sweeping them before him:—let us suppose a people, whose power and whose valour could entitle them alone to stand forth the champions of freedom against this formidable tyrant, willing to engage in defence of the injured, but prevented by the sovereign who sat upon the throne:—let us suppose themselves too in danger of losing their religion, their liberty and the dearest privileges of man:—let us suppose a person,

eminent for his military and political talents, possessed of their confidence, and solicited to lead them to the recovery of their own rights, the salvation of their country, and the defence of their neighbours:—let us suppose it necessary to forfeit the ties of blood and the claims of friendship, and apparently to infringe some of the rigid rules of morality in order to secure success:—what would be the conduct he should pursue under circumstances so critical and difficult? If any one can point out a line different from that which William pursued, under circumstances exactly or nearly the same, we will repress the feelings of gratitude and the voice of admiration. But the moralist must acquit him with honour, the patriot regard him with raptures of admiration; and in whatever point of view we behold our great deliverer, he merits, and will extort, our applause. William the Third was “a pattern to imitate, not an example to deter.”* With a sound and penetrating understanding, and a natural equanimity of temper, which even the discipline of philosophy might despair of being able to produce, he possessed those gentler feelings and finer sympathies, which not only form the basis of domestic felicity, but, in every relation of life, constitute the first and loveliest ornaments of human nature. Remember his pious † sorrow for his faithful and affectionate consort. And well did her memory deserve the tear of silent regret, the heaving sigh of anguish.‡ Her name confers a dignity on the sex; and her complacent obedience, § her fervent attachment, and unwearied attentions to her *husband*, bear the strongest and most ample testimony of the character of the *man*. As a warrior, he was superior to every other of his age, inferior to few that preceded him. At the battle of the Boyne, he displayed the vigour of youth, the intrepidity of manhood, and the skill and experience of age. Though seldom successful, he frequently reaped all the advantages of victory from defeat. His military skill was exceeded only by his patriotism, his gratitude, and magnanimity. He was resolved to stand or fall with his country, to support her honour, to maintain her independence, or (as himself nobly and heroically said) “to die in the last dike.” As a king, his constant attention to the welfare of his people, the plans of reconciliation which he formed between contending parties and jarring factions, the liberality he encouraged in matters of religion, and the union he projected between two countries, which, though united by nature, ignorance and animosity had too long kept divided, entitled him to the gratitude of his subjects, and will secure him the gratitude of their posterity. As a politician, his sagacity is unrivalled; his success, unexampled in history. He

* Junius.

† See Burnet's pathetic relation of William's grief for the loss of his queen.

‡ ‘There is not in the whole history of his life a single action which seems to savour of bigotry.’ Of his being a staunch and real friend to toleration, see proofs, Somerville, Ch. 11. Ap. 2.

§ I have said nothing upon the ill success of that war---for *Macpherson* acknowledges that ‘William ought not to be blamed for the ill success and misfortunes of it.’

was the centre of all the political negotiations of Europe. His judgment, his prudence, his address, his delicacy, are equally conspicuous in every scene of the Revolution. An event, which commenced without confusion, was conducted without bloodshed, and accomplished without violence. Though he displayed not the power or splendour of a meridian sun, he shone as the polar star, to which, in preference to every other star in the firmament, the bewildered mariner looks up for protection, and on which he relies for security. And if the testimony of an offended subject can extort our belief, 'he was renowned in the world for his steadiness to truth, justice, the laws and liberty, his country, and the protestant religion. The world was filled with his fame, his friends adored him, and his enemies melted before him.* 'There was a simplicity, an elevation, and an utility in all the actions of his life.† 'I consider him as a person raised up by God to resist the power of France, and the progress of tyranny and persecution.' †

LETTERS FROM LORD ESSEX TO QUEEN ELIZABETH.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SCIENTIFIC MAGAZINE.

SIR,

OF the authenticity of the following letters, I can say no more, than that the gentleman, among whose papers they were found after his death, had written on the backs of them—that he, as well as many antiquarians and learned men of his acquaintance, believed them to be original.

O. S. T.

FIRST LETTER.

September 6, 1600.

'HASTE, paper, to that happy presence, whence only unhappy I am banished. Kiss that fair correcting hand, which lays new plasters to my lighter hurtes, but to my greatest wound applyeth nothing. Say thou comest from

Pining, languishing, despairing

S. X.'

SECOND LETTER.

September 9, 1600

'WORDES, if you can, expresse my lowly thankfullnesse; but presse not, sue nott, moane nott, least passion prompt you, and I by you both be betrayed. Report my silence, my solitariness, my sighs, but not my hopes, my feares, my desires, for myne uttermost ambicion is to be a mutte person in that presence, where joy and words would barr speech, from

The greatest Ladyes, in power and goodnesse,

Humblest mutte vassall,

S. X.'

* Lord Howard's letter to King William.

† Dalrymple.

‡ Burnet.

THIRD LETTER.

July 26.

'IN your long trance, most dear and most admired Love, I must sometimes moane, look up, and speak, that your majesty may know your servant lives. I live, though sad in spirit unto death; yet moane nott for impatience, as commonly sick men do. I look up to your majesty, on earth, as my only physitian, yet look for no physic, till your majesty, in your deepest wisdom and gracious favour, shall think the crisis past, and the time fit for cure.. I speak nott the wordes of my lipps, but the wordes of my soul; yet cannott utter that which most concerns me, and should give my full heart greatest ease. Therefore, I say to myself, ly still, look down, and be silent. Your majesty never buryed alive any creature of your favour, and hath past your princely word, that your correction is not intended for the ruine of your majesty's humblest vassall,

Pining, languishing, despairing,

S. X.

 THE DYING MIRA,

A FRAGMENT.

* * * * * DOES that rose look so gay, to mock my faded form?
—I will turn me from its beauties, while it remains
the symbol of what I once was—and wait the hour of evening, when
it will become the emblem of what I now am.

The venerable oak, which stretches forth its bare limbs, whereon
no verdure sprouts, and in whose rugged trunk vegetation has lost its
powers, soothes my wounded heart. But that tree was long the glory
of the plain;—a whole age and more conducted it to a slow maturity,
and a long course of years has glided over its decay:—while I have
scarce attained the hour of vernal bloom, when I feel my approaching
end, and a moment beholds me perish.

But wherefore should I complain?—My life has been without of-
fence; and that I die for love, cannot be imputed to me by the just
Being who gave me such a tender heart—and clothed celestial virtue
in the form of Horatio.

I love heaven in him—and am going to an eternal participation of
it with him.—His form is mouldering away.—But what of that?—Our
souls are still united—and my dust will soon mingle with his.—The
cypress that rises beside his grave, will soon cast its shadow over
mine!—

If his shade is suffered to haunt this lonely spot,—if his immortal
spirit quits its immortal abode to hover over me—he will see the vic-
tim of his loss—nor will it disgrace even his celestial nature to feel the
glory of the sacrifice.

Ye ever-honoured authors of my being—ye tender guardians of my

infancy—ye faithful friends of my youth—regret me not;—ye will soon see me no more—but I shall be happy.—

It seems as if Horatio's spirit waited impatiently for mine; that his heaven cannot be perfect without me.—Does a disordered fancy deceive me—or is he not on yonder cloud?—He seems to chide my delay.—I come, Horatio—be not impatient—Nature will soon resign me;—the bands are loosening that tie me to the world;—one sigh more—and I am thine for ever!—

ANECDOTES.

OF FREDERICK THE GREAT OF PRUSSIA.

THERE was, during the late war between the Queen of Hungary and the King of Prussia, an officer of considerable rank in the service of the latter, whom his majesty detected in a correspondence with one of the Austrian generals: his majesty made no noise about the affair, or the least alteration in his conduct towards the officer, with whom, upon certain occasions, he conversed very familiarly. When his majesty had got two or three of his letters into his possession, he called him one day into his closet, and charged him with his offence, laying at the same time the intercepted letters before him. The delinquent trembled, fell upon his knees, and begged his majesty to spare his life. The king commanded him to rise, and assured him he would not put him to death, or even to disgrace. 'I believe,' said the king, 'I can tell what instigated you to this criminal action. At such a time, I put such an officer over your head; was not that the reason?' The officer owned it was. 'At that time,' continued the king, 'I could not inform you of the reason; at present I can, and will.' The officer, when he had heard him, acknowledged the king was in the right, and that, all circumstances considered, he could not act otherwise than he did. 'Then,' said the king, 'we are even: you could not have a greater pleasure in gratifying your resentment, than I have in forgiving you. Say nothing of what has passed; but beware of doing any thing of the like again.'

Some small time after, the king included this officer in a promotion, and thereby restored him to his rank, for which he went to return him thanks, and vowed eternal fidelity. His majesty received him very graciously, told him, he knew he was a good engineer, and that he would confide to his care the fortifying a post of great importance. The officer undertook the charge, and he executed it entirely to the king's satisfaction, who expressed it in the most obliging manner, and promised that he would very soon take an opportunity to reward him.

In the beginning of the next campaign, this officer, dining at the table of marshal *****, observed that his excellency, after dinner, was making up a packet, which was to be sent to Berlin by his running footman. The officer laid hold of this opportunity to entreat the marshal to put a letter of his in his packet, which he pulled out of his

pocket ready sealed, and the marshal made not the least difficulty of inclosing it with his own, and then delivered the packet to his servant. This man proceeded with the utmost expedition on his journey: but before he got half way to Berlin, he was stopt by an officer of the king's guards, who demanded his packet, broke it open, and took out the officer's letter; and then ordered the man to go on with the other letters. As he went from the marshal's tent, the officer was arrested, and brought the next day to the king, who shewed him his own letter, in which was a plan of the fortification; with instructions how it might be attacked and taken in a very short space. He stood some time stupid and silent; at last burst into tears, and again begged his life. 'Your life, said the king, is safe; and I might perhaps have pardoned this treason, too, but your treachery to your friend, and making him unwittingly a partner in your crime, I cannot forgive. You must pass the remainder of your days at Spandau;' whither he was conducted soon after, and set to work at the tail of a wheelbarrow upon the fortifications.

LORD THURLOW.

This great man, it is well known, was educated in the university of Cambridge; and while there, was frequently engaged in altercations with the heads of the college to which he belonged. In a fracas with the dean of the college, being too free with his tongue, he was asked—'whether he knew he was talking to the Dean?' 'Yes, Mr. Dean,' said Thurlow; and never afterwards, while he remained at college, saw him without reiterating 'Mr. Dean! Mr. Dean!' which set them at variance ever after. When Mr. Thurlow was attorney-general, they met by accident; and the latter addressed his old friend, *unthinkingly*, with 'how do you do, Mr. Dean?' which so hurt him, that he left the room without giving him any answer. Soon after his lordship was made lord chancellor, he took an opportunity of meeting his quondam friend, and again addressed him with 'How do you do, Mr. DEAN?' 'Sir,' replied he angrily, 'I am not now a DEAN, and therefore do not deserve the title.' 'But you are a Dean,' said his lordship, 'and to satisfy you that you are, read this paper, by which you will find you are Dean of —; and I am so convinced you will do honour to the appointment, that I am very sorry any part of my conduct should have given offence to so good a man.' This is one among the many proofs, that no man knew how to do a noble action better than Lord Thurlow.

OF DR. THOMAS,
LATE BISHOP OF ROCHESTER.

THE rector of a parish in the bishop's diocese being dead, and another clergyman having the promise of the living, the curate waited on his lordship to beg him to use his influence with the new incumbent, to have him continued in the curacy. Struck with the curate's appearance, he asked him how long he had been in his diocese? and finding, upon further enquiry, he had been a curate of the parish of

— 27 years, and that he had a wife and five children, desired him to wait on him the following day. The curate was punctual; and as soon as he was seated, ‘you have,’ said the bishop, ‘applied to me for the curacy; but from the good character I hear of you, you shall have the rectory itself.’ ‘*Shall I, by God?*’ said the curate, (overcome with joy and wonder;) ‘*Yes, by the living God you shall,*’ said the bishop; ‘*and I am only sorry your worth has been so long unprovided for,*’

REMARKABLE RESEMBLANCE IN TWO TWIN BROTHERS.

PASQUIER, in his *Histoire des Seigneurs de Scissome*, gives an account of two brothers who wonderfully resembled each other. It is the most singular and curious we ever met with; for which reason we have been induced to give it a place here:

‘Nicolas and Claude Roussi, twin brothers, were born on the 7th of April, 1548; they resembled each other so exactly, that their nurses were obliged to put them on different coloured bracelets for a distinguishing mark. In proportion as they grew up, their resemblance continued in the same perfection; their countenances, sizes, and even the attitude of their bodies, were of such strict conformity, that the most trifling difference was not discernible. Their gestures, tone of voice, method of acting, dispositions, and inclinations, tallied with each other in the most wonderful equability; insomuch, that when they were dressed alike, not even their father could discern any difference between them.

‘They were educated at college, and afterwards introduced at court; the eldest was page of the chamber to Anthony de Bourbon, king of Navarre, and the youngest to Henry de Bourbon his son, afterwards king of France. Charles IX. was particularly partial to them; he took great delight in looking at them, when they were both together among a number of other persons, to discover some mark of difference between them; but neither he, nor any of his courtiers, could ever distinguish the one from the other.

‘They were both excellent players at tennis, but the youngest was the best. Sometimes when the eldest was playing, and appeared likely to lose the game, he would feign some cause for quitting the party, go to his brother, change dresses, and send him to finish the game, which he generally won by his superior play, without the difference being perceived by either the players or the persons about them.

‘The eldest asked for the Viscountess d’Esclavole in marriage, and obtained her promise. The youngest felt the same inclination; without knowing of his brother’s engagement, and on being informed of it, he gave up the idea. Thus, says Pasquier, the same accidents which happened to one in the course of his life, happened to the other; the same diseases, the same wounds at the same instant, and even in the same parts of the bodies; and when the youngest fell sick with the

complaint of which he died, at the age of 30, his brother was affected with the same complaint, but recovered by the greater abilities of his physician. When he heard of his brother's death he fainted away, and remained for some time without any signs of life; he, however, revived, and lived for many years after.

SINGULAR INSTANCE

OF A CAPACITY TO ENDURE ABSTINENCE AND HUNGER IN
A SPIDER.

RELATED BY M. VAILLANT.

THE time I spent at the Cape was not lost to my studies and pursuits. I had not only been able, with a part of what I had brought with me from my journeys, to form an interesting collection; but scarcely a day elapsed without my rambling into the country to procure other articles by which to enlarge it. Nothing came amiss to me: beetles, flies, butterflies, chrysalides, nests, eggs, quadrupeds, and birds of all kinds, had their value; and all served either to fill up a place in my cabinet, or as objects of study. At the house of Boers, too, there was a kind of menagerie, to which I frequently resorted, in order to make observations, and sometimes experiments.

It was by means of this menagerie, added to what my own journeys had enabled me to observe, that I succeeded in obtaining a knowledge of the food, propensities, habits, and duration of life, more or less protracted, of certain animals. Some of these observations, which are highly worthy the attention of naturalists, I shall publish hereafter. At present I mean to confine myself to a single experiment, which, not falling in with the thread of my narration, would be considered as foreign to it, and consequently can here only be inserted with propriety.

I had often remarked that spiders spread their webs in certain solitary and close places, to which it is very difficult for flies, and even for gnats, to penetrate; and I concluded that, as these animals must long remain without food, they were capable of enduring considerable abstinence and hunger.

To be assured of this circumstance, I took a large garden spider, which I enclosed under a glass bell, well fastened round the bottom with cement; and in this situation I left it for ten months together. Notwithstanding this deprivation of food, it appeared, during the whole period, equally vigorous and alert; and I remarked no other alteration than that its belly, which at the time of its imprisonment was the size of a nut, decreased insensibly, till at last it was scarcely larger than the head of a pin.

I then put under the bell another spider of the same kind. At first they kept at a distance from each other, and remained motionless; but presently the meagre one, pressed by hunger, approached

and attacked the stranger. It returned several times to the charge ; and in these different conflicts its enemy, being deprived of almost all its claws, it carried them away, and retired to its former situation to devour them. The meagre one itself had also lost three of its claws, on which it equally fed ; and I perceived that its plumpness was in some measure restored by this repast. At length, the new comer, deprived of all its means of defence, fell the next day a sacrifice. It was speedily devoured ; and in less than twenty-four hours the old inhabitant of the bell became as round as it had been at the first moment of its confinement.

Other animals can by no means endure the same degree of hunger. An abstinence of a few days is sufficient to destroy them ; and the term will be shorter or longer, according to the nature of their food. Among birds, for example, the granivorous generally die in the space of from forty-eight to sixty hours, while the entomophagi, those who feed on insects, will hold out for a short time longer.

But those which can least bear abstinence are such as live on fruit ; a property that is owing, probably, to their stomach, which, digesting more speedily, has more frequent need of aliment. This quick digestion, however, is attended with one advantage, which is, that reduced to an equal degree of inanition by abstinence, the animal, if assisted, will recover and resume its strength sooner than others. With the granivorous species this is not the case. Debilitated to a certain point, if nothing but the seeds on which they usually feed be given them, they can never be restored ; their stomach having lost, in part, its power of digestion. The carnivorous, on the contrary, retain their digestion to the last moment ; and hence it happens that, receiving the kind of food which is suited to them, an instant only is necessary to their recovery.

ABSENCE OF MIND.

THOSE who are subject to an absence of mind, are guilty of such ridiculous actions, and misapplication of their observations, as frequently occasion much embarrassment to the company which they are in. Their blunders, however, are often productive of much laughter.

Moliere was frequently subject to be absent. One day being in a hurry to get to the theatre, he hired a coach to convey him there ; and as it did not go as fast as he wished, he got out, placed himself behind the carriage, and endeavoured to push it forward. He did not perceive his folly, notwithstanding the loud and general laughter of every one that passed. When he got to the theatre, he was covered with mud, and abused the coachman for having such a dirty carriage ; nor did he know of what he had been guilty, until the coachman, after laughing till he was tired, told him.

 FREEMASONS' REPOSITORY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS' REPOSITORY.

SIR,

I HAVE the pleasure of sending you what must certainly prove highly acceptable to your Masonic readers. I have read many Sermons on the subject of *Freemasonry*, but this has afforded me more satisfaction than all of them.

I am your's, &c.

J. WATKINS.

 MASONRY FOUNDED ON SCRIPTURE.

A SERMON,

 PREACHED BEFORE THE LODGES OF GRAVESEND,
 ON NEW YEAR'S DAY, 1752.

BY W. WILLIAMS, M. A.

 And what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God? MICAH vi. 8.

AFTER the Grand Architect of the universe had with the greatest wisdom, and in the nicest proportion, formed this globe and all other beings that it inhabit, he last of all created Man, *after his own Image*,* a rational being, capable of happiness both here and hereafter. And in order to render him happy on earth, placed him in Paradise, where the whole universe seemed to be ransacked for his pleasure; and every delight that could engage his attention or contribute to his satisfaction was collected together:—where the whole creation was at his service, and every individual being was placed under his dominion:—where guilt had never yet entered to embitter any human pleasures—but where he was *free* to exercise those rational faculties so graciously and freely bestowed upon him by his Creator.

Yet God, who *knew what was in man*, † foreseeing that these noble faculties he had endowed him with, would *naturally* incline him to society; and that even all the pleasures of Paradise itself, *without a companion*, would fall short of procuring his present happiness; did, of his infinite goodness and mercy, create a *Help meet for him*; ‡ and so Man became not only a rational but also a social being.

From whence we may observe, that all the pleasures of Paradise itself were insufficient to compleat the happiness of man without the sweets of *society*:—and therefore, in the succeeding ages of the world, *when men began to multiply*, § they occasionally formed them-

* Gen. i. 27. † John ii. 25. ‡ Gen. ii. 18. § Gen. vi. 1.

selves into different companies or societies, each regulated by various and particular *customs*, and by peculiar *signs, tokens, and words*; by which each member of that community was to be governed and distinguished, and separately known to each other from the rest of the world in general.

Thus, we find by the express command of God himself, that the offspring of *Abraham* was to be distinguished by every *man-child* * among them being *circumcised*: who by that means bore in their bodies the *token* of their covenant with God.—And thus when in process of time, this token was become common to many nations as to the *Edomites, Ishmaelites, &c.* the *Jews*, or Children of *Israel*, by the immediate command of God himself were separated and set apart, as a distinct sect, or peculiar people, and were distinguished from the rest of the world, by the observation of singular *rites* and particular *ceremonies*.—And thus again when the *Gileadites* demanded of the *Ephraimites*, † who were desirous of repassing *Jordan*, to pronounce the word *Sibboleth*, they, by the peculiarity of their pronouncing this word, and calling it *Sibboleth*, easily and readily, though it were in the *nigh*, distinguished them from their own brethren, and immediately slew them.

From which examples of antiquity we may learn, that even from the earliest ages of the world, and that by the appointment of God himself, mankind divided themselves into several societies, each regulated by particular laws, as well as they were distinguished by peculiar customs.

It must also be admitted, that the original end and design of such separation from the rest of mankind, was principally to promote virtue and to suppress vice; and that those particular *customs, rites, and ceremonies*, observed in each as *characteristics*, were constituted to keep out the *unknown, wicked, and profane*; though in themselves things indifferent, having, in their nature, neither real good nor evil; but served only as a *bond* to cement and tie them together, and as a *token* to put them in mind of the obligation they lay under as social beings, to perform those weightier matters of *justice and mercy, of brotherly love and relief* to each other, as well as that natural and rational duty of *walking humbly* or truly *with* their God.

If then *society* be so essential to the happiness of man; if of Divine Appointment, which the text itself confirms; the two first duties there recommended being *social ones*, and they, with that rational duty of walking humbly with God, comprehending *the whole duty of man*, that *society* must certainly be good and desirable, whose grand and fundamental principles are *to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with God*.

What I propose in farther discoursing on these words is,

First, to shew what is here meant by *doing justly*. *Secondly*, what by *loving mercy*. *Thirdly*, what by *walking humbly with God*. *Fourthly*, I shall endeavour to shew that all persons, who really act

* Gen. xvii. 10.

† Judges xii. 6.

as MASONS ought to do, are bound to perform these several duties. And, *lastly*, shall make a brief application of the whole; and so conclude.

First, then, I am to shew what is here meant by *doing justly*.

Doing justly implies that we *render to every one their due, custom to whom custom; tribute to whom tribute; honour to whom honour, &c.** That we do strict justice to all mankind, in every station and in all our dealings; that we defraud no one, † no not even of his good name, but always keep a *tongue of good report*, ‡ that speaks as well of our brother behind his back as before his face; and that we should never be enticed to deceive him; § but constantly endeavour both in deed and word to live as an upright man; acting so much upon the *square*, and living so much within the *compass* of our abilities, as never by our necessities to be tempted to defraud him of his right: in short, the whole duty of doing justly is summed up in the text of scripture: *Whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, even so do unto them; for this is the law and the prophets.* ||

I come now, in the *second* place, to enquire what is here meant by *loving mercy*.

1. *Loving mercy* consists in forgiving the injuries we receive from others; ¶ in subduing our passions; in abhorring the dictates of malice and revenge; in not doing our own will; in returning blessings for curses, * and the like; having always in our view that bright pattern of mercy, Jesus Christ; *who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously.* †

2. *Loving mercy* consists in pitying the miseries of others: ‡ for as St. Paul advises, we must *weep with them that weep.* § And the Prophet Amos pronounces a *Wo* to them who do not thus pity the afflicted. *Wo, says he, to them that are at ease in Sion,—and that drink wine in bowls, and anoint themselves with the chief ointments; but are not grieved for the affliction of Joseph.* ||

3. *Loving mercy* consists in relieving the necessities of our brethren: Thus to *brotherly-love* we must add *Christian charity* or relief, ¶ and that according to our abilities, and to the necessities of those who stand in need of our relief: for thus we are commanded to be *kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly-love, in honour preferring one another.** And in so doing we not only follow the direction of the Apostle, but also the example of the first Christians; who, we are informed, *determined every man according to his abilities to send relief to the brethren which dwell in Judea, and accordingly sent it to the Elders, by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.* †

I come now, in the *Third* place, to enquire what is here meant by *walking humbly with God*.

* Rom. xiii. 7. † Mark x. 19. ‡ James iii. 5, &c.—Rom. xii. 18.
 § Prov. xxiv. 28. || Math. vii. 12. ¶ Ephesians iv. 32. * Matth. v. 44.
 † 1 Pet. ii. 23. ‡ 1 Pet. iii. 8. § Rom. xii. 15. || Amos vi. 1. 6.
 ¶ 2 Pet. i. 7. * Rom. xii. 10. † Acts xi. 29. 30.

And first it implies, that we *walk with God*; and secondly, that we *walk humbly with God*.

Walking with God implies, that we in all our actions endeavour to please him and strive to obey him; and this in the language of holy scripture is frequently called *walking with God*: thus we are commanded to *walk worthy of the Lord, unto all pleasing, being faithful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God*.* And according to this phrase we read that Enoch *walked with God*: † And so again, we are told of Noah, that he was a just man, and perfect in his generations, and that he *walked with God*. ‡ By which expressions it is plainly meant that they believed in and feared God, and that they endeavoured to serve and please him with all their hearts: for thus these texts are explained by the author to the Hebrews: § where you will find that by this precept we are bound to believe in God, to fear him, to love him, and to serve him; and that with freedom; for his service is and must be perfect freedom: || with fervency, for he is a Spirit, ¶ and they that serve him must be fervent in spirit* when thus serving the Lord: and with zeal, for Isaiah tells us, that we must be clothed with zeal, as with a cloak: † and this especially in the most degenerate ages, according to the example of Elijah, who, at the time all Israel was gone a whoring after their own inventions, ‡ was still, in the midst of that adulterous and wicked generation, very zealous for the Lord of Hosts. §

We must *walk humbly with God*, which, 1. consists in a due sense and acknowledgment of our iniquities; || and in a hearty desire that God will be merciful to us sinners: ¶ and that with a consciousness of the number of our sins, as well as the heinousness of their nature, and a sincere repentance of them, in a thorough sense of our own corruption, knowing with St. Paul, that in us, that is, in our flesh, dwelleth no good thing: * and in confessing our frailty, that verily every man living is altogether vanity: † in acknowledging our dependence on him for what we have, are, or do: for in him we live, move, and have our being: ‡ and in admiring and adoring the goodness of God, who has brought us out of the darkness of heathenish superstition and idolatry into the true light of the gospel of his Son, and hath called us to this state of salvation, § according to the Apostle, But ye brethren are not in darkness; ye are all the children of light, and of the day.—Walk therefore as children of light. ||

2. *Walking humbly with God* implies that we must venerate and adore his infinite perfections, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God, his judgments that are unsearchable, and his ways that are past finding out: ¶ In despising all things in respect of God; knowing that when we approach him we should abhor ourselves, and repent in dust and ashes: *—in renouncing our best works,

* Col. i. 10. † Gen. v. 22. ‡ Gen. vi. 9. § Heb. xi. 5, 6, 7.
 || Liturgy of the Church of England. ¶ John iv. 24. * Rom. xii. 11.
 † Isaiah lix. 17. ‡ Psalm cvii. 39. § 1 Kings xix. 14. || Jer. iii. 13.—
 † John i. 8, 9. ¶ Luke xviii. 13. * Rom. vii. 18. † Psalm xxxix. 11,
 † Acts xvii. 28. § Heb. ii. 3. || 1 Thess. v. 4, 5.—Eph. v. 8. ¶ Rom. xi. 33.
 * Job. xlii. 6.

and attributing them not unto ourselves, but to the inspirations of his Divine Spirit and the assistance of his especial grace, saying, *Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto thy name give the praise, for thy loving-mercy and for thy truth's sake*:*—in thinking no duty below us for the spiritual welfare of our *Christian* brethren, but in *becoming all things to all men, that we might by any means save some*; † in *lowliness of mind, each esteeming another better than himself*; ‡ in bearing the reproaches and injuries of bad men with patience, the just reproofs of our friends with thankfulness, and the corrections and judgments of God with an entire resignation and submission; as knowing ourselves to be offenders under the hands of justice.—In short, walking humbly with God implies such a *poverty of spirit*, § as will make us form our actions and wills entirely according to the directions of God revealed to mankind in his holy word.

We should reflect that as the *operative-Mason* erects his building according to the designs laid down by the architect for him on the *tressel-board*, which is to direct his work; so ought we to raise our spiritual building according to the designs laid down to us by the Grand Architect of the universe in the *book of life*, the *holy bible*, our spiritual *tressel-board*, which should always guide and rule our faith, and obligate our lives and actions.

That as the *Mason* in performing his work, frequently tries every minute part of it by the *compass, square, level and plumb-rule*, in order to give to each member its true and exact proportion, so should we constantly try every minute action of our lives, whether it will square with God's word, whether it is level with his commands, and upright according to the plumb-rule of conscience, and within the compass of innocency.—Wherever we find our actions in a direct and parallel line with the precepts of the gospel of Christ, we may assure ourselves we are raising such a *spiritual building*, || as will be acceptable to God, and will prove to us the noblest of mansions, *a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens*: ¶ But wherever we find them not in a straight and upright line with the gospel, but *starting aside like a broken bow*, * we must there correct and amend them; and must take great care not to permit the like errors for the future to spoil the harmony and proportion of the whole. We must let no untempered mortar destroy its firmness, † but must build it with duly tempered mortar; so that it may prove a building, which may be serviceable to us to all eternity; and shew us to have been true and good *Masons*, such as will at the last day be *free and accepted of God*; free to the company of him our Grand Master, and the good fellowship of his holy angels; and free from the burden of sin and the dominion of Satan.

I am now, in the *Fourth* place, to shew that all persons, who really act as *Masons* ought to do, are bound, to perform these several duties.—And here I am not unacquainted with the invidious as well as arduous task I have undertaken: for on the one hand I am sensible this *new*

* Psalm cxv. 1. † 1 Cor. ix. 22. ‡ Phil. ii. 3. § Mat. v. 3.

|| 1 Pet. ii. 5. ¶ 2 Cor. v. 1. * Psalm lxxxviii. 57. † Ezek. xiii. 10.

sect,* as it has been ignorantly called, is almost every where spoken against; * and on the other hand, it must be difficult thoroughly to vindicate it in the opinion of ignorant and over-curious men, without divulging those *secrets*, which must be ever kept sacred in a *Mason's heart*, and can never be revealed to any person but to a true and lawful brother, and that upon a proper occasion.

But, however licentious the present age may be; however apt to ridicule every thing that is serious and praise-worthy, or that they themselves are unacquainted with; yet when I consider the sacredness of this place, where we are met before God, a place more immediately set apart for Divine Worship, and for the instruction of God's people in knowledge and in truth; I, as God's *minister*, whose tongue should never lie, much less in the instruction of his people, despair not to meet with some credit, even from those, who, not knowing that we have a good conscience, now *speak evil of us, as of evil doers*, and to *make them ashamed, who have falsely accused our good conversation in Christ*. †

And first I would observe that *Christianity* itself no sooner made its appearance in the world, than it was immediately attacked; and its great minister *St. Paul* was, on preaching *Jesus and the resurrection*, accused as a *pestilent fellow, and a mover of sedition* among all the *Jews*: † and yet when its doctrines came to be fully known, and the *innocency and simplicity* of its professors to shine before wise and discreet men, it daily gained ground, and *Christians* increased so greatly, that in a few ages the name of *Christ* was gone out into all lands, and the sound of *Christianity* was heard even at the ends of the world. §

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

ROYAL CUMBERLAND SCHOOL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS' REPOSITORY.

SIR,

IN periodical publications like your's, it is a very common thing for a writer to begin a short essay, with stating the great advantage the world derives from the easy method he has, by such means, to communicate his sentiments respecting any public benefit; as well as the propriety of such a channel to convey either pleasure, information, or to be useful to mankind. Trite as this remark is, I confess I feel its truth with irresistible force; and also the expediency of soliciating your aid in a peculiar manner, to call upon our Masonic Brothers to support their own excellent institution—the School in St. George's Fields for the female children of our indigent and distressed fraternity.

Man is naturally a benevolent creature; and I am inclined to think, that if there exists a description of persons who endeavour to inculcate this principle in an higher degree, and to a greater extent than others,

* Acts xxviii. 22. † 1 Pet. iii. 16. ‡ Acts xxiv. 5. § Psalm xix. 4.

it is our SOCIETY. The advantages of Charity Schools have been often expatiated upon from our most sacred places; and to a generous mind arguments are unnecessary to establish the fact.—That this, like the almost incredible number of other charities with which our happy country abounds, is a laudable institution, all must allow; if it were for no other purpose than that of producing a race of good and useful servants, who will have more than a liberal—a religious education. But I trust even greater benefits are derived to society from this charity; and in order to make these advantages more diffused, I am anxious, through your useful publication, to excite some abler pen to suggest a plan to our Order, by which a permanent and certain revenue will be secured to the institution. Odious and unpopular as the term taxation is, I nevertheless think, that a small sum collected on *initiation* would be highly productive. On referring to the Masonic Calendar, I perceive there are upwards of *Five Hundred Lodges* under the constitution; but of that number, I believe, on examination it will be found, that not *one fourth part* subscribe to this charity! Surely, Mr. Editor, this can only proceed from its great utility not being duly weighed, and properly recommended, by the R. W. Masters of the respective Lodges.

I was present at the last Quarterly Communication, when an application to the Grand Lodge was proposed, for permission to wear a distinguishing badge being granted to a particular class of gentlemen, who had, in the general opinion, been highly instrumental in serving the society by superintending, &c. the Country Feast.* I hope those gentlemen will be gratified in their wishes, and it will give me additional pleasure to hear, when some characteristic mark of distinction is recommended to be worn by the Masters of *all Lodges*, who are perpetual Governors of the Freemasons School. This may, perhaps, act as stimulus to the whole *body* to follow the laudable example of the *thirteen*, who alone appear, at present, to have liberally adopted the three grand principles, by subscribing to that extent; and permit me to add, if such a proposition is carried, and I ever have the honour of filling the chair of our Lodge, I shall consider such a jewel equally flattering, as the one I shall from my office be entitled to wear; and it will *always* be esteemed by me as a type of the protection afforded to a large number of helpless females of our indigent brethren. But waving all honours, and recommending the higher gratification—the pleasure arising from the consciousness of doing good—I shall conclude this letter, in the earnest expectation of seeing this subject better treated in some of your future publications, by some other friend to the institution, though not a more zealous one, than,

MR. EDITOR,

Your constant reader, subscriber, and brother,
A JUNIOR WARDEN.

* It must be remarked that many of the members of the Country Stewards Lodge have contributed liberally to the support of the School; and that several of them and also their Lewises are life governors. EDIT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS' REPOSITORY.

MR. EDITOR,

HAVING had the honour of visiting the Shakespear Lodge on the 22d ult. I was highly gratified with the great spirit of universal benevolence which pervaded every breast there. The case of the poor helpless widow of a deceased brother with ten children, was mentioned, and instantly a subscription from the funds of the Lodge, as well as a private one, took place to relieve the distresses of this unhappy family.

The Freemasons School (which I learnt is a standing theme at their elegant, hospitable, and festive board) then came under consideration; and upwards of eighty pounds were subscribed in half-an-hour. I also learnt, that at the former meeting of this Lodge, which was the first for this season, fifty guineas were subscribed for the same laudable purpose. The R. W. in a short persuasive speech, afterwards acquainted the lodge that a Concert will be performed on Thursday, the 9th February next, for the benefit of that charity, when immediately *one hundred and twenty* tickets were taken and paid for by the members present.

In justice, and as a small tribute of praise to this respectable lodge, I request you will have the goodness to insert this in your excellent Freemasons' Repository; and above all, what induces me to ask this favour of you, is, that other lodges may also be influenced to give their support to an institution, which so effectually relieves the distresses of our indigent brethren, by completely providing for their helpless offspring.

I remain, &c.

A YOUNG BUT ZEALOUS MASON.

Dec. 24, 1796.

MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

LODGE OF FORTITUDE.

MAIDSTONE, Dec. 28, 1796.

YESTERDAY being the festival of St. John the Evangelist, the same was celebrated by a very numerous meeting of the Fraternity from the lodges in this county, and honoured with the presence of our worthy and much respected Provincial Grand Master, WILLIAM PERFECT, Esq. from whom our excellent Order received, as usual, every useful and ornamental embellishment. Perhaps no speech could be more expressive of the festival we were met to celebrate, than that which was delivered by him on this occasion; and the charge was impressive, as the tribute he paid to the memory of three Brethren deceased since our last meeting, was tender, respectful, and pathetic.

REVIEW
OF
NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Essays, by a Society of Gentlemen at Exeter. 8vo. 573 pages. 9s. boards.
Cadell and Davies.

PROVINCIAL literary societies are, we believe, of very modern date, at least in this country, and few of them have risen into any respectable notice. That at Manchester appears to have been the first to attract the public attention by the respectability of its transactions; and the success which the volumes published by that society have obtained seems to have excited a spirit of emulation in other parts of the kingdom. The literary society of Exeter has certainly the next place; and this first volume of its production will give it great credit, and no doubt will stimulate its members to further exertions.

We are sorry, however, to find that jealousy and ill-will have attended the publication of this volume, and that something like a literary warfare has taken place in consequence of it. Such bickerings are often fatal to promising and well-composed bodies, and must be peculiarly injurious to a society formed of men of letters. But we shall turn from this unpleasing theme to the more agreeable and profitable employ, of reviewing the various contents of this interesting publication. In a very modest, short, but well written advertisement we are informed that "These essays were read at the stated meetings of a society, originally united by private friendship. When a number of papers had accumulated, it was supposed, that a selection from them, would not be uninteresting; and, as in a miscellaneous publication, no advantage could be attained by arrangement, the order, in which each member read an essay has been adopted." To the justness of this remark we readily accede, but we think that the addition of the names of the authors would have been no disadvantage to the work, and certainly would have been more agreeable to the reader.

The volume opens with an address to the society, which might have done very well as an extemporaneous effusion, but possesses neither sufficient ingenuity or excellence of language to give it credit where it now stands. This is followed by 'lines read at the second meeting;' which are, indeed, a very curious composition. The poet begins by giving auricular organs to a river:

A theme invites--a rugged word the theme,
That ne'er was heard by the castalian stream.

Some merit is then taken by the author from the singularity and difficulty of his undertaking, which is

"To trace the birth, the progress of a CLUB."

We are next presented with a long 'vindication of the character of Pindar, and a translation of two of his odes.' The poet has been charged with venality by some scholiasts, and translators have given strength to the accusation by the turn which their versions have taken of the eleventh Pythian Ode, and the second Isthmian. The essayist enters at large into the defence of the old bard; and it must be confessed, that his arguments are decisive, and his translations do him credit both as a scholar and a poet.

The fourth essay contains 'remarks on the early population of Italy and Europe,' in which there is much curious disquisition and considerable ingenuity. The author seems to favour the notion of an oriental emigration.

Essay the fifth is 'on some of the more remarkable British monuments in Devon.' The monuments which are here described are the Cromlech and the Logan-stone, in the parish of Drewsteignton—the rock-bason on a common near Dartmoor, and the barrow on Haldown with an urn found in it. Of these antient and curious remains very neat representations are given. The most considerable is "the CROMLECH which is situate on a farm called Shelstone in the parish of Drewsteignton (so named I should conceive, not from the Norman Drago, as Risdon hath asserted) but from this and other relics therein remaining, appropriated to the Druids, simply deriving its appellation from the residence of the Druids on the river Teign. The Cromlech here, is perhaps, the most perfect in the kingdom. The covering-stone or quoil hath three supporters; it rests on the pointed tops of the southern and western ones; but that on the north side upholds it on its inner inclining surface somewhat below the top, its exterior sides rising several inches higher than the part on which the super-incumbent stone is laid. This latter supporter is seven feet high—indeed they are all of such an altitude, that I had not the least difficulty in passing under the impost erect, and with my hat on; the height, therefore, of the inclosed area, is at least six feet. Of the quoil I made a measurement, and found the dimensions to be from the north to the southern edge, fourteen feet and a half; and from the east and west, it was of similar length. These edges or angles seeming to present themselves (as far as I could make an observation from the sun) exactly to the cardinal points. The width across was ten feet. The form of this stone was oblate, not gibbous, but rounding from the under face, rising from the north about thirteen inches higher than in the other parts; yet so plane on its superficies that I could stand on it, or traverse it without apprehension of danger. That the Cromlech was a monument of the Britons, there can be no doubt; but that it was a Druidical altar, and of old, applied to sacrificial uses, cannot now be ascertained. Borlase and others who have treated this subject, judge the species of monument to have been sepulchral; and there is reason for the supposition, since they are often found erected on barrows, which are avowedly sepulchral. Indeed, in Ireland, the matter hath been sufficiently elucidated; for bows have been absolutely found in the area which some of them inclosed. Though Borlase, therefore, failed in Cornwall, it rests on more than probability, that, to whatever other purposes it might have been applied, the use and intent of the Cromlech, that is, the crooked (or as some interpret the word, consecrated stones) was primarily to distinguish and do honour to the dead; and at the same time to inclose the venerated relique by placing the supporters and covering stone in such a manner as to be a security for them on every side."——"The ignorance of succeeding ages not being able to comprehend how such stupendous edifices could be constructed by the common race of mortals, have attributed them to giants and demons; but although we derive from the mechanical powers a variety of succours in the transporting and raising large and ponderous bodies, of which we well know the founders of these monuments could not have the assistance, yet it hath been well observed, that great things might be accomplished by men of such mighty force, as we are certain many of these antient tribes possessed in strength and remarkable stature, co-operating together. The lances, helmets, swords, and other arms which have been preserved in the museums of the curious, the accoutrements of the heroes of other times, are a full conviction of their vast size, and are objects of curiosity and astonishment to those whose

ancestors are reputed to have wielded them. This circumstance, however, is not solely applicable to Europe; for by our later discoveries we learn, that the Americans (particularly those of Peru) unaided by engines we apply to these purposes, have raised up such vast stones in building their temples and fortresses, as the architect of the present times would, perhaps, not hazard the attempt to remove. One may, however, conceive that perseverance, united with strength, might be enabled to convey such immense stones from one place to another, by means of the lever and artificial banks. Down the slopes of these they might cause them to slide, and afterwards set them upright by letting them down into perpendicular pits; having, by the same means, placed their transoms on them, they might clear away the mound which they had raised. I shall quit the discussion of the Cromlech with the conclusion, that most probably they were 'tumuli honorabiliores'—that they were the appropriated monuments of chief Druids, or of princes; and this is confirmed by the appellation of the famous Cromlech in Kent, known by the name of Ket's Coily-house, being the sepulchral monument, or quoil, over the body of Catigeon, a British Prince, who was slain in a battle, fought with the Saxons near Aylesford, in the year 455."

In our next we shall give a review of the remaining contents of this very respectable collection.

The Proceedings of the Governor and Assembly of Jamaica in regard to the Maroon Negroes: published by Order of the Assembly. To which is prefixed, An Introductory Account, containing Observations on the Disposition, Character, Manners, and Habits of Life, of the Maroons, and a Detail of the Origin, Progress, and Termination of the late War between those People and the White Inhabitants. 8vo. Pages 200. Price 5s. Stockdale.

THIS work is the production of Mr. Bryan Edwards, the well-known author of the History of the West Indies. An advertisement prefixed informs us, that it was originally compiled to gratify public curiosity, but that it is now given to the world from another motive, viz. to enable it to judge correctly of the proceedings of the government of Jamaica with respect to the late Maroon war.

The Maroons were a part of the Spanish slaves, who, in 1655, when Jamaica was conquered by the English, remained in the mountains and fastnesses of the island, and from their retreats continually disturbed and harassed the British settlers. Their numbers were, at various times, increased by fugitive slaves; and in 1730 they were grown so formidable as to threaten the destruction of the whole colony. An almost constant war was carried on between the planters and them till 1738, when Mr. Trelawney, the then governor, made overtures of peace, which they accepted; by which 2500 acres of land were assigned to them and their posterity for ever. This treaty happily put an end to the tedious and ruinous contest.

Thus far Mr. Edward's account is extracted from Long's History of Jamaica; but he continues the narrative from where that writer left off; and, after some pertinent remarks on the character and manners of the Maroons, traces all their subsequent revolts to their proper origin.

'The clause in the treaty, by which these people were compelled to reside within certain boundaries in the interior country, apart from all other negroes, was founded, probably, on the apprehension that, by suffering them to intermingle with the negroes in slavery, the example which they would thereby continually present of successful hostility, might prove contagious, and create in the minds of the slaves an impatience of subordination, and a disposition for revolt: but time has abundantly proved that it was an ill-judged and a fatal regulation. The Maroons, instead of being established

into separate hordes or communities, in the strongest parts of the interior country, should have been encouraged by all possible means to frequent the towns, and to intermix with the negroes at large. All distinction between the Maroons and the other free blacks would soon have been lost; the greater number would have prevailed over the less: whereas the policy of keeping them a distinct people, continually inured to arms, introduced among them what the French call an *esprit de corps*, or a community of sentiments and interests: and concealing from them the powers and resources of the whites, taught them to feel, and at the same time highly to overvalue, their own relative strength and importance.

Mr. E. suspects that the Maroons, with all their *seeming* fury and *affected* bravery, are far below the Whites in personal valour; and this he chiefly infers from their mode of fighting in real war, which is a system of *stratagem*, *bush-fighting*, and *ambuscade*: yet he seems to allow that the Whites once thought otherwise:

‘Possibly, he observes, their personal appearance contributed, in some degree, to preserve the delusion: for, savage as they were in manners and disposition, their mode of living and daily pursuits undoubtedly strengthened the frame, and served to exalt them to great bodily perfection. Such fine persons are seldom beheld among any other class of African or native blacks. Their demeanour is lofty, their walk firm, and their persons erect. Every motion displays a combination of strength and agility. The muscles (neither hidden nor depressed by clothing) are very prominent, and strongly marked. Their sight withal is wonderfully acute, and their hearing remarkably quick.’

After this Mr. Edwards enters into a regular historical account of the Maroon war of 1795 and 1796; and we are sorry our limits will not allow us to enter into a detail of the facts he relates. The deaths of colonels Sandford and Fitch were circumstances which so emboldened the revolters, that they carried their cruelties into every part of the island; and more vigorous measures were thought necessary. The military were increased, and it was determined to make use of dogs; and for this purpose forty Spanish hunters and about a hundred of those animals were imported from the Spanish main. Such extraordinary accounts were immediately spread of the savage nature and appearance of these animals, as made a surprising impression on the minds of the negroes. Though, generally, not larger than the British shepherd’s dog, these dogs of Cuba were represented as equal to the mastiff in bulk, to the bull-dog in courage, to the blood-hound in scent, and to the grey-hound in agility. These reports had a powerful and salutary effect on the fears of the Maroons, and soon brought about a negotiation, followed by a treaty.

This treaty, together with the correspondence between Lord Balcarras and General Walpole, and many other interesting papers, the reader will find among the *Proceedings of the Governor and Assembly of Jamaica*; which make more than one half of the present volume. The final steps taken, in conformity with the treaty, are thus related by Mr. Edwards:

‘Soon after the subsequent minutes were printed by order of the assembly, his Majesty’s ship the *Dover*, with two transports in company, having on board the Trelawney Maroons, (in number about six hundred) provided with all manner of necessaries, as well for their accommodation at sea, as for the change of climate, sailed from Blue-fields in Jamaica, for Halifax in North America, the beginning of last June. They were accompanied by William Dawes Quarrel and Alexander Ouchterlony, Esquires, commissioners appointed by the Assembly, with authority and instructions (subject to his

Majesty's approbation and further orders) to purchase lands in Lower Canada, or where else his Majesty should please to appoint, for the future establishment and subsistence of those Maroons, as a free people. The commissioners had orders withal, to provide them the means of a comfortable maintenance, until they were habituated to the country and climate. The sum of 25,000*l.* was allowed for those purposes.'

Mr. Edwards writes with the energy of a man who is well acquainted with his subject, and who is convinced of the truth of what he advances; and he expresses himself in a perspicuous and dignified style. A few of his reflections we might feel ourselves inclined to controvert; and we might observe that, in some places, his great though just abhorrence of *licentiousness* appears to make him rather trench upon *liberty*:—but his work has the important merit of clear arrangement, personal knowledge, local accuracy, and official authority.

An authentic Account of the Shaksperian Manuscripts, &c. By W. H. Ireland. 8vo. Pages 43. Price 1*s.* Debrett.

THIS pamphlet professes to be a complete elucidation of the mystery of the Shaksperian papers, laid before the world by the elder Ireland.

'In justice to the world, (says the author) and to remove the odium under which my father labours, by publishing the manuscripts brought forward by me as *Shakspear's*, I think it necessary to give a true account of the business, hoping that whatever may occur in the following pages will meet with favour and forgiveness, when considered as the act of a boy.'

Mr. W. H. Ireland proceeds to state every circumstance that accompanied the fabrication and production of the MSS. His father has long been known as an enthusiastic admirer of the genius of our immortal bard; and this admiration first suggested to the son (as he states) the idea of imposing on his credulity. A visit to Clopton-house, in Warwickshire, forwarded his intentions; and he shortly after produced the lease between Shakspear, Heminges, and Frazer. The other MSS. followed in succession. But suspicions being entertained of their authenticity, and reports, injurious to his father's credit, being industriously spread, he was induced to disclose the secret to Mr. Albany Wallis, and at length to lay the present statement before the public. The pamphlet concludes with a solemn declaration as to the facts stated.

'Before I conclude, I shall sum up this account, and am willing to make affidavit to the following declarations, as well as to the whole of this narration.

'*First*, I solemnly declare that my father was perfectly unacquainted with the whole affair, believing the papers most firmly the productions of *Shakspear*.

'*Secondly*, 'That I am myself both the author and writer, and have had no aid or assistance from any soul living, and that I should never have gone so far, but that the world praised the papers so much, and thereby flattered my vanity.

'*Thirdly*, 'That any publication which may appear, tending to prove the manuscripts genuine, or contradict what is here *stated*, is false; this being the true account.

W. H. Ireland.

'Here then I conclude, most sincerely regretting any offence I may have given the world, or any particular individual, trusting at the same time, they will deem the whole the act of a boy, without any evil or bad intention, but hurried on thoughtless of any danger that awaited to ensnare him.

'Should I attempt another play, or any other stage performance, I shall

hope the public will lay aside all prejudice my conduct may have deserved, and grant me that kind indulgence which is the certain inmate of every *Englishman's* bosom.'

With respect to the first of these declarations, we think it cannot be doubted, that the elder Ireland was altogether ignorant of the origin of the papers. With respect to the second, we think the world as much in the dark as ever: for it is hardly credible that a young man, 18 years of age, who was engaged in the drudgery of an attorney's office, could find leisure to compose and write what, *primâ facie*, must have been the labour of years. This young man's folly must equal his vanity, if he supposes the world will credit so gross an inconsistency. Besides that the present pamphlet is so contemptible a composition, so inaccurate in style and grammar, that it cannot be from the author of the MSS. which, with many defects, certainly possess much genius and erudition. This judgment we gave in our critique on Vertigern in a former number.* Upon the whole, therefore, we give it as our decided opinion, that if there be forgery, it is the forgery of men of very superior talents to Mr. W. H. Ireland. As to the third declaration, it is inerely standing forward boldly, and saying, "Whoever contradicts me, is a liar."

We have bestowed rather more notice on this extraordinary pamphlet, than we ordinarily do on productions of its size; but the many and various opinions on the subject, have induced us to treat of it at some length. And we cannot conclude without adding, that this "authentic account" appears to us to envelope the matter in still greater mystery.

A specimen of an attempt to imitate Shakspear is inserted in the pamphlet; which our readers will find among our poetry for this month.

Mr. Ireland's Vindication of his Conduct respecting the Publication of the supposed Shakspear MSS. being a Preface or Introduction to a Reply to the Critical Labours of Mr. Malone, in his "Enquiry into the Authenticity of certain Papers," &c. &c. 8vo. pages 48. Price 2s. Faulder.

THE intention of the elder Ireland, in this pamphlet, is to clear his character from the foul aspersions which have been thrown on it respecting the publication of the Shakspear Papers. After the account we have given of the pamphlet of his son, in the last article, it is almost unnecessary to enter into a detail of this. An advertisement prefixed will best speak Mr. Ireland's intention.

* The following sheets originally formed a part of a work now in considerable forwardness, as a reply to Mr. Malone's critical labours on the subject of the Shakspear MSS. The body of this work required considerable research, and so large a portion of time for its completion, as to render some further delay unavoidable in the publication of the whole. But this part of the work having been completed and ready for the public eye, I have yielded to the importunities of my friends, who have suggested to me the necessity at this moment, of laying before the public such further particulars as relate to my conduct therein. It will be observed that I have adverted in the course of the following pages to Mr. Malone: and if the animadversions should be deemed irrelevant, I trust, that no other apology is necessary, than the intimation already given, of my having intended this Vindication as an introduction to the work alluded to, and therefore that it was a more eligible plan, not to make any deviation from the method, I at first determined upon pursuing.

‘ A recent circumstance, with which the public is well acquainted, seems to call for this Vindication, and even (painful as it is) to impose the measure upon me as a solemn duty, and obligation. I allude to the public statement, made by my son. The world to which he has appealed, will judge and pronounce upon the truth of the allegations, and the weight of the testimonies, which he has laid before them. I beg to assure the public that the refutation of Mr. Malone’s book shall be brought forward with all possible speed; in which, whether the paper’s imputed to Shakspear are genuine or not, it will be clearly shewn, that he embarked in this enquiry as utterly destitute of the information of a philologist, and the acumen of a Critic, as it will, by his gross and repeated personalities, be manifested, that his selfish and interested views have made him throughout lose sight of the manners of a gentleman.’

Mr. Ireland, in the course of his Vindication, relates every fact as it occurred, and we are convinced, from the documents he has produced, that he is perfectly innocent of the charge either of deception or duplicity; and that if the world have been deceived as to the authenticity of the MSS. Mr. Ireland has been deceived also. This pamphlet being only the introduction to a greater work in reply to Mr. Malone, does not enter into any enquiry as to the internal evidence of the papers. Mr. Ireland, however, animadverts in a very proper and spirited manner on the scurrility contained in the “Inquiry” of Mr. Malone, and the labours of the other *pseudo-critics*. After summing up the evidence in his own favour, to clear up his character and integrity, he proceeds to state what the further continuation of the work will be directed to.

‘ The other part of this work will be allotted to an investigation of the critical attacks, that have been directed against the papers, in which I trust that Mr. Malone will be completely refuted. Perhaps it might be expected of me, that I should advert to the other antagonists, who have appeared in the field of the controversy. Of the first of these publications, entitled, “A Letter to George Steevens, Esq. containing a Critical examination,” &c. &c. as it has been abundantly refuted in a very able pamphlet, entitled, “A Comparative Review of the opinion,” &c. &c. I shall say nothing further. One Waldron likewise, has waded into the controversy, a bad actor and a worse critic. These are men, on whom I shall not animadvert. They who mistake their vanity for their capacity, and suppose that they are qualified to perform what they have presumption to attempt, are a tribe, on whom admonition will be wasted, and rebuke will be superfluous.

‘ But I have confined my reasoning to Mr. Malone; because, as he is known to the world by what may be emphatically called his literary *labours* on other occasions, so has he distinguished himself by the bulk of his criticisms on this. What Dr. Warburton said of poor Theobald, he would have said with infinitely more justice of this critic: “That what he read he could transcribe; but as what he thought, if ever he did think, he could but ill express, so he read on; and by that means got a character of learning, without risking the imputation of wanting a better talent.” In the part, however, which he has taken in this controversy, he has brought the only literary quality he has, that of patient, and laborious research, into suspicion. Whether it be the instinctive property of dulness to be dark, and bewildered, in proportion to the efforts it makes to be bright and perspicuous, or that though he has much reading, he has not enough for the office he has arrogated, it is certain that his book abounds with so many blunders, and overflows with so much presumption, that it seems a sort of mixed animal, engendered between a persevering dulness on one side, and an envious mind on the other.

‘ If I succeed in proving what I have asserted, I shall do a very essential service to literature itself. I shall have ridded the literary world of a sort

of usurper. I shall have pulled from his dictatorship a man, who has aspired with the most presumptuous arrogance to a kind of oracular dignity on these matters. I shall have rescued the understandings of the public from the dominion of a critic, who, relying on the bulk of his labours, and the ponderous mass of his researches, has attempted to give laws on all topics of literature and criticism.*

Mr. Ireland, throughout his pamphlet, writes as a scholar and a gentleman; and replies to unjust insinuations in the diction of indignant and wounded feelings. And when the more immediate reply to Mr. Malone is produced, we doubt not it will convince the world, that if the MSS. be a forgery, Mr. M. is not the critic to detect it.* This was our opinion in our perusal and review of the Inquiry; and this opinion we at present see no reason to change.

Thoughts on a sure Method of annually reducing the National Debt of Great Britain without imposing additional Burdens on the People: and which at the same Time will tend to diminish the Number of Poor Persons, and gradually annihilate the Poor-rates. By Matthias Koops, Esq. 8vo. pages 42. Price 1s. Symonds.

MR. KOOPS is one among the many who stand forward, in a period of public exigency, with a scheme to relieve the distressed state of the finances. His plan to liquidate the national debt is by an Universal Tontine, paying 3 per cent. simple interest to the subscribers, and applying the compound interest to the purchase of stock.

‘The foundation of a *General Tontine, Insurance, and Universal Annuity*, established on such an extensive scale, as to suit every class of the community; and so permanent as to be honoured by age, and to provide for the widow and fatherless, will alleviate as much of human misery, as human calculation can foresee.

‘By such an establishment, or institution, it is conceived, that such provision would be made for individuals, of every class or denomination in life, as would prevent their feeling the hardship of poverty and distress in the decline of life, and at the same time protect the community at large against the heavy charges with which it is burdened by the improvidence and dissipation, or incidental misfortunes of individuals.

‘It remains now to illustrate how such a public institution may operate greatly to reduce annually the national debt, and extinguish it in a space of years.

‘The author before he enters into the discussion of this object, begs leave to observe, that this plan is established on a sure basis: all the calculations of his various classes and numerous tables are founded on three per cent. simple interest; the nation has therefore to reap the benefits which arise by compound interest, and from the higher interests, which accumulate by placing the capitals received into the treasury, in the public funds, or other securities; for which reason he divides his observations into two classes.

First. ‘If the said institution should be established in the three kingdoms for voluntary subscribers, with leave for foreigners residing in other countries to be admitted members.

Secondly. ‘If the establishment should be made compulsory.’

The Author proceeds to illustrate these two classes by a variety of observations and tables; to detail which would be to extract the whole pamphlet. We must, therefore, refer our readers to the work itself, in which, with many inaccuracies of style, (excusable in a foreigner) they will find much accurate calculation and sound sense.

* For a Review of Mr. Malone's Inquiry see our volume vi. p. 268.

POETRY.

ODE

FOR THE NEW YEAR 1797,

BY H. J. PYE, ESQ. POET LAUREAT.

O'ER the vex'd bosom of the deep,
When, rushing wild, with frantic haste,
The winds, with angry pinions, sweep
The surface of the wat'ry waste;
Tho' the firm vessel proudly brave
The inroad of the giant wave,
Tho' the bold Seaman's dauntless soul
View, unappall'd, the mountains roll;
Yet still along the murky sky,
Anxious, he throws th' enquiring eye,
If, haply, through the gloom that round
him low'rs,
Shoots one refulgent ray, prelude of hap-
pier hours.

II.

So Albion, round her rocky coast;
While loud the rage of battle roars,
Derides invasion's haughty boast,
Safe in her wave-encircled shores;
Still safer in her dauntless Band; [land,
Lords of her seas, and Guardians of her
Whose patriot zeal, whose bold emprise,
Rise, as the storms of danger rise;
Yet, temp'ring Glory's ardent flame
With gentle Mercy's milder claim, [eye,
She bends from scenes of blood th' averted
And courts the charms of Peace mid shouts
of Victory.

III.

She courts in vain, the ruthless Foe,
Deep drench'd with blood, yet thirsting
still for more,
Deaf to the shrieks of agonizing woe,
Views with rapacious eye each neighbour-
shore; [cries,
"Mine be th' internal sway," aloud she
"Where'er my sword prevails, my con-
qu'ring banner flies."

IV.

Genius of Albion, hear! [ing spar,
Grasp the strong shield, and lift the ave. g.
By wreaths thy dauntless sons of yore
From Gallia's crest victorious tore,
By Edwa'd's lily-blaz'n'ds eed,
By Agin court's high tropp'd field;
By rash Iberia's naval pride, [stormy tide;
Whelm'd by Eliza's barks beneath the
Call for thy warrior race 'gain, Estrain
Breathing to me enticed h soul n p rug
"To arms, to arms, your banner straight
"Now set the battle in array; [display

VOL. VIII.

"The Oracle for war declares, [appears'
"Success depends upon our hearts and
"Britons, arise home, revenge your
country's wrongs,
"Fight and record yourselves in Druid's
songs!"

THE AFFLICTED PARENTS,

AN ELEGY

BY DR. WM. PERFECT.

"Doubtless it would have pierced our heart to have beheld
the tender parents following the breathless boy to his long
home."

AND the whispers of yon vocal grove,
Fast by a streamlet's willow-crested side,
A cottage stood--the fane of mutual love---
With each sequest' red charm diversified.

The little freehold Corydon possess'd,
One ample mead two comely cows sustain'd;
Of hops one acre his own labour dress'd,
A yearly bev'rage from its crops he gain'd.
Maid of his choice, Pastora of the mill,
For charms in debt to nature's aid alone,
In youth he join'd, the nuptial bed 'o fill,
And found in her each nuptial bliss his own.

Twelve golden autumns had their courses
run

Since that which bless'd their union with a
boy;

No daughter added, nor no other son,---
He grew his parent's undivided joy.

Oft as I've shar'd the evening cup of ale,
And giv'n Virginia's plant to azure fame,
Attentive list'ning to the storied tale
I've mark'd the boy in all his promis'd bloom.

What joy has bright'ned in each parent's eye,
When, to some sabbath's sacred text re-
fer'd,

The youth has made a pertinent reply,
And crown'd with praise his answer has
been heard:

What was the father's and the mother's pride,
When the school custom gave the Piece to write
At festive Christmas and gay Whitsun-tide,
The wall receiv'd this pledge of their delight.

To every visitor ambition shows
The fair production of so young a quill;
The buds of Genius which the lines disclose
Make all presage the scholar to fulfill.

Did plenty from her cornu-copie give
One tribute richer than the year before,
With grateful heart would Corydon receive
Each augmentation to his little store.

G

Blest to imagine every small increase
A father's wishes for his child would crown,
His youth protect with competence in peace,
And shield his manhood from misfortune's
frown.

Did twins Pastora's fav'rite ewe produce,
Her cleanly dairy with profusion glow,
She wish'd the profits for no other use
Than on her darling Edwin to bestow.

Ah what avails the father's flatt'ring thought?
Ah what avails his captivating hope?
The mother's fondness with endearments
fraught?

Each pleasing view thro' fancy's telescope?

Of every hope, of every wish the bloom,
(Let grief parental teach the tear to flow)
He fell an early victim to the tomb-- [woe.
Who knows a parent's heart must feel their

The scene thus chang'd, let sympathy of grief,
Unhappy Corydon, thy sorrows share;
But how shall condolence afford relief
To sad Pastora, with dishevell'd hair?

Frantic and wild she heaves the burden'd
To melancholy sinks a willing prey, [sigh;
Views the youth's obsequies with streaming
Nor wishes death his menaces to stay. [eye,

In vain did Corydon advice impart,
With manly fortitude his sighs suppress;
By comfort strive to soothe her anguish'd
heart,

And urge their offspring's endless happiness.

In vain remonstrance friendly counsel lent:
Within the course of one succeeding year,
Her life with ceaseless lamentations spent,
In sad procession borne I mark'd her bier.

Afflicted Corydon exerts his sense
In all the manliness of silent woe;
"No wrong," he cries, "can Mercy's God
dispense: [know?

"The ways of heaven shall man pretend to
See in yon sacred spot, the yew tree nigh,
Two graves are closed with one sepulchral
stone,

Engrav'd by Corydon, with many a sigh,
"Twas *heaven, thy will--and let that will be
done.*"

The suff'ring sage to solitude resign'd,
'Twas mine to prove the sympathetic friend,
To check the painful startings of his mind,
And consolation's healing balm to tend.

TO THE MEMORY OF LAURA.

BY THE SAME.

* She was the handmaid of charity, and peace dwelt in
her bosom.

No common anguish wrings my torur'd
heart,
No vulgar sorrow points my bosom's smart;
Laura, I weep!--O Otway, could my lays,
Like thine, my temples decorate with bays,
Melpomene should then unfold her powers.
---O'er the bright mead when morning led
the hours,

And when each eve her modest head reclin'd,
Taste, beauty, truth, and elegance combin'd,
In her were seen--of Genius' honour'd train,
Is there not one to sing the plaintive strain?
Thien, lovely maid, my humble muse shall
tell, [Laura fell."

"Earth's fairest flower was clos'd when
Ofi have I seen her steps by mercy led
To sickness pining on a scanty bed,
And, angel-like, contributing relief [grief!
To widow'd woe, depress'd with pungent
The poor distress'd, impell'd by gratitude,
Deplore their loss, when die the virtuous good;
With undissembled tears approve my verse,
And pensive weep o'er Laura's hallow'd
hearse.

ODE

ON CLASSIC DISCIPLINE.

BY THE REV. MR. BISHOP.

I.

Down the steep abrupt of hills
Furious foams the head-long tide;
Tho' the mead the rivulet trills,
Swelling slow in gentle pride.
Ruin vast, and dread dismay,
Mark the clamorous cataract's way;
Glad increase, and bloom benign
Round the streamlet's margin shine.

II.

Youth! with steadfast eye peruse
Scenes, to lesson thee display'd!
Yes,---in these the moral muse
Bids thee know thyself portray'd!
Thou may'st rush with headstrong force,
Wasteful like the torrent's course;
Or resemble rills that flow,
Blest and blessing as they go!

III.

Infant sense to all our kind,
Pure the young ideas brings;
From within the fountain mind,
Issuing at a thousand springs.
Who shall make the current stray
Smooth along the destin'd way?
Who shall, as it runs, refine?
Who!---but *Classic Discipline!*

IV.

She, whatever fond desire,
Stubborn deed, or ruder speech,
Inexperience might inspire,
Or absurd indulgence teach,
Timely cautious shall restrain;
Bidding childhood own the rein:
She with sport shall labour mix;
She, excursive fancy fix.

V.

Prime support of learned lore,
Perseverance joins her train;
Pages oft turn'd o'er and o'er,
Turning o'er and o'er again!
Giving, in due forms of school,
Sound, significance, ut erance, rule:
While the stores of memory grow,
Great, tho' gradual; sure, tho' slow.

VI.

Patient care, by just degrees,
Word and image learns to class;
Couples those, discriminates these,
As in strict review they pass:
Joins, as varying features strike,
Apt to apt; and like to like:
Till in meet array advance
Concord, method, elegance!

VII.

Time meanwhile, from day to day,
Fixes deeper virtue's root;
Whence, in long succession gay,
Blossoms many a lively fruit:
Meek obedience, following still,
Frank, and glad, a wiser will!
Modest candour, hearing prone,
Every judgment--save its own!

VIII.

Emulation! whose keen eye,
Forward still, and forward strains;
Nothing ever deeming high,
Where a higher hope remains!
Shame ingenuous, native, free,
Source of manly dignity!
Zeal, impartial to pursue
Right and just, and good and true!

IX.

These, and every kindred grace,
More and more perfection gain;
While attention loves to trace
Grave record, or lofty strain;
Noting, how in virtue's pride
Sages liv'd; and heroes died!
Conscious, how in virtue's cause,
Genius gave, and claim'd applause!

X.

Thus with early culture blest,
Thus to early toil inur'd,
Infancy's expanding breast
Glow's with sense and powers matur'd;
Whence if future efforts raise
Moral, social, civil praise;
Thine is all th' effect--be thine
The glory--*Classic Discipline!*

LINES

IN IMITATION OF SHAKSPEAR.

BY W. H. IRELAND,

On contemplating Westminster-Abbey.

O! My good lord, how irksome passed the
time,
While in yon porch I did wait your coming;
Yet as this chrysal arch, this bright heaven
Doth shine upon the emerald tipped wave,
And paints upon the deep, each passing
cloud;
E'en so the smallest and most gentle plant
That waves before the breath of thee sweet
heaven,
To man gives food for contemplation;
And shows how soon this blazing frame of
Must sink on age's chilling icy bed, [youth
And dwindle down to second nothingness;

Look but on yon clock those lanky fingers,
The tolling heralds of swift winged time,
Whose clapper wakens men from drowsy
sleep;

Changing the dreary stillness of black night
To day's first infancy, the blushing morn;
While blest Aurora rears her purple crest,
And tip-toe stands, shaking her golden hair,
Eager to visit the busy sons of men:
Her blazing journey ended, down she sinks,
And so I liken her to man's strange end.

Look on yon pile, under whose fretted roof
So many kings have seized the precious gem
Of royalty, and sucked the courtiers
Lip laboured lies.

Where are you now? dead, alas, and rotten!
O! my good lord, let us from hence away,
This spot doth smell too strong of royal dust,
Throwing its lures to catch the minds of
men;

Blowing in their ears the feverous blast
Of mirth, feasts, merriment, prosperity;
Till on a sudden grappling with their souls,
Thou knittest them at once in death *eternae*,

IMITATION OF SHAKSPEAR,

BY THE LATE REV. MR. BISHOP,

(From an Interlude entitled "The Fairy
Benison.)

OBERON and TITANIA.

Oberon.

So kings would wish for those who shall be
kings. [Oberon.

Tit So kings should wish!--And therein
Doth wish as should a king.--But why
must Oberon

Square to his single and particular thought
The sum and standard of all princely bles-
sedness? [wishes then?

---So kings should wish! Have queens no
Aye---but great Oberon saith, our several
cares

For this same prince, like our connubial love's,
Made one incorporate fondness. Be it so---
Then should our cares be voiced severally,
Like our own loves, united, but disti ct.

So grow their loves, whose son hath brought
us hither.

I grant he is a boy, a manly one:

I grant he hath a father, whom to imitate
Will ask a strain of spirit and benevolence.
Expectance ne'er could warrant, till the fact
Pronounc'd it possible. What then? Doth
that

Annul my claim and proper privilege?
Hath not the boy a mother? Yes. And I,
A female as I am, have fram'd a wish
May lure a mother's ear, as soon, perhaps,
As aught the scornful Oberon hath prepar'd,
Elbowing all humbler emulation.

To hear that wish I sent the very sprite,
Whose presence moves thee so.

Ob. Alas! thou rash one!

Thine ill-advised cunning, like a shaft
Drawn by an eager and unpractic'd hand,
Hath over-past its aim. Now, hear me, lady.

Thou dost remember, when, upon a time,
 We read together in the fairy court
 The sacred book of mortal destiny.
 There did I find th' eternal mandate written,
 Which said a German fair, this very queen,
 A virgin princess then, should share and
grace
 The bed and sceptre of a British King,
 Just new to manhood, tho' right well ad-
 vanc'd
 In kingly properties. Thou dost not heed
Tu. Most faithfully, my lord. [*me!*]
Ob. Observing this [*regard*]
 (For that thou knowest what part in our
 Doth Britain's court possess) I sped me
 straight [*might fit*]
 (Fraught with such fairy gifts, as best
 A damsel of her state, odours, and charms,
 That our still vagrant elves in earth or air,
 From flowers and dews extract) ev'n to the
 court [*queen.*]
 Where dwelt this chosen dame and future
 There, when I came, expecting to have
 found
 A lady busied in such tricks of fancy,
 As young and blithesome beauties do de-
 light in;
 Mark me, Titania, I did see a maid,
 A very maid, pleading the cause of nations,
 Expostulating with a sovereign warrior,
 To save a ravag'd country.---Canst thou
 think
 An heart so early great, so exquisitely,
 Tho' in a woman, will accept or heed,
 In favour of her son, her eldest hope,
 Thy gossip's talk, thy sugar'd lullaby,
 Thy wish, that suits a common mother's ear?
 Away! Away!

We trust our readers will observe the superiority of Mr. W. H. L.'s imitation over the wretched attempt of Mr. W. H. L.

SONNET.

BY CHARLES LLOYD.

THIS hoary labyrinth, the wreck of time,
 Solicitous with timid step I tread,
 Scale the stern battlement, or vent'rous
 climb [*head;*]
 Where the rent watchtower bows its grassy
 These dark damp caverns breathe mysterious
 dread,
 Haply still foul with tinct of ancient crime;
 Methinks, some spirit of th' ennobled dead,
 High-bosom'd maid, or warrior chief sub-
 lime, [*bird*]
 Haunts them! The flappings of the heavy
 imagin'd warnings fearfully impart,
 And the dull breeze below, that feebly stirr'd,
 Seem'd the deep breathing of an o'er-
 charg'd heart! [*bird*]
 Proud tower! thy halls now stable the lean
 And musing Mercury smiles that such thou
 art!

TO THE GLOW-WORM.

BY AMELIA.

GEM of this lone and silent vale,
 Treasure of ev'ning's pensive hour,
 I come thy modest light to hail!
 I come a votive strain to pour:
 Nor chilly dews, nor paths untrod,
 Can from thy shrine my footsteps fright:
 Thy lamp shall guide me o'er the sod,
 And cheer the gathering mists of night.
 Again, thy yellow fire impart!--
 Lo, planets shed a mimic day!
 Lo, vivid meteors round me dart!
 On western clouds red lightnings play!
 But vain these splendid fires to me,
 Borne on the season's sultry wing,
 Unless thy slender form I see
 Around its fairy lustre fling.
 Thine is an unobtrusive blaze;
 Content art thou in shades to shine;
 And much I wish, while thus I gaze,
 To make thy modest merit mine;
 For long by youth's wild wishes cast,
 On the false world's tempestuous sea,
 I seek Retirement's shore at last,
 And find a monitor in thee.

SONG.

SWEET Rosalind! forbear to chide,
 Alas! I can no longer hide
 What long my heart would have disclos'd,
 Had modest fear not interpos'd.
 Whene'er I view thy heav'nly face,
 My wond'ring eyes new beauty trace;
 My gladning soul with rapture burns,
 And love to adoration turns.
 Thy ever-blooming cheeks disclose
 The lily blended with the rose,
 And Cupid wants, while he sips
 The flowing fragrance on thy lips.
 Those ringlets that so neatly deck
 Thy comely face, and graceful neck
 With those proportion'd limbs combine
 To form thee, fair one! all divine.
 Who can resist thy matchless charms!
 Oh! take me, clasp me in those arms!
 Regale me on thy spicy breast,
 And lull my ravish'd soul to rest.

EPITAPH ON A BEAUTIFUL BOY.

A Pearly dew drop, see, some flow'r adorn,
 And grace with tender beam the rising morn;
 But soon the sun emits a fiercer ray,
 And the fair fabric rushes to decay!
 Lo! in the dust, the beauteous ruin lies,
 While the pure vapour seeks its native skies:
 A fate like this to thee, sweet youth, was
 given,
 To sparkle, bloom, and be exhal'd in heav'n.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

THEATRE-ROYAL, DRURY-LANE.

Dec. 26. **T**HE popular pantomime of Robinson Crusoe was revived at this theatre, with alterations and additions. The first act is an excellent one, and has interest, good acting, and fine scenery, to recommend it. The second act is but indifferent; and from some of the performers being imperfect in their parts, was received with strong marks of disapprobation, from every part of the theatre. It has, however, since its first representation been curtailed and altered, and been well received. The elder PALMER played the part of Robinson Crusoe with great force and effect.

Jan. 7. A new opera in three acts, entitled the HONEY MOON, was brought forward— This opera is altogether the production of the younger Linley, who is not only author but composer.

Amongst the many wretched literary productions which of late have marked the judgment of the managers, this piece claims pre-eminence; it has neither plot, dialogue, nor incident. It appeared to us, that a parcel of songs (a few of which are not destitute of merit) were selected, and that some journeyman dramatist had attempted to connect them into an opera. Instead of the songs arising from the business of the piece, they are generally irrelevant to it, or introduced in the most awkward manner possible; as in the instance of Dina's first air, where Worry says to her, 'Where are you running to? come and sing me that pretty song I heard you singing under the tree yesterday.' She complies, and he, applauding, tells her he is one of the greatest musicians in Europe, that he composed a song for a foolish sort of a fellow, like himself, who, however, did not know how to sing it, and he therefore would favour her with it in a proper style. A similar mode of introduction is used for Dina's third air, and for a song by Lessington, where his servant requests him to sing him the story of Tom Clewline.

The composer should not be involved in the censure which unavoidably attaches to this opera. Many of the airs, particularly those of Dina, are very pretty: we lament he has bestowed his talents on a subject so unworthy of them.

The Dramatis Personæ were as follows:

Sir William Wellbred,	- - -	Mr. Suett.
Sir George Orbit,	- - -	Mr. Kelly.
Captain Belmont,	- - -	Mr. Barrymore.
Captain Clifton,	- - -	Mr. Palmer.
Major Lessington,	- - -	Mr. Dignum.
Tim,	- - -	Mr. Wathen.
Worry,	- - -	Mr. Bannister, jun.
Huntsman,	- - -	Mr. Cooke.
Lady Wellbred,	- - -	Miss Pope.
Dorinda,	- - -	Miss Arne.
Floretta,	- - -	Miss De Camp.
Dina,	- - -	Mrs. Bland.
Emmeline,	- - -	Miss Leak.

During the early part of the performance, the friends of the author were clamorous in his support, encoring each song, and rapturously applauding each verse. As it proceeded, however, it shamed them into silence, and the house, long before the falling of the curtain, was unanimous in its condemnation. It was, nevertheless, announced for a second representation; after which it was withdrawn.

THEATRE-ROYAL, COVENT-GARDEN.

Jan. 10. **A** New comedy, entitled *A CURE FOR THE HEART ACHE*, was represented for the first time at Covent-garden theatre.

The fable of this comedy is as follows :

A baronet, of an ancient and honourable family, and an upstart nabob, of immense ill-gotten wealth, are neighbours. The circumstances of the former are declining, to hasten whose ruin is the ambition of the latter. A person, grown very rich by the trade of a taylor, has a mortgage on the baronet's estate ; who, with his eccentric son, going down in the country on this business, they are invited to the house of the nabob, caressed on account of their wealth, and a match is made up between the son and the heiress of the nabob, though he is already engaged to the daughter of a farmer, impoverished by his own imprudence, while the son of the baronet loves the nabob's niece, from whom a part of her fortune has been withheld by the address of her uncle.

The confounding these designs, and bringing the true lovers together, is the business of the piece ; in which the young taylor, and the artless, but honest son of the farmer, who, with his sister, is reduced to a state of servitude in the nabob's family, are made the principal instruments.

The great object of the present comedy is to shew the influence of a nabob of dissolute habits, who returns to his native country, and corrupts the simplicity of the place.

A better ground than this, which is marked out by the great moralist, cannot be inclosed in the dramatic pale. Mr. Morton, the author, well knew, however, the necessity of limiting his censure. It applies, by no means, to the great body either of civil or military characters ; who, by the enterprise of youth, led either after fame or profit, pass a life of fatigue and industry, with neither a blot upon their humanity or their probity. Such men there are, and many personally known to all of us, who will applaud the chastisement of him, who disgraces so much courage and patient labour.

The characters may be thus briefly described :—

The Stanleys are faithful representations of old English dignity. Vortex and his daughter display the prodigality of the east, with the tasteless and vicious propensities of minds originally bad. The Rapids are, father and son, taylors retired from business. The Oatlands are farmers, and the father has been ruined at cards by the nabob's valet. Emma is a young lady whom the nabob has plundered, who is affianced to Charles Stanley ; and Jesse Oatland is at last safely contracted to young Rapid.

This is a play of so much action, that we should fail in attempting a clear detail of the fable. But the effects are powerful in themselves, and rendered irresistible by combination and contrast. The single scene between the nabob and Frank Oatland is as truly dramatic and affecting, as any we have ever seen. It has the advantage of incomparable acting. The author will cheerfully divide his praise here with Fawcett.

The Dramatis Personæ are as follow :

Sir Hubert Stanley,	- - -	Mr. Murray.
Charles Stanley,	- - -	Mr. Pope.
Vortex,	- - -	Mr. Quick.
Old Rapid,	- - -	Mr. Munden.
Ned Rapid,	- - -	Mr. Lewis.
Oatland,	- - -	Mr. Waddy.
Frank Oatland,	- - -	Mr. Fawcett.
Miss Vortex,	- - -	Mrs Martcocks..
Emma Vortex,	- - -	Mrs. Pope.
Jesse Oatland	- - -	Miss Wallis.

REPORT
OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BRITISH PARLIAMENT.

THE FIRST SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 5.

○PIE's Divorce Bill, together with four other private Bills, were received from the Commons, and read the first time.

Tuesday, 6. Heard Counsel in an Appeal from the Court of Session in Scotland, in which Mr. John Denny and others were Appellants, and the Marquis of Lorn and others Respondents---The Judgment was affirmed. Adjourned to Monday.

Monday, 12. Heard Counsel on a Scotch Appeal, Pringle *versus* Tod.

A message from his Majesty (*see Proceedings of the House of Commons*) was read, relative to the Declaration of War with Spain, which was ordered to be taken into consideration to-morrow, and the Lords to be summoned. Adjourned.

Tuesday, 13. Lord Grenville moved the Order of the Day for taking his Majesty's message into consideration, announcing to the House the Declaration of War upon the part of Spain against this Country.

The Order being read,

Lord Grenville said, that of all the real or pretended causes of any war, none were ever so frivolous as those of the Spanish Declaration: he affirmed, that Ministers had used their best endeavours to settle the difference by amicable discussion; and doubted not but their Lordships would give his Majesty that support which he had so often experienced. He therefore moved, that an humble Address be presented to his Majesty, &c.

The Address, an echo of the Message, was carried *nemine dissentiente*.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

WEDNESDAY, October 31, (*Continued.*)

AS to Exchequer Bills, it was intended to issue them for three months only, and to receive them in payment of the Loan, and also to make them bear an interest of something more than 5 per cent. in order to get at a proper divisional fraction of 50 much per cent.

The excess of the Navy debt, for which interest was to be provided, was 8,250,000*l.* whence four millions, for which provision was made last year, were to be deducted. There was also a charge of 140,000*l.* which had arisen from the withdrawing of the Collateral Succession Tax, and to make good which the national faith was pledged. For these several sums the interest would amount to 2,220,000*l.*; but as the East India Company had engaged to pay 117,000*l.* till the expiration of their charter, the interest to be provided was thereby reduced to 2,100,000*l.*

For the sake of brevity we shall not follow Mr. Pitt in the reasons he brought forward to justify his choice of objects of taxation: but shall content ourselves with presenting to our readers an abstract of their nature and amount.

ABSTRACT OF THE TAXES.

EXCISE.	Tea	- - -	L. 240,000
	Coffee	- - -	30,000
	Auctions	- - -	40,000
	Bricks	- - -	30,000
	Foreign and Home-made Spirits	- - -	210,000
	Scotch Distilleries	- - -	300,000
CUSTOMS.	Sugar	- - -	280,000
	Pepper	- - -	10,000
	Sundries	- - -	10,000
	10 per Cent Duty	- - -	43,000
	5 per Cent Duty	- - -	110,000
ASSESSED TAXES.	Additional	- - -	290,000
	Receipts	- - -	30,000
	Post-Office	- - -	250,000
	Stage-Coaches	- - -	60,000
	Parcels	- - -	60,000
	Inland Navigations	- - -	120,000
	Total		L. 2,132,000

He next proceeded to notice some circumstances that detracted considerably from the Consolidated Fund, viz. the failure of regulations respecting Dutch prizes---the non-payment of the aid to be furnished by the East India Company; and the advance of 900,000*l.* to the Grenada merchants, which, though not repaid, was secure to the public. He then stated the permanent revenue of last year at 1,4,012,000*l.* exceeding the average of the four last years of peace and war, which amounted only to 13,855,000*l.* He did not expect the vote of credit of three millions to cover all the extraordinaries if the war went on, and yet should it even be necessary to assist our allies, he thought those exceedings would not go beyond three millions and a half.

The last year's expenditure had been much swelled by assistance given to our valiant and faithful ally the Emperor, whom Ministers had thought it their duty to supply with, he believed, about 1,200,000*l.* in the course of that year. This would be matter of separate discussion, and should their conduct be approved of, he should crave and solicit the future exercise of the same discretion.

Mr. Pitt next accounted for the great increase of the Navy debt, which, including the present month, might amount to 16,171,000*l.* exceeding his estimate by four millions---an excess which principally proceeded from 1,300,000*l.* of unexpected charges for the transport service---from 900,000*l.* demurrage paid to neutral vessels, and from 600,000*l.* loss on Navy Bills. He made no doubt but that the House would, with cheerfulness and confidence, supply whatever was necessary to our safety and independence; they would be happy to find, that the unnatural efforts of our enemy had been advantageously met by our sober and regular industry---they would be astonished to see our revenue in the 4th year of a disastrous war, exceed a peace calculation, and our exports go beyond those of 1795, by four millions. In all, they amounted to no less than thirty.

After many other observations, tending in like manner to shew the immensity of our resources, Mr. Pitt concluded, by moving his first string of resolutions.

Mr. Grey said, that though he should not discuss the Hon. Gentleman's propositions at length, he could not refrain from a few observations. He should be sorry that the House should be imposed on by his false and deceitful statements. Among them was the amount of the exports, of which coffee made a fifth. *Six millions were set down as the value of that article exported, while the quantity imported was only two or three.* By such documents as these, was the state of the country to be ascertained. He then proved the inaccuracy of Mr. Pitt's calculations, by showing, that the expences always exceeded the estimates; adverted to the deficiency of the revenue; and concluded by saying, that the papers on the table gave note of the approach of this country to ruin, in spite of the symptoms of prosperity urged by Mr. Pitt.

Mr. Pitt confessed the accounts of imports and exports to be incorrect, but supposed them as accurate as in preceding years; he also made some remarks upon the advantageous terms of the Loan, which he had before forgotten to notice.

Mr. Fox rose, and said, if what he believed were true, it was idle for Englishmen to boast of a free Constitution. The present system virtually included the abolition of the House of Commons, and the creation of a dictator, who, during the war, was to levy and expend at discretion. He adverted to the sums sent to the Emperor without consent of Parliament. If this be the system, said he, the Constitution is not worth fighting for. In domestic expences the principle at least is ascertained. In the present instance, the Parliament has neither known the expence, nor been consulted concerning the principle; and the Minister deserves to be impeached for shewing a design to dispose of the public money, without authority from the legal guardians of the public purse. He has also aggravated his offence by omitting to disclose it on the first day of the Sessions, and by withholding the Army Extraordinaries till the day before the Budget. In answer to what Mr. Pitt had said of the valour of our ally, Mr. Fox asked, how mercy, its usual concomitant, had been exercised towards the Marquis de la Fayette? He then pointed out the uniform errors of the Minister in calculating the force and finances of the enemy, and lamented that the everlasting mistakes of one man should cost the country 150 millions of money, and rivers of blood. By the operations of this day the National debt would be increased to 400 millions.---If the hypothesis of an eloquent writer (Mr. Burke) were true, that the minority spoke the sense of the nation, how happened it that no attention had been paid to the universal wish for peace since Robespierre's fall, at which time better terms might have been obtained than at present. These topics he should discuss more at length on a future day; and he should also make some enquiries relative to the proposed regulation of the Post Office.

The Resolutions moved by the Chancellor of the Exchequer were then put and carried, and the report ordered to be received to-morrow.

Thursday, 8. Mr. Grey, after observing that Alexander Morris had been guilty of a gross infraction of the privileges of the House, moved, that the Speaker do issue a warrant for the delinquent's committal to Newgate.---Ordered.

Mr. Grey then re-moved that the instigators of Morris, whom he understood to be Captain Bartlett and Mr. Speck, were culpable at least in an equal degree. A Sheriff's Officer who was present would give evidence that they put Morris into a coach and four, and assured him, that Mr. Thelluson would cheerfully repay his expences, which could not exceed 500*l.* He should therefore move, "That as practices were used to prevent A. Morris from appearing before the Southwark Committee, the matter of complaint should be heard at the Bar of the House.

Mr. Thelluson declared that he scarcely knew Captain Bartlett; admitted Mr. Speck to be his agent; but averred upon his honour, that if concerned, they had acted without his instructions.

Mr. Anstruther moved the previous question, which was seconded by Mr. Pitt.

Mr. Grey, with the consent of the House, withdrew his motion.

Mr. Hobart brought up the report of the Committee of Ways and Means, and moved that the resolutions be read a first time. On the motion that the resolutions be read a second time,

Mr. Fox rose. He said he would decline for the present entering into a detail of those resolutions. What he meant to advert to, at present, was the degraded situation of the House with respect to the Executive Power. A servant of the Crown, in contempt of the law, had sent 1,200,000*l.* to Germany, and till the House had solemnly pronounced on the Minister's conduct, he should deem himself a traitor to his country if he agreed to vote either a man or a shilling. In the case in question, Ministers had been guilty of a direct breach of the Constitution. They had disposed of the money not only without convening the Parliament, but without consulting it while actually sitting. Payments had been made so late as November, 1796, and all this had been done, as if to shew that the power resided in the servants of the Crown. Another circumstance, not less singular, was that the House had yesterday, for the first time, been acquainted with the Spanish war, although it had been publicly intimated by the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, though notice of granting letters of marque had appeared in the Gazette, and though the

newspapers were full of hostilities. To return to the usurpation of the functions of Parliament by the King's servants, he asked what figure this Parliament would make in history, if it overlooked so fatal a precedent? As to himself he should oppose the second reading of the resolutions, and if supported, would pledge himself to bring forward a motion, charging the Minister with "a high crime and misdemeanour." The Minister's speech, yesterday, was a worse libel on the Constitution, than any thing in the writings of Paine; and if he were a Juryman on his trial, he should certainly find him guilty, and say that the *malus animus* to destroy the Constitution was evident. Little of it, indeed, was left, if the power of the purse was taken from the Commons. He should therefore vote against the second reading.

Mr. Pitt rose with evident marks of agitation, and began by observing, that the Hon. Gentleman was in the habit of using inflammatory language, and of calling out that the Constitution was in danger. He contended that Ministers were justified in what they had done, by the vote of credit, which was "to enable his Majesty's Ministers to adopt such measures as the exigency of the circumstances may require."

Sir Wm. Pultney said, that the measure in question appeared to him criminal and unconstitutional, and the defence set up was extremely weak. The vote of credit was for extraordinaries, and included only the articles previously set down in the estimates. No minister had before ever dared to convert part of a vote of credit to a foreign subsidy. Though he saw much to blame in the increase of the Navy debt, and could point out many abuses, this gross infringement of the Constitution was, in his opinion, the primary object of enquiry.

Mr. Grey said, that after the truly constitutional speech of the Hon. Baronet, he should detain the House but little. From the papers on the table, it appeared that only 77,000*l.* out of the whole 1,200,000*l.* had been sent to the Emperor between the sitting of the last and the present Parliament. No attack so direct as this had ever been made on every thing dear to man; and though it might be said that Ministers were not to be fettered by that House in a moment of negotiation, yet now that the French were acknowledged to be capable of the accustomed relations of peace and amity, and to have *snorted away the fumes of the indigested blood of their Sovereigns*, it might be especially useful to exhibit the proud spectacle of a free people treating with a free people, ourselves as jealous of our rights as they could be of theirs.

Mr. Wilberforce, Mr. Yorke, the Master of the Rolls, and Lord Hawkesbury vindicated the Minister: Mr. Harrison, Mr. Curwen, and Mr. William Smith reprobated his conduct.

Mr. Fox begged the House not to confound the proper application of the money with the mode of obtaining it. It might be proper or not to send money to the Emperor, but had the Minister so far abolished the Constitution as to have the right of doing so, without the consent of Parliament? Against such doctrine he would contend in that House as long as possible, by words; and otherwise, if necessary, out of it; for he was born free, and free he would die. So far he was an incorrigible Jacobin.

Mr. Pitt declined any further discussion that night.

Mr. Bastard said he would vote for the supplies, without meaning to imply any approbation of the Minister's conduct.

The House then divided---for the resolution, 164---against it 58---majority 106.

Friday, 9. The London Docks, Chichester Roads, Scotch Distillery, Excise Additional Duty, and Customs Duty Bills were read a first time.

Dudley Canal Bill read a third time and passed.

Mr. Manning brought in the Bill for forming Wet Docks at Shadwell, for the accommodation of the trade of London, which being read a first time, he said, that from the report of the Select Committee of last year, the House would be in possession of the necessity that existed for this much wished for improvement. But to enforce the sense of this necessity the stronger, he would mention a circumstance which lately came to his knowledge. It was very well known that the Merchants of the City of London were subject to very great losses from the depre-

dations committed on their property upon the River, and to remedy this the Bumbo-boat Act was passed, which gave Magistrates the power of inflicting penalties upon persons who could give no satisfactory account of the property found in their boats upon the River Thames. In consequence of this Act 242 persons were convicted in the course of a few months at the Office at Shadwell, of whom 220 paid the penalty of 40s. each, and were let loose again upon the public. At the Office in Whitechapel, upwards of 100 persons paid the penalty also, within the same space of time, and were liberated in the same manner. From this it was evident that the Act was inefficient, as to its object, or was at least successfully evaded. He by no means wished to take any persons by surprise upon this subject, or to press it rapidly through the House; and confiding in its own merits, he would postpone moving for the second reading of it till after the holidays.

Mr. Alderman Anderson thought, that the improvements proposed in the London Docks would be sufficient for the accomodation of Trade, and render the Bill, now spoken of, unnecessary.

Mr. Long then brought up the Report from the Commissioners of the Customs to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, respecting the improvements projected in these Docks.

Monday, 12. The Committees confirmed the Election for Milbourne Port and Leominster.

Mr. Dundas brought down a Message from the King, which was as follows:

“ His Majesty is concerned to acquaint the House of Commons, that his endeavours to preserve Peace with Spain, and to adjust all matters in discussion with that Court by an amicable negotiation, have been rendered ineffectual by an abrupt and unprovoked Declaration of War on the part of the Catholic King.

“ His Majesty, at the same time that he sincerely laments this addition to the calamities of war, already extending over so great a part of Europe, has the satisfaction to reflect that nothing has been omitted on his part which could contribute to the maintenance of peace on grounds consistent with the honour of his Crown, and the interests of his dominions.

“ And he trusts, that under the protection of Divine Providence, the firmness and wisdom of his Parliament will enable him effectually to repel this unprovoked aggression, and to afford to all Europe an additional proof of the spirit and resources of the British Nation.”

Mr. Dundas then moved, that his Majesty's Message be taken into consideration to-morrow.

Mr. Grey suggested that some papers would be necessary to enable the House to judge of the conduct of his Majesty's Ministers in the discussion.

Mr. Pitt said his Honourable Friend had just gone to the bar to bring them up.

Mr. Dundas brought up a copy of the Declaration of War by the Spanish Court, and notified that the answer to this Declaration would be laid before the House to-morrow.

Mr. Alderman Combe said, that he had received information that attempts had already been made within the city of London, to levy the additional 5 per cent. and 10 per cent. on certain Customs before these taxes had in any shape obtained the approbation of the House, and he wished to know whether any authority for this purpose had been given at the Treasury?

Mr. Rose said, that certainly no such authority had been given.

Mr. Grey said, the measure now complained of had last year been put in practice, and he himself had called the attention of the House to it, especially in the instance of the Wine Tax. Since the unjust and oppressive system of imposing retrospective taxes had been introduced, no more violent stretch of power had been attempted, and this, if permitted, went directly to destroy the privileges of the House.

Mr. Grey then said, that as the subject of advance to the Emperor would soon be the object of discussion, he wished to know if any interest had yet been paid upon the Loan which had been granted to the Emperor? The interest for the first year had been allowed when the Loan itself was given; but there was no information yet in the possession of the House with regard to the payment of interest for the subsequent period.

Mr. Pitt said, that the Honourable Gentleman might move, that an account

should be laid before the House upon the subject concerning which he asked information: which Mr. Grey moved.

Tuesday, 13. The Dutch Property Bill was read a first time.

Mr. Dundas laid before the House the Answer to the Spanish Declaration of War.

Mr. Whitbread asked the date of the Spanish Declaration of War.

Mr. Pitt said, it had been delivered without a date, but the date of its being received might be given.

Mr. Whitbread said, that a considerable period had elapsed between the delivery and the communication to the House.

A Motion for the date to be laid before the House was agreed to.

Mr. Grey said he had omitted to move for an account of the Payments of the 60,000*l.* capital of the Imperial Loan agreed to be paid by the conditions of the grant, and wished to know how information was to be had?

Mr. Pitt said, there was no regular board, but the Lords of the Treasury had made application to the Imperial Agent on the subject, and in this way it might be obtained.

Mr. Grey moved, that the Account to the above effect be laid before the House, which was agreed to.

Mr. Fox moved for an account of the sums remitted to Col. Craufurd, and the Bills drawn by him, with their respective dates.

Sir William Pulteney moved for an account of the dates of the Bills remitted for the use of the Emperor.---Agreed to.

Mr. Secretary Dundas moved the Order of the Day on his Majesty's Message, announcing the Declaration of War on the part of Spain.

The Order of the Day being read,

Mr. Secretary Dundas, by his Majesty's command, laid before the House the Spanish Declaration of War, and an answer to the allegations it contained. He said, that the House would perceive the necessity of giving Government the most vigorous support, and moved that an humble Address, &c.

Mr. Fox expressed his perfect concurrence in the sentiments of the Address, but considered the war with Spain as a calamitous event. At the commencement of the war, Ministers had asserted, that we had only France to encounter, and might expect the concurrence of all Europe---a striking proof among many others of the blindness of their Councils. He should however vote for the Address, upon the supposition of its being strictly true, that every thing had been done to avoid hostility.

The question was then put and carried *nem. con.*

Mr. Pitt moved to bring in a Bill to explain the Act for augmenting the Militia.

Mr. Fox moved as an amendment, to insert the word "repeal," instead of "explain and amend;" which was seconded by Mr. Taylor.

Mr. Dundas after using various arguments, solemnly declared his conviction that the French had entertained a design of invading this Country or Ireland. Ministers, he said, had not only apprehended an invasion of Ireland, but of England also; and there was reason to believe that the scheme was still in agitation. *He knew for certain that the French ports were full of boats, and their troops in readiness for such an attempt.* It was his firm opinion that this country, whenever at war, should systematically increase its force so as to be formidable abroad, and secure at home.

Mr. M. A. Taylor did not think an invasion likely--he had seen himself the discontents the Militia Bills had excited, and was sorry to see measures taken that tended to alienate the minds of the people.

General Tarleton said, that the new Bill was another step towards a military government, and that by arming one sixth part of the community, Ministers wished to convert them into engines for robbing the remainder.

Sir William Pulteney approved of the augmentation of the Militia, and wished it much larger. He wished indeed to see all the people in the country armed, after having seen the good effects produced by a similar measure in Switzerland and America.

The question on Mr. Fox's amendment was then put and negatived.

[TO BE REGULARLY CONTINUED.]

MONTHLY CHRONICLE.

IMPORTANT STATE PAPERS.

LORD MALMESBURY'S EMBASSY.

[CONTINUED FROM OUR LAST.]

CONFIDENTIAL MEMORIAL, ON THE PRINCIPAL OBJECTS OF RESTITUTION, COMPENSATION, AND RECIPROCAL ARRANGEMENT.

THE principle already established, as the basis of the Negotiation, by the consent of the two Governments, is founded on restitutions to be made by his Britannic Majesty to France, in compensation of the arrangements to which that Power may consent, in order to satisfy the just pretensions of the Allies of the King, and to preserve the political balance of Europe.

In order to accomplish these objects, in the manner the most complete, and to offer a fresh proof of the sincerity of his wishes for the re-establishment of general tranquillity, his Majesty would propose, that there should be given to this principle, on each side, all the latitude of which it may be susceptible.

I. His Majesty demands therefore,

1. The restitution, to his Majesty the Emperor and King, of all his dominions, on the footing of the *status ante bellum*.

2. The re-establishment of Peace between the Germanic Empire and France, by a suitable arrangement, conformable to the respective interests, and to the general safety of Europe. This arrangement to be negotiated with his Imperial Majesty, as Constitutional Head of the Empire, either by the intervention of the King, or immediately, as his Imperial Majesty shall prefer.

3. The evacuation of Italy by the French troops, with an engagement not to interfere in the internal affairs of that country; which should be re-established, as far as possible, upon the footing of the *status ante bellum*.

In the course of the Negotiation, a more detailed discussion may be entered into of the further measures which it may be proper to adopt, respecting the objects of these three Articles, in order to the providing more effectually for the future security of the respective limits and possessions, and for the maintenance of general tranquillity.

II. With regard to the other Allies of his Britannic Majesty, his Majesty demands, that there be reserved to her Majesty the Empress of all the Russias, a full and unlimited power of taking part in this Negotiation, whenever she may think fit, or of acceding to the Definitive Treaty, and thereby returning to a state of Peace with France.

III. His Majesty also demands that her most Faithful Majesty may be comprehended in this Negotiation, and may return to a state of Peace with France, without any cession or burdensome condition on either side.

IV. On these conditions, his Majesty offers to France the entire and unreserved restitution of all the conquests which he has made on that Power in the East and West Indies, proposing, at the same time, that a mutual understanding should be established as to the means of securing for the future the tranquillity of the two nations, and of consolidating, as much as possible, the advantages of their respective possessions. His Majesty offers, in like manner, the restitution of the Islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon, and of the Fishery of Newfoundland, on the footing of the *status ante bellum*.

But if in addition to this, his Majesty were to waive the right given to him by the express stipulations of the Treaty of Utrecht, of opposing the cession of the Spanish part of St. Domingo to France, his Majesty would then demand, in return for this concession, a compensation, which might secure, at least in some degree, the maintenance of the balance of the respective possessions in that part of the world.

V. In all the cases of cessions or restitutions, which may come in question in the course of this Negotiation, there should be granted on each side, to all individuals, the most unlimited right to withdraw with their families and their property, and to sell their lands and immoveable possessions; and adequate arrangements should also be made, in the course of this Negotiation, for the removal of all sequestrations, and for the satisfaction of the just claims, which individuals on either side may have to make upon the respective Governments.

MALMESBURY.

CONFIDENTIAL MEMORIAL ON THE PEACE WITH SPAIN AND HOLLAND.

The Allies of France not having hitherto expressed any desire or disposition to treat with the King, his Majesty might have forborne to enter into any detail on their account; but in order to avoid any details prejudicial to the great object which the King has in view, and to accelerate the work of a general Peace, his Majesty will not refuse to explain himself in the first instance on the points which concern those Powers. If, then, the Catholic King should desire to be comprehended in this Negotiation, or to be allowed to accede to the Definitive Treaty, this would meet with no obstacle on the part of his Majesty. Nothing having hitherto been conquered by either of the two Sovereigns from the other, no other point could, at the present moment, come into question, but that of the re-establishment of Peace, simply, and without any restitution or compensation whatever, except such as might possibly result from the application of the principle declared at the end of the fourth article of the Memorial already delivered to the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

But if, during the Negotiation, any alteration shall take place in the state of things in this respect, it will then be proper to agree upon the restitutions and compensations to be made on each side.

With regard to the Republic of the United Provinces, his Britannic Majesty and his Allies find themselves too nearly interested in the political situation of those Provinces to be able to consent in their favour to the re-establishment of the *status ante bellum*, as with respect to territorial possessions, unless France could, on her part, reinstate them in all respects in the same political situation in which they stood before the war.

If at least it were possible to re-establish in those Provinces, agreeably to what is believed to be the wish of a great majority of the inhabitants, their ancient Constitution and form of Government, his Majesty might then be disposed to relax, in their favour, from a very considerable part of the conditions on which the present state of things obliges him to insist.

But if, on the contrary, it is with the Republic of Holland, in its present state, that their Britannic and Imperial Majesties will have to treat, they will feel themselves obliged to seek, in Territorial Acquisitions, those compensations, and that security, which such a state of things will have rendered indispensable to them.

Restitutions of any kind, in favour of Holland, could in that case be admitted, in so far only as they shall be compensated by arrangements calculated to contribute to the security of the Austrian Netherlands. The means of accomplishing this object will be found in the cessions which France has exacted in her Treaty of Peace with Holland, and the possession of which by that Power would in any case be absolutely incompatible with the security of the Austrian Netherlands in the hands of his Imperial Majesty.

It is on these principles that his Britannic Majesty would be ready to treat for the re-establishment of Peace with the Republic of Holland in its present state. The details of such a discussion must necessarily lead to the consideration of what would be due to the interest and rights of the House of Orange.

FROM LORD MALMESBURY TO THE RIGHT HON. LORD GRENVILLE, &c.

MY LORD,

Paris, Dec. 29, 1796.

Mr. Ellis returned here from London on Thursday last, the 15th instant, at five P. M. and delivered to me the dispatches, No. 11 and 12, with which he was charged by your Lordship.

Although nothing can be clearer, more ably drawn up, or more satisfactory than the instructions they contain, yet as it was of the last importance that I should be completely master of the subject before I saw the French Minister, I delayed asking for a conference till late on Friday evening, with a view that it should not take place till Saturday morning.

He appointed the hour of eleven A. M. on that day, and it was near one before we parted. Although what is said by M. Delacroix before he has communicated with the Directory cannot be considered as officially binding, and probably may, in the event, be very different from what I shall hear when he speaks to me in their name, yet as it is impossible they should not nearly have conjectured the nature of the overtures I should make, and of course be prepared in some degree for them, it is material that your Lordship should be accurately acquainted with the first impressions they appeared to make on M. Delacroix.

I prefaced what I had to communicate with saying, that I now came authorized to enter with him into deliberation upon one of the most important subjects that perhaps ever was brought into discussion: that its magnitude forbade all *finesse*, excluded all *prevarication*, suspended all *prejudices*, and that as I had it in command to speak and act with freedom and truth, I expected that he, on his part, would consider these as the only means which could or ought to be employed, if he wished to see a Negotiation, in which the happiness of millions was involved, terminate successfully: That, for greater precision, and with a view to be clearly understood in what I was about to propose, I would give him a confidential Memorial, accompanied by an Official Note, both which, when he had perused them, would speak for themselves. The Memorial contained the conditions, on the accomplishment of which his Majesty considered the restoration of Peace to depend. The Note was expressive of his Majesty's readiness to enter into any explanation required by the Directory on the subject, or to receive any *contre-projet*, resting on the same basis, which the Directory might be disposed to give in: That, moreover, I did not hesitate declaring to him, in conformity to the principles which I had laid down, and from which I certainly never should depart at any period of the Negotiation, that I was prepared to answer any questions, explain and elucidate any points, on which it was possible to foresee that doubts or misconceptions could arise on the consideration of those Papers.

And having said thus much, I had only to remark, that I believed, in no similar Negotiation which had ever taken place, any Minister was authorized, in the first instance, to go so fully into the discussion as I now was. That I was sure neither the truth of this remark, nor the manifest conclusion to be drawn from it, would escape M. Delacroix's observation.

I then put the two Papers into his hands. He began by reading the Note, on which of course he could only express satisfaction. After perusing the confidential Memorial with all the attention it deserved, he, after a short pause, said, that it appeared to him to be liable to insurmountable objections; that it seemed to him to require much more than it conceded, and, in the event, not to leave France in a situation of proportional greatness to the Powers of Europe. He said, the Act of their Constitution, according to the manner in which it was interpreted by the best Publicists (and this phrase is worthy remark) made it impossible for the Republic to do what we required. The Austrian Netherlands were annexed to it; they could not be disposed of without flinging the nation into all the confusion which must follow a convocation of the Primary Assemblies; and he said, he was rather surprised that Great Britain should bring this forward as the governing condition of the Treaty, since he thought he had, in some of our late conversations, fully explained the nature of their Constitution to me. I replied, that every thing I had heard from him on this point was perfectly in my recollection, as it probably was in his: that though I had listened to him with that attention I always afforded to every thing he said, yet I never had made him any sort of reply, and had neither admitted nor controverted his opinion: that although I believed I could easily disprove this opinion from the spirit of the French Constitution itself; yet the discussion of that Constitution was perfectly foreign to the object of

my Mission; since even allowing his two positions, viz. that the retrocession of the Austrian Netherlands was incompatible with their laws, and that we ought to have known that beforehand; yet that there existed a *droit publique* in Europe, paramount to any *droit publique* they might think proper to establish within their own dominions; and that if their constitution was publicly known, the Treaties existing between his Majesty and the Emperor, were at least equally public; and in these it was clear and distinctly announced, that the two Contracting Parties reciprocally promise not to lay down their arms without the restitution of all the dominions, territories, &c. which may have belonged to either of them before the war; that the date of this stipulation was previous to their annexing the Austrian Netherlands to France; and the notoriety of this ought, at the very moment when they had passed that law, to have convinced them, that, if adhered to, it must prove an insurmountable obstacle to Peace. I applied his maxim to the West India Islands, and to the Settlements in the East Indies; and asked him, Whether it was expected that we were to waive our right of possession, and be required still to consider them as integral parts of the French Republic which must be restored, and on which no value was to be set in the balance of compensation?

I also stated the possible case of France having lost part of what she deemed her integral dominions, instead of having added to them in the course of the War; and whether then, under the apprehension of still greater losses, the Government, as it was now composed, should consider itself as not vested with powers sufficient to save their Country from the impending danger, by making Peace on the conditions of sacrificing a portion of their dominions to save the remainder? M. Delacroix said, this was stating a case of necessity, and such a mode of reasoning did not attach to the present circumstances. I readily admitted the first part of this proposition; but contended, that if the power existed in a case of of necessity, it equally existed in all others, and particularly in the case before us, since he himself had repeatedly told me, that Peace was what this Country and its Government wished for and even wanted.

M. Delacroix, in reply, shifted his ground, and by a string of arguments founded on premises calculated for this purpose, attempted to prove, that from the relative situation of the adjacent countries, the present Government of France would be reprehensible in the extreme, and deserve impeachment, if they ever permitted the Netherlands to be separated from their dominions; that by the partition of Poland,---Russia, Austria, and Prussia, had increased their power to a most formidable degree; that England, by its conquests, and by the activity and judgment with which it governed its colonies, had doubled its strength.

Your Indian Empire alone, said M. Delacroix, with vehemence, has enabled you to subsidize all the Powers of Europe against us, and your monopoly of trade has put you in possession of a fund of inexhaustible wealth. His words were, "*Votre empire dans l'Inde vous a fourni les moyens de salarier toutes les puissances contre nous, et vous avez accapare le commerce de maniere que toutes les richesses du monde se versent dans vos coffres.*"

From the necessity that France should keep the Netherlands and the left bank of the Rhine, for the purpose of preserving its relative situation in Europe, he passed to the advantages which he contended would result to the other Powers by such an addition to the French dominions. Belgium (to use his words) by belonging to France, would remove what has been the source of all Wars for two centuries past; and the Rhine being the natural boundary of France, would ensure the tranquillity of Europe for two centuries to come. I did not feel it necessary to combat this proposterous doctrine. I contented myself with reminding him of what he had said to me in one of our last conferences, when he made a comparison of the weakness of France under its Monarchs, and its strength and vigour under its Republican form of Government. "*Nous ne sommes plus dans la decrepitude de la France Monarchique, mais dans toute la force d'une Republique adolescente,*" was his expression; and I inferred from this, according to his own reasoning, that the force and power France had acquired by its change of Government was much greater than it

could derive from any acquisition of territory; and that it followed, if France, when under a Regal form of Government, was a very just and constant object of attention, not to say of jealousy, to the other powers of Europe, France (admitting his axiom) was a much more reasonable object of jealousy and attention, under its present Constitution, than it ever had yet been, and that no addition to its dominions could be seen by its neighbours, but under impressions of alarm for their own future safety, and for the general tranquility of Europe. M. Delacroix's answer to this was so remarkable, that I must beg leave to insert it, in what I believe to be nearly his own words :--"*Dans le tems Revolutionnaire, tout ce que vous dites, ni lord, etoit vrai--rien n'egaloit notre puissance; mais ce tems n'existe plus. Nous ne pouvons plus lever la Nation en masse pour voler au secours de la patrie en danger. Nous ne pouvons plus engager nos concitoyens d'ouvrir leurs bourses pour le verser dans le tresor national et de se priver memo du necessaire pour le bien de la chose publique.*" And he ended by saying, that the French Republic, when at Peace, necessarily must become the most quiet and pacific Power in Europe. I only observed, that, in this case, the passage of the Republic from youth to decrepitude had been very sudden; but that still I never could admit that it could be a matter of indifference to its neighbours, much less one of necessary security to itself, to acquire such a very extensive addition to its frontiers as that he hinted at.

This led M. Delacroix to talk of offering an equivalent to the Emperor for the Austrian Netherlands; and it was to be found, according to his plan, in the secularization of the Three Ecclesiastical Electorates, and several Bishoprics in Germany, and in Italy.

He talked upon this subject as one very familiar to him, and on which his thoughts had been frequently employed.

He spoke of making new Electors, and named, probably with a view to render his scheme more palatable, the Stadtholder and the Dukes of Brunswick and Wirtemberg, as persons proper to replace the three Ecclesiastical Electors which were to be re-formed.

It would be making an ill use of your Lordship's time to endeavour to repeat to you all he said on this subject; it went in substance (as he himself confessed) to the total subversion of the present Constitution of the Germanic Body; and and it militated directly against the principle which both his Majesty and the Emperor laid down so distinctly as the basis of the Peace to be made for the Empire. I contented myself with reminding him of this circumstance, particularly as it is impossible to discuss this point with any propriety till his Imperial Majesty becomes a party to the Negotiation. I took this opportunity of hinting, that if, on all the other points, France agreed to the proposals now made, it would not be impossible that some increase of territory might be ceded to her on the Germanic side of her frontiers, and that this, in addition to the Dutchy of Savoy, Nice, and Avignon, would be a very great acquisition of strength and power. M. Delacroix here again reverted to the Constitution, and said, that these countries were already constitutionally annexed to France. I replied, that it was impossible, in the Negotiation which we were beginning, for the other Powers to take it up from any period, but that which immediately preceded the war; and that any acquisition or diminution of territory which had taken place among the Belligerent Powers since it first broke out, must necessarily become subject matter for Negotiation, and be balanced against the other in the final arrangement of a general Peace. "You then persist," said M. Delacroix, "in applying this principle to Belgium?" I answered, "Most certainly; and I should not deal fairly with you if I hesitated to declare, in the outset of our Negotiation, that, on this point, you must entertain no expectation that his Majesty will relax, or consent to see the Netherlands remain a part of France."

M. Delacroix replied, he saw no prospect, in this case, of our ideas ever meeting, and he despaired of the success of our Negotiation. He returned again, however, to his idea of a possible equivalent to be found for the Emperor; but as all he proposed was the alienation or dismemberment of countries not belonging to France, even by conquest, I did not consider it as deserving attention, and it is certainly not worth repeating to your Lordship.

I need not observe, that all the equivalents proposed, however inadequate to the exchange, were offered as a return for our consent that the Netherlands should remain part of France; of course, the admitting them in any shape would have been in direct contradiction to my instructions.

M. Delacroix touched very slightly on Italy, and the course of our conversation did not bring this part of the subject more into discussion.

I must add, that whenever I mentioned the restoration of the Netherlands to the Emperor, I always took care it should be understood that these were to be accompanied by such further cessions as should form a competent line of defence, and that France could not be permitted to keep possession of all the intermediate country to the Rhine; and I particularly dwelt on this point, when I held out the possibility of admitting an extension of the limits of France on the side of Germany. But as the French Minister no less strenuously opposed the restitution of the Netherlands to the Emperor, than I tenaciously insisted upon it, the further extension of my claim could not of course become a subject of argument.

I believe I have now, with a tolerable degree of accuracy, informed your Lordship of all that the French Ministersaid on my opening myself to him on that part of my instructions which more immediately relates to Peace between Great Britain, his Imperial Majesty, and France. It remains with me to inform your Lordship what passed between us on the subject of our respective allies.

On the article reserving a right to the Court of St. Petersburg, and to that of Lisbon, to accede to the Treaty of Peace on the strict *status ante bellum*, the French Minister made no other remark, than by mentioning the Allies of the Republic, and by enquiring whether I was prepared to say any thing relative to their interests, which certainly the Republic could never abandon. This afforded me the opportunity of giving in the confidential Memorial B. relative to Spain and Holland, and I prefaced it by repeating to him the substance of the first part of your Lordship's No. 12.

Although I had touched upon the subject of the Spanish part of St. Domingo, when I had been speaking to M. Delacroix on the Peace with France, yet, as it did not become a matter of discussion between us till I came to mention the Peace with Spain, I thought it better to place all that passed on that subject in this part of my dispatch; it was the only point on which he entered; but I by no means infer from his not bringing forward some claims for Spain, that we are not to hear of any in the course of the Negotiation; on the contrary, I have little doubt that many, and most of them inadmissible, will be made before it can end. He, however, was silent on them, at this moment; and confined all he had to say to combating the idea that Spain was bound by the Treaty of Utrecht not to alienate her possessions in America. I had the Article copied in my pocket, and I read it to him. He confessed it was clear and explicit, but that circumstances had so materially altered since the year 1713, that engagements made then ought not to be considered as in force now. I said that the spirit of the Article itself went to provide for distant contingencies, not for what was expected to happen at or near the time when the Treaty was made; and that it was because the alteration of circumstances he alluded to, was foreseen as possible, that the clause was inserted; and if Spain paid any regard to the faith of Treaties, she must consider herself as no less strictly bound by this clause now, than at the moment when it was drawn up. I went on by saying, that it did not, however, appear quite impossible that this point might be settled without much difficulty; and that means might be devised that his Catholic Majesty should not break his faith, and both England and France be equally satisfied. I then held out to him, but in general terms, that either Spain might regain her part of St. Domingo, by making some considerable cession to Great Britain and France, as the price of Peace, or that, in return for leaving the whole of St. Domingo to France, we should retain either Martinico or St. Lucia and Tobago. M. Delacroix listened with a degree of attention to these proposals, but he was fearful of committing himself by any expression of approbation, and he dismissed the subject of the Court of Madrid, by observing, that France never would forsake the interests of its allies.

Our conversation on those of its other ally, Holland, was much longer, as the Memorial inevitably led at once deep into the subject. M. Delacroix affected to treat any deviation from the Treaty of Peace between France and that country, or any restoration of territories acquired under that Treaty to France, as quite im-

practicable. He treated as equally impracticable any attempt at restoring the ancient form of government in the seven United Provinces. He talked with an air of triumph of the establishment of a National Convention at the Hague, and with an affectation of feeling, that by it the cause of freedom had extended itself over such a large number of people. He, however, was ready to confess, that from the great losses the Dutch Republic had sustained in its colonies, and particularly from the weak manner in which they had defended them, it could not be expected that his Majesty would consent to a full and complete restitution of them, and that it was reasonable, that some should be sacrificed; and he asked me if I could inform him how far our views extended on this point? I said, I had reason to believe that what his Majesty would require would be possessions and settlements which would not add to the wealth of our Indian dominions, but only tend to secure to us their safe and unmolested possession. You mean by this, said M. Delacroix, the Cape and Trincomalee? I said, they certainly came under that description; and I saw little prospect of their being restored to the Dutch. M. Delacroix launched forth on this into a most laboured dissertation on the value of the Cape of Good Hope, which he did not consider at all as a *port de relache*, but as a possession which, in our hands, would become one of the most fertile and most productive colonies in the east; and, according to his estimation of it, he did not scruple to assert, that it would ultimately be an acquisition of infinitely greater importance to England than that of the Netherlands to France; and, if acquiesced in, should be reckoned as a full and ample compensation for them. He added, "If you are masters of the Cape and Trincomalee, we shall hold all our settlements in India, and the islands of France and Bourbon, entirely at the tenure of your will and pleasure; they will be ours only as long as you choose we should retain them. You will be sole masters in India, and we shall be entirely dependent upon you." I repeated to him, that it was as means of defence, not of offence, that these possessions would be insisted on; and that, if the matter was fairly and dispassionately discussed, he would find that they afforded us a great additional security, but no additional power of attack, even if we were disposed to disturb the peace of that part of the world. If these, and perhaps some few other not very material settlements belonging to the Dutch, were to be insisted upon, and if he would be pleased to enumerate all we should still have to restore to them, while they had nothing to restore to England, it was impossible not to consider the terms on which his Majesty proposed peace to Holland as generous and liberal.

M. Delacroix was not at all disposed to agree with me on this point; and said, Holland, stript of these possessions, would be ruined. He then held out, but as if the idea had just crossed his mind, the possibility of indemnifying the Dutch for their losses in India, by giving them a tract of territory towards the Meuse (I could not find out whether he meant Aix-la-Chapelle, Liege, or the countries of Juliers and Berg), and hinted, that if this was not to be done, an additional Sugar Island might, perhaps, be ceded to the Dutch Republic. I told him all this might become a subject of future discussion; and I conceived, that if we could agree upon the more essential points, the Treaty would not break off on those secondary considerations. Our conversation had now been extremely long, and M. Delacroix ended by saying, that, although he had taken upon himself to enter with me thus far upon the subject, yet I must not consider any thing he said as binding, or as pledging the Republic, till such time as he had laid the papers I had given him before the Directory; and, in order to do this with more accuracy, he again asked me, whether, in his report, he was to state the disuniting Belgium from France as a *sine qua non* from which his Majesty would not depart? I replied, it most certainly was a *sine qua non* from which his Majesty would not depart; and that any proposal which would leave the Netherlands annexed to France would be attended with much greater benefit to that power, and loss to the allies, than the present relative situation of the Belligerent powers could entitle the French Government to expect.

M. Delacroix repeated his concern at the peremptory way in which I made this assertion, and asked, whether it would admit of no modification?—I replied, if France could, in a *contre projet*, point out a practicable and adequate one, still keeping in view, that the Netherlands must not belong to or be likely again to fall into the hands of France, such a proposal might certainly be taken into consideration.

M. Delacroix by no means encouraged me to explain myself more fully;

he repeatedly said, that this difficulty relative to the Netherlands was one which could not be overcome.

Just as I was taking leave of him, he begged me to explain what was meant by the words in the Memoire (A) in the 4th paragraph, beginning, "*de s'entendre mutuellement sur les Moyens d'assurer,*" and ending at "*leurs possessions respectives.*" I told him it referred to the destructive system adopted by France in the West Indies, and went to express a wish, that the two Powers should agree on some general and uniform system of internal Police in the settlements there, which would contribute to the security of those possessions to the respective countries, and, at the same time, the happiness of every description of inhabitants in them.

M. Delacroix, a little hurt at my expression relative to the system adopted by France, endeavoured to recriminate on us; but he ended by saying, that they should certainly be willing to concur in any arrangement relative to the Negroes, which did not militate against the principles of their Constitution.

Here our conference ended; and as, during the whole course of it, I bore in my mind the possibility, that, although this our first might be the only favourable opportunity, I should ever have of speaking on the general principles on which his Majesty was disposed to treat, I endeavoured, by adverting more or less to almost every point in my instructions, to enable M. Delacroix (if he reports faithfully) to state to the Directory what I said, in such a manner as to put it out of their power to misconceive what were his Majesty's intentions, to remove all possibility of cavil on this case, and to bring them to a clear and distinct answer, whether they would agree to open a Negotiation on the principle of the *status ante bellum*, or on one differing from it only in form, not in substance. I hope in attempting to do this I did not, in the first instance, commit myself, or discover more of my instructions than it became me to do, and that in the conversation with M. Delacroix, nothing escaped me which might, at some subsequent period, hurt the progress of the Negotiation. I have, I believe, given this conference nearly verbatim to your Lordship; and I was particularly anxious to do this correctly and minutely, as well that you may judge on the propriety of what I said myself, as that that which M. Delacroix said to me, may be accurately known, and remain on record.

It must, however, be remembered (as I observed in the beginning of this dispatch) that he spoke from himself, as Minister indeed, but not under the immediate instructions of the Directory: and this consideration will take a little away from the singularity of some of the positions he had advanced.

I confess, my Lord, from the civility of his manners, and from his apparent readiness to discuss the subject, the impression which remained on my mind on leaving him was, that the Negotiation would go on, but be liable to so many difficulties, and some of them so nearly insurmountable, that, knowing as I do the opinion of the Directory, I saw little prospect of its terminating with success.

But I did not expect the conduct of the Directory would immediately be such as to evince a manifest inclination, and even determination to break off on the first proposals; and I was a little surprised at receiving, on Sunday, at three P. M. the inclosed letter (A) from M. Delacroix; he sent it by the principal Secretary of his Department (M. Guiraudet), who communicated to me the original of the Arrete of the Directory, of which this letter, excepting the alteration in the form, is a literal Copy.

After perusing it, I asked M. Guiraudet, whether he was informed of its contents; and this led to a short conversation on them. I told him that both the demands were so unexpected, that I could not reply to them off hand: That as to the first, it was quite unusual to sign Memorials which were annexed to a Note actually signed, and that I scarcely felt myself authorised to depart from what was, I believe, an invariable rule: That as to the second demand, made in so peremptory and unprecedented a way, I could, without much hesitation, say at once, that it could not be complied with. M. Guiraudet lamented this much, and said, that this being the case, he feared our principles of Negotiation would never coincide. I agreed with him in my expressions of concern. We conversed together afterwards for some time, but nothing passed at all worthy remark. I told him I should send my answer the next day. On reflecting more attentively on the request, that I would sign the two memorials which I had given in, it struck me that the complying with it pledged me to nothing; that it was

merely gratifying them on a point insisted on peevishly, and that the doing it would put them still more in the wrong.

As to the strange demand of an ultimatum, it was perfectly clear what it became me to say, and I hope that in the inclosed answer B. (which I sent yesterday morning at twelve o'clock) to M. Delacroix, I shall be found to have adhered as closely as possible to the spirit of my instructions.

Yesterday evening, at half past nine, M. Guiraudet brought me the note C. to which I immediately replied by the Note D. They require no comment; and as I intend leaving Paris to-morrow, and travelling with all convenient speed, I shall soon have it in my power to say the little which remains to say relative to this sudden, though perhaps not unlooked for close to my mission, that I need not trespass any further on your Lordship's patience.

P. S. I thought it would be proper for his Majesty's Minister at Vienna to receive the earliest intelligence of the negotiation being broken off; I therefore have dispatched a messenger to Vienna with a copy of the several papers which have passed between me and Monsieur Delacroix since our conference, and also a succinct account of what passed on it.

MALMESBURY.

M.

SIR,

Paris, Dec. 18.

The Executive Directory has heard the reading of the Official Note, signed by you, and of two confidential memorials, without signatures, which were annexed to it, and which you gave in to me yesterday. I am charged expressly by the Directory to declare to you, that it cannot listen to any confidential note without a signature, and to require of you to give in to me officially, within four and twenty hours, your *Ultimatum*, signed by you.

CH. DELACROIX.

Paris, 19th Dec. 1796.

Lord Malmesbury, in answer to the letter which the Minister for Foreign Affairs had the goodness to transmit to him through the hands of the Secretary General of his department, must remark, that in signing the Official Note, which he gave in to that Minister, by order of his court, he thought he had complied with all the usual formalities, and had given the necessary authenticity to the two confidential memorials which were annexed to it. Nevertheless, to remove all difficulties, as far as lies in his power, he willingly adopts the forms which are pointed out by the resolution of the Executive Directory, and hastens to send to the Minister for Foreign Affairs the two memorials signed by his hand.

With respect to the positive demand of an *Ultimatum*, Lord Malmesbury observes, that insisting on that point in so peremptory a manner, before the two Powers shall have communicated to each other their respective pretensions, and the articles of the future treaty shall have been submitted to the discussions, which the different interests which are to be adjusted, necessarily demand, is to shut the door against all Negotiation. He therefore can add nothing to the assurances which he has already given to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, as well by word of mouth, as in his Official Note; and he repeats that he is ready to enter with that Minister into every explanation of which the state and progress of the Negotiation may admit, and that he will not fail to enter into the discussion of the proposals of his court, or of any counter project which may be delivered to him, on the part of the Executive Directory, with that candour and that spirit of conciliation which correspond with the just and pacific sentiments of his court.

Paris, Dec. 19.

The undersigned Minister for Foreign Affairs is charged by the Executive Directory to answer to Lord Malmesbury's two notes of the 17th and 19th Dec. that the Executive Directory will listen to no proposals, contrary to the Constitution, to the Laws, and to the Treaties which bind the Republic.

And as Lord Malmesbury announces at every communication, that he is in want of the advice of his Court, from which it results that he acts a part merely passive in the Negotiation, which renders his presence at Paris useless; the undersigned is further charged to give him notice to depart from Paris in eight and forty hours, with all the persons who have accompanied and followed him, and to quit, as expeditiously as possible, the territory of the Republic. The Undersigned declares, moreover, in the name of the Executive Directory, that if the British Cabinet is desirous of peace, the Executive Directory is ready to follow the Negotiations, according to the basis laid down in the present note, by the reciprocal channel of couriers.

CH. DELACROIX.

OBITUARY.

THE late Lord John Cavendish, whose death we announced in our last, was the son of the fourth, and uncle of the present, Duke of Devonshire. Through life, till the late alarm, and the consequent disunion of his friends, he was, in politics, attached to the Whig interest; and, on various occasions, acted the part of a zealous and virtuous patriot. In the Whig Administration formed under the Marquis of Rockingham, in 1765, he was appointed one of the Lords of the Treasury. During the fatal American War, he constantly voted in opposition to the measures of the Ministry.-----On the 8th of March, 1782, immediately before the resignation of Lord North, his Lordship made the famous motion, that the American war and the distressed situation of the country, at that time, was occasioned by the want of foresight and ability of his Majesty's Ministers. The motion was lost by a majority of only ten, the numbers being 226 against 216. On the 27th of that month, on the general change of administration, his Lordship came into power, as Chancellor of the Exchequer, with his friends, the Marquis of Rockingham and Mr. Fox. On the lamented death of the Marquis, on the 1st of July following, the appointment of the Earl of Shelburne (now Marquis of Lansdowne) to be first Lord of the Treasury, gave so much offence to Lord John, Messrs. Fox, &c. that they resigned their offices, and again entered into opposition. On this occasion, Mr. Pitt, the present premier, succeeded as Chancellor of the Exchequer. On the motion, on the 17th of Feb. 1783, for an Address of Thanks on the general peace, Lord John Cavendish moved an amendment, which was supported by Lord North, and carried against the Ministry by a majority of 224 against 208. On the 21st of the same month, he moved a string of resolutions, disapproving of the terms of the late peace, which were also carried against the Ministry by 207 against 190. The Ministry, at length, were compelled to give way to the unyielding

and determined spirit of the opposition; and, on the 2d of April, the famous coalition Ministry was formed, in which Lord John once more became Chancellor of the Exchequer. On the dismissal of the coalition Ministry, on the 27th of December of the same year, he was once more succeeded by Mr. Pitt, as Chancellor of the Exchequer. From that time till the commencement of the French war, he constantly voted with his old friends. He however, in 1793, became the dupe of the alarmists, and his political character will, in consequence, be tarnished in the eyes of posterity, for having lent his vote and interest in support of the most destructive war, in which this country was ever engaged. Lord John Cavendish is, notwithstanding, admitted on all hands to have been one of the most pure and exalted characters, even of his own illustrious family; and his death is a subject of real concern to all who enjoyed the honour of his friendship.

On the 8th of August, of the yellow fever, at Grenada, Dr. Francis Riollay, M. D. of the University of Oxford, and a fellow of the college of Physicians, a gentleman, whose social virtues and professional talents will be long remembered by the small circle of friends who had the happiness of knowing him. He practised physic for some years in London and Margate; but not meeting with that degree of success to which his abilities entitled him, he was induced to accept of the situation of physician to the forces destined to the West Indian expedition; but after a residence of about four months at Grenada, he fell a sacrifice to the unhealthy climate of that island.

On the 15th of August, at Grenada, Brigadier-General Archibald Campbell, of the 29th Regiment. He entered into that regiment in the year 1759. From 1765 to 1773, he served with that regiment in New England, and was on several occasions employed against that people during the disturbances in that province. In 1776 the regiment was again ordered on foreign

service to Canada. In the campaign of 1777, Captain Campbell was present at all the actions fought under General Burgoyne. In 1780, he obtained the brevet rank of Major. In 1782, he commanded, under Sir Frederic Haldimand, a very important post on Lake Champlain. In 1785, Major Campbell was appointed, with extensive powers, commandant of the posts situated on the five great lakes, which situation he filled with the highest credit. In October, 1787, the Regiment being relieved, returned home. In November, 1790, he got the brevet rank of Lieutenant-Colonel; in August, 1795, that of Colonel of the 29th forming part of Sir R. Abercrombie's army. Colonel Campbell, on his arrival in the West Indies, was appointed a Brigadier-General, and sent with his brigade to Grenada. On the 25th of last March he commanded, and succeeded in an attack upon a large body of the enemy, posted on the heights of Port Royal. This was the last action of consequence in which he had an opportunity to distinguish himself. In August following he died, after a few days illness; and the loss of so brave and worthy a man is said to have excited the tears of the whole island.

Lately, at Norwich, in his 83d year, Samuel Briggs, the last surviving member of a society of herbalists, in that city, consisting chiefly of journeymen in the manufactory, who very laudably passed many hours of their leisure in the summer months, in the study and collection of plants, and were the first who propagated and cultivated the Rhubarb Plant in this country; a specimen of which they sent to the celebrated Miller, author of the Gardiner's Dictionary; and at length cured the root to such perfection as to rival in colour, flavour, and every medical quality, the productions of Russia and Turkey.--- Briggs was also a performer on the French horn, in which capacity he attended the Guild-day processions of the Corporation, until his judgment and powers were superseded by others of more correct taste and capacity, when being told that he must be dismissed, he signified to the gentlemen of the City Committee, that if they would spare him such disgrace, he would only put his mouth to the instrument, and not disturb the harmony of the band by blowing a single note: this stroke of

natural simplicity operated in his favour, and he was some years after retained as a *dumb waiter* among the municipal minstrels.

Lately, after a lingering illness, Mrs. Reynolds, wife of Capt. Reynolds, of Durham-house, near Chelsea College. The loss of her eldest son, who died captain of a troop in the West Indies, made too deep an impression on her mind to be removed by any consolation, notwithstanding the most endearing and filial endeavours of the remaining part of her family.

Lately, after a tedious indisposition, the Right Rev. Dr. William Buller, Lord Bishop of Exeter. Several severe domestic dispensations weighed down this excellent prelate, and are considered as a primary cause of his dissolution. Besides the gallant Colonel Buller, who was slain on the Continent, he has lost two sons by consumption.

LATELY IN THE WEST INDIES.

Major Edwards, Lieut. Williams, and Ensign Horton, of the 3d reg; Major Wilson, of the 27th; Capt. Johnston, and Dr. Walker, 31st; Lieut. Halliburton, 34th; Lieut. Nuttall, 38th; Lieut. Col. Malcolm, 1st West India reg; Captain Maclean, 2d; Lieut. Col. Innes, 4th; Major de Ravnigne, royal artillery; Captain Kerr, York rangers; Lieut. d'Etendis, royal etrangeres; Lieutenants Rogueir, Dubeck, and Chirure, and Ensign Chirure, Lewinston's. B. Major Alcroft, Lieutenants Mitchell, Johnston, Bely, and Cox, Ensign Corse, and Surgeon Cootes, of the 2d reg; Lieutenants Bond, Galway, and Cock, and Surgeon Murdell, of the 3d; Major Armstrong, Captain Armstrong, Mr. Causland, and Lieut. Sankey, 8th; Captain Burbridge, 9th; Lieut. Rumbold, 14th; Captain Langford, and Lieutenants Willoughby and Manners, 15th; Lieutenants Blackstone, Hannigon, sen. Hannigon, jun. and Ridley, 25th; Lieut.-Colonels Gilman and Drummond, Captains Gilman, Bibby, Dunlop, Le Mesurier, Lieutenants Cook, Scott, Milligan, Kirby, and Winthorp, Ensigns Bailie and Strothers, and Surgeons Ross and Carrol, 27th; Lieut.-Col. Scott, 28th; Brig.-General Campbell, 29th; Captain Murray, Lieutenants Clark and Hay, Surgeons Reed, M'Mullen, and Rainsford, 31st; Lieutenants Edwards, Fitzgerald, Oliver, Coleboyd, and O'Farrel, 32d; Lieut. Perkins, 40th; Majors Christie and Campbell, 42d; Lisut.-Col. Riddell, Captain

Creigh, Lieutenants Chambers, Wright, Stoney, Gardner, and Macleod, and Surgeon Lamont, 44th; Lieut.-Col. Campbell, Gunthorp, Lieutenants Hughes, Darenzy, Evans, Palphymmer, Daniell, and Wood, Ensigns Seymour, Smyth, and Whyte, and Surgeon Chapman, 48th.

Lately, at Martinique, aged 27, Dr. Story, physician on the staff to the army, a native of Penrith, Cumberland, an ingenious young gentleman of great eminence in his profession.

Dec. 26. John Naylor, of Breadstreet, Cheapside.

In Argyle Buildings, Bath, aged 80, George Welsh, Esq. Banker, of London.

28. At Ranscombe-house, near Marlborough, the wife of the Rev. Mr. Rogers,

-Jan. 1. Suddenly, at his house in Berners-street, James Bradley, Esq. Secretary to the India-Board Office, Whitehall.

2. In Eastgate-street, Bury St. Edmund's, Ann Prigg, widow, having attained the extraordinary age of 104 years, and retained her faculties to the last.

At her house in Argyle-street, Mrs. Mitford, widow of the late John Mitford, Esq. of Newtown, in Hampshire.

5. At Edgeware Road, Miss M. A. Hanrott, daughter of Mr. Hanrott, in the Poultry; a child in years, but mature in knowledge, from the earliest and most extraordinary propensity for investigation. Her manners were meek and gentle, and evinced such principles of innate goodness, as rendered her deservedly an object of admiration and affection with all who knew her.

7. The Rev. John Bree, Rector of Mark's Tay, Com. Essex.

8. At his house at Hammersmith, the Rev. Morgan Jones, LL. D.

10. William Gillum, Esq. late of the East India House.

11. Mrs. Portello, wife of Mr. Portello, of Hammersmith.

12. At Kilburn, much lamented by all who had the pleasure of conversing with and knowing her incomparable goodness of heart, Mrs. Elizabeth Mary Johnston, the wife of Mr. Alex. Johnston, of the Theatre Royal, Drury-lane.

14. At Lady Gardner's, Portland-place, the infant daughter of John Cornwall, jun. Esq.

18. At his lordship's house, in Portland-place, the Right Hon. Lady Rancliffe, wife of the Right Hon. Thomas Boothby, Lord Rancliffe, of the kingdom of Ireland. Her ladyship was only daughter, since, by the death of her brother, only child to Sir William James, formerly of India, and late of Eltham park, in the county of Kent, Bart. She was married very early in life to Lord Rancliffe, by whom she had eight children, six of whom are now living to deplore the loss of an affectionate parent. In person, her ladyship was beautiful; in manners, amiable and captivating; and possessed a most cultivated mind. Of the more elegant accomplishments she was a perfect mistress. In drawing in particular she was unrivalled. Her affability and benevolence endeared her to every one who knew her. Misery never asked relief without obtaining it; nor did the sigh of anguish heave in vain. She was the handmaid of the charities; and virtue seemed to have put on her form, to gain herself lovers among the sons of men. Such was Lady Rancliffe; and truth consecrates this tribute to her memory, which will live when this frail record shall be no more.

24. At Edinburgh, John M'Laurin, Esq. of Dreghorn, one of the Senators of the College of Justice.

25. At his lordship's seat, at Burleigh-hall, Lincolnshire, the Right Hon. the Countess of Exeter.

29. At Dublin, the Right Hon. Lord Baron Trimblestown, aged sixty. His Lordship was second Baron of that kingdom.

Lately, in John-street, Bedford-row, Mrs. Amy Filmer, sister to Sir John Filmer, Bart.

Lately, in Maresfield Workhouse, Thomas Wigmore, at the age of 102 years. It is not unworthy of remark, that, at the age of 82, with as much resolution as rashness, he cut off his own right hand.

Lately, the Rev. Jeremiah Bigsby, B. A. rector of St. Peter's, in Nottingham.

In Charlotte street, Portland-place, aged 73, John Wade, Esq. youngest son of the late field-marshal Wade.

Mrs. Pye, wife of Henry James Pye, Esq. late member for the county of Berks.