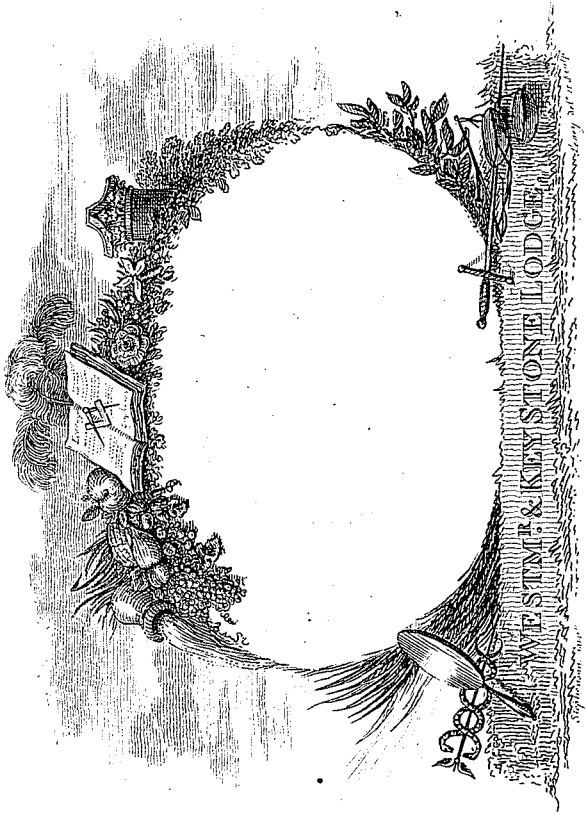




*The Jewel of the I.W.
of the Lodge of
The Nine Muses.*

London. Printed for G. Cawthorn, British Library, Strand, June 1, 1796.



THE
FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE,

AND
CABINET OF UNIVERSAL LITERATURE.

FOR MAY 1796.

EMBELLISHED WITH AN ENGRAVING OF THE
JUNIOR WARDEN'S JEWEL OF THE LODGE OF THE
NINE MUSES.

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TO READERS, CORRESPONDENTS, &c.

OUR worthy and esteemed Brother Somerville will see, that, in the "DECLARATION," we have followed the Document he so kindly favoured us with *exactly*, unless in a few words, where we have left Blanks, which we could not decypher. We regard the printed papers he sent us as very curious pieces, and beg our Readers to understand that they are printed *literatim* from the Originals with which we were furnished. We hope soon to be favoured with No. 2 of the State of Freemasonry in Scotland.

If *S.* will oblige us with the whole of his **BIOLOGY**, we shall be better able to judge of its claim to a place in the Freemasons' Magazine.

Our valuable Correspondent *M.* will see that we have paid attention to his communications: we shall insert more of his favours next month.

We beg our sincere thanks to the different Bretheren who furnished us with the Masonic Intelligence, inserted this month; and hope, that the Craft throughout Great Britain and Ireland, will favour us with accounts of their Anniversaries, of the Institution of New Lodges, &c.

The account of the Grand Lodge Dinner, which is detailed at length, unavoidably prevents the insertion of the Gazettes; but we shall nevertheless continue them in a regular series.

It is hoped that Correspondents will oblige us with their favours for the body of our Miscellany, before the 20th of each month. Articles of Masonic and other Intelligence, will be received a few days after that time.

This Magazine may now be had Complete in FIVE VOLUMES, bound according to the Taste of the Purchaser. A very few complete Setts remain on hand; so that an early application is recommended to such Persons (Brethren or others) as desire to possess themselves of the most elegant and entertaining Miscellany hitherto published under the denomination of Magazine.

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FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE.

FOR MAY 1796.

PRESENT STATE OF FREEMASONRY IN SCOTLAND.

No. I.

THE LODGE OF BIGGAR FREE OPERATIVES.

[N^o 222]

OF THE GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND.

By JAMES SOMERVILLE, R.A.M. & K. T.

Secretary of the Lodge Roman Eagle, No. 212, and Honorary Member of the Lodge of Biggar Free Operatives, No. 222, both of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, &c. &c.

IN THE LORD IS ALL OUR TRUST.

DECLARATION.

THE LODGE OF LINLITHGOW TO THE MASSONS IN AND ABOUT THE TOWN OF BIGGAR,
11th JULY 1727.

BE IT KNOW'N to all men by these presents US James M'Calpin, Deacon, John Coubrugh, warden, James Farbet box-master, Alexander Gillies and William Meckle, key-keepers, with advice and consent of the remanent members of the Massons of the honourable Lodge of Linlithgow hereto subscriyveing FOR AS MUCH AS Sir Anthony Alexander master of work to his devise Majesty King CHARLES the First obtained a gift under his Majesties great seal of the date att Whitehall the thirteenth day of December one thousand six hundred and thirty-four years giveing and granting to him full power libertie and priviledge of presenting of all tradesmen within the kingdome of Scotland and particularly as to what is relative to building such as Massons Smiths Wrights Painters Coupars Glazen-wrights Plumbers Sclaiters Plaisterers Ship-wrights Makers of Speers and Lancets Calsey makers and all other artificers of buildings qutsor WITH FULL POWER to him to joyne the saids respective crafts into societies and to appoint and laye down laws and statutes whereby the saids crafts shall be governed in tyme comeing as the said gift of the date for-said containing several other powers and priviledges in it selfe more fully bears LIKEAS the said Sir Anthony Alexander master of work by his commission in virtue of the foresaid gift of the date the fourth day of March one thousand six hundred thirty-seven years for the causes therein specified gave full power and commission to John Ritchie then present Deacon and William Aitkin then warden of the honourable Lodge of Massons of Linlithgow and to all such as they should associat to themselves to see the whole laws and statutes relative to the for-said craft of Massons put to due execution and for that effect to call all the tradesmen thereof before them and to enact them and every one of them to the due observance of the haill laws and statutes made by the said Sir Anthony Alexander and delivered to the said John Ritchie and William Aitkin and to hold courts and either in the bodies or means of the delinquents to punish and to do

every other thing anent the premises as fully and freely as the said Sir Anthony Alexander could do himself by virtue of the forsaid gift granted by King Charles the First to him as the said Commission of the date forsaid in itself more proports And now seeing Robert Scott Daniel Aitkin Alexander Baillie John Aitkin and William Brown for themselves and several others Massons in and about the town of Biggar have by a petition instantly given in humbly supplicat us to receive them as a pendicle of our said honourable lodge of Linlithgow that so they may be defended from the insults or incroachments of any other lodge within this kingdom of Scotland THEREFORE and for the love and favour which wee have and bear to the forsaid persons and by virtue of the powers and priviledges granted to us by the said Sir Anthony Alexander master of work WILL YE US to have of this date called and received the forsaid Robert Scott Daniel Aitkin Alexander Baillie John Aitken and William Brown Massons with such others as they have or shall hereafter associat to yourselves either as entered apprentices or fellow craftsman as a just and true pendicle of our said honourable Lodge of Linlithgow WITH FULL POWER to them to choose their own deacon warden box-master keye-keepers and all other members of trade and to punish delinquents and keep good order amongst the entered apprentices and fellow crafts and that from tyme to tyme as the same shall fall out PROVIDEING alwise LIKEAS it is hereby specially provided and declared that the forsaid persons and those whom they have already or shall associat to themselves be bound and obledged to keep perform and observe the whole laws acts and statutes already made or that shall be made by the honourable Lodge of Linlithgow conform to an extract thereof to be given unto them from tyme to tyme under the hand of the clerk of the Lodge And that they shall pay yearly into the box of the said Lodge of Linlithgow the soum of twenty-shillings Scots money as an acknowledgement and duty payable to us by them as a pendicle in manner above writen And particularly it is grounded that they nor their associats shall no time hereafter either enter or pass, any person or persons who already is or shall be entered or past in the honourable Lodge of Linlithgow and that under the penalty of fifty-pounds sterlong money and ffurther we the soids deacon warden box-master and keye-keepers bind and oblige us and our successors in office to deliver or cause be delivered to the forsaid persons or their associats taken or to be taken in sufficient extracts of all our authenticks when the same shall be requyred and that under the hand of our clerk of trade upon their own proper charges and expenses in witnes whereof writen upon stampt paper by James Smith writer in Edinburgh and clerk to the forsaid Lodge wee have dated these presents consisting of this and the two preceeding pages ATT Queensferry the eleventh day of July one thousand seven hundred and thirty-seven years.

JAMES SMITH, Clk.

JAMES M'CALPIN.
JOHN COUBRUGH.
WILLIAM MECKLE.
JOHN ANDERSON.
ROBERT RAMSAY.

ANDREW CHRISTIE.
WILLIAM JOHNSTON.
JAMES GRINLLEY.
JOHN BLAKIE.

THE Right Worshipful LODGE OF BIGGAR was constituted by a charter from that of *Linlithgow*, as appears from the following extracts of the records, the former, dated Biggar, December 27, 1725. —“ The which day, the Masons living in and near the town of Biggar met, and after due consideration of their loss, in not having a Lodge in this place, and the many irregular entries that were made here, unanimously condescended, that they would erect one, and therefore made choice of Robert Scott for deacon, Alexander Baillie, warden, Mr. Andrew Aikman, key-keeper.”

At a meeting, December 27, 1726.—It is recited, that “the deacon, &c. taking it into their consideration, that their authority for erecting a Lodge, and defending themselves against the incroachments of others, ought to be strengthened, and being certainly informed of the power and privilege of the honourable Lodge of Linlithgow, did think fit to make application to it; therefore, they nominate Robert Scot, and a competent number of their members to go and wait upon the meeting of the said Lodge at Queensferry, July next, the eleventh day, 1727 years, in order to associate themselves and the other members of this Lodge with them, and to obtain such rights, powers, and privileges, as should be thought necessary, and get extracts of their laws, &c.”

By a minute of an after-date (July 18, 1727) it appears, “that a deputation from the Masons at Biggar waited upon the Lodge of Linlithgow, at Queensferry, on the 29th of May preceding, and made application to them, to be made part and pendicle of the said Lodge, and to be incorporated therewith, &c.,” “which accordingly they obtained, and gave in a declaration, granted by the Lodge of Linlithgow, on stamp paper.” The expence of this was 5*l.* 17*s.* Scots, or 4*l.* 18*s.* 1*d.* Sterling.

At this time, it appears from the minutes of the Lodge, that the entry money was only 4*l.* Scots, or 6*s.* 8*d.* Sterling. Nothing remarkable occurs in the course of their transactions for some time after the erection of the Lodge.

St. John's Day (December) 1730, they elected Mr. Laurance Bowe, deacon*.

At the election on St. John's day, 1733, they made choice of George Muirhead, laird (proprietor) of Whitecastle, for deacon.

May 27, 1734.—The Lodge received a visit from the deacon and wardens of the Lodge of Linlithgow, “who came to demand their annuity.” They received a bill for 7*l.* Scots, (11*s.* 8*d.* Sterling) as payment of their seven years annuity.

At a meeting of May 29, 1735,—The members “considering that there was a bill granted by James Brown, dated January, 16, 1735, upon ane *famæ clamosæ*, going upon him, that he had not duly behaved as became a Mason, “but finding that nothing appears against him, do therefore think fit to give him up his bill, and free him from the said *famæ clamosæ*; and appoint their clerk to insert this, *ad futuram rei memoriam*.”

On the 24th of December 1736, a committee of the Lodge being met, and considering “the necessity of a flag or standard against St. John's day, they bought silk and wattens for the said flag. The price of the whole being 4*l.* 2*s.* Scots,” (or 6*s.* 10*d.* Sterling:)

St. John's Day, 1736, “the Lodge marched through the town in five men ranks, all in blue bonnets, white aprons and gloves, yellow cockades, and hand-rules.”

Although the Lodge of Biggar appears in the list of Lodges at the resignation of the Grand Mastership into the hands of the Craft, in

* The Master of a Lodge was called Deacon in these times.

1736, yet nothing appears in their possession to show that they ever got a regular charter, notwithstanding which, they have been acknowledged by the Grand Lodge as regular, for many years after, as appears by their minutes.

It appears from a minute of March 5, 1737, that they had a promise from Sir William Baillie, (I suppose of Lamington) to represent them in the Grand Lodge; but he having failed to fulfil his promise, they appointed Brother Thomas Simpson to act as proxy in his room on the 4th of April following. On the 12th of the said month, they gave him a full double of their charter from Linlithgow, with instructions how to regulate the Lodge business with the Grand Lodge.—The above proxy appears to have attended the quarterly communication of the Grand Lodge on the 13th, from a copy of the proceedings found among the old papers belonging to the Lodge, and in which Biggar is marked as one of the thirty Lodges who were present. Seven Lodges are marked as absent.

On St. John's Day, in December 1737, the members of the Lodge had a procession, in the same manner as last year.

The Lodge was at this time represented by Brother William Gray, as appears from a petition among the papers of the Lodge.

For the long period of upwards of twenty years nothing occurs, but elections, money matters, &c. The Lodge seems to have been then in a prosperous condition.

At a meeting of the date of January 21, 1765, the members having considered "the frequent letters they had received from Linlithgow Lodge, of which they are a pendicle, did, *nemine contradicente*, resolve to send three of their Lodge according to desire, also they appoint each man his day's wages, and necessary charges, till his return." Thus, they seem to have acknowledged, at this time, two superiors.

[Here occurs another period of twenty-three years, in which nothing material happened†.]

November 28, 1782.—At a meeting, called to consult about matters of the Lodge, a letter was wrote to the Grand Lodge at Edinburgh, requesting information relative to the expences of a charter.

On the 27th of December following, the members met, and "voted the offices all vacant, as none of the office-bearers attended." The funds of the Lodge were now reduced to *1l. 19s. 4½d.* sterling.

December 27, 1783.—At a meeting of the Lodge, five of the members bound themselves to advance the money necessary to defray the expence of getting a charter from the Grand Lodge. These were, George Murray, in Thankerton; John Barclay, Schoolmaster, in Culter; John Lawson, Mason, in Skirling; and John Inglis, in Wolf-Clyde. On the 27th of December 1785, the members, at last, "unanimously agreed to have the charter from the Grand Lodge."

A regular charter was accordingly obtained from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, in the month of October 1786.

† At a meeting, held December 16, 1766, the funds of the Lodge were reduced to the low ebb of nine shillings and one penny halfpenny.

Nothing material in the history of this Lodge occurred; only, at this time, they began to hold meetings under their new charter.

But in the month of September 1794, a petition was presented from the Masons in and about Carluke, praying, that a deputation from the Lodge of Biggar would attend on the 27th current, to constitute them into a regular Lodge (they having previously obtained a charter from the Grand Lodge of Scotland). The Lodge of Biggar took the same into consideration, and appointed the following members to attend, *viz.* D. BLACK, R. W. M.; J. STODDART, D. M.; J. LINDSAY, S. M.; G. NICOL, S. W.; J. TWEEDIE, J. W.; J. GLADSTONE, T.; A. FORREST, Sec.; J. BROWN, and R. LIGHTON, Stewards, with J. HILSTONE, Tyler. The above brethren accordingly went, and constituted the said Masons into a regular Lodge, with the usual formalities. Brother D. Black presided over the whole ceremonies.—The business being over, the procession took place, the Lodges walking according to seniority.

On St. John's Day, December 25, 1795, the brethren of the Lodge of Biggar elected their office-bearers, who were as follow:—JAMES BOWE, M. D. R. W. M.; D. BLACK, D. M.; J. LINDSAY, S. M.; J. INGLIS, S. W.; J. ROBB, J. W.; J. TWEEDIE, T.; the Reverend W. STRACHAN, Minister of Coulter, Chaplain; R. BLACK, Secretary; J. LINDSAY and A. BLACK, Deacons; G. INGLIS, Clerk; J. BROWN and R. LITHGOW, Stewards;—and J. HILSTONE, Tyler. They then proceeded to church in procession, where an excellent discourse was delivered to them, and a numerous audience of other hearers, by the Reverend Mr. JAMES GARDNER, Minister of Tweedsmuir, from Prov. xi. 13. "He that is of a faithful spirit concealeth the matter †." After returning to the lodge-room, they partook of an elegant dinner, and spent the evening in a manner which, it is hoped, will ever continue a distinguishing feature in the conduct of the craft.

Notwithstanding the low state of matters, both with respect to the funds and number of members, when the new charter was obtained in 1780, this Lodge is now prospering in a manner almost beyond example. It consists of 120 members, all of whom are in the prime of life. The society, or charity fund, inclusive of an excellent inn, a room of which is appropriated to the meetings of the brethren, may be valued at upwards of 260*l.* sterling. They have jewels, and all the necessary appendages of a Lodge in the greatest taste of elegance and value*.

May not only the brethren of this Lodge, but every member of the ancient fraternity, experience the like success in all their undertakings, in this; our temporary Lodge, and at last be received into the Lodge of the Supreme and Grand Architect of the Universe, which shall never be shut!

* Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, encampments of Knights Templars, &c. are frequently held here.

† We should be happy to be favoured with a copy of this Sermon for insertion.

THE TWO FOLLOWING
PIECES OF ANTIQUITY
WERE FOUND IN THE
CHARTER CHEST OF THE OLD LODGE OF BIGGAR.

They were without date or title, only, on the first, "December 1583," was marked with a pen, and "1628" on the second, in like manner.

[No. I.]

BE IT KNOWN to all Men, be these present Letters, Us Deacons, Masters, and Freemen of the Masons within the Realm of *Scotland*, with express Assent and Consent of *William Shaw* Master of Work to our sovereign Lord, FORASMEIKLE AS, frae Age to Age, it has been observed among us, that the Lairds of *Rosline* has ever beine Patrons and Protectors of us and our Privileges. LIKEAS, our Predecessors has obeyed and acknowledged them as Patrons and Protectors, quhill that within thir few Years, through Negligence and Slouthfulness, the samyn has past forth of Use, whereby not only has the Lairds of *Rosline* lyen out of their just Right, but also our hail Craft has been destitute of an Patron and Protector and Overseer, whilk has gengerit many false Corruptions and Imperfections both amongst ourselves and in our Craft, and has given Occasion to many Persons to conceive Evil amongst us and our Craft, and to leave off great Interpryses of Policie, by Reason of our great Misbehaviour without Correction, whereby not only the Committars of the Faults, but also the honest Men, are disappointyd of their Craft and Profit: As likewise, when divers and sundry Contraversies falls out amongst ourselves, there follows great and manyfold Inconveniencies through the want of - - - - - we not being able to wait upon the ordinary Judges and Judgment of this Realm, through the Occasion of our Poverty and Langsomness of Process: FOR REMEID whereof, and for keeping of good Order amongst Us in all Time coming, and for Advancement of our Craft and Vocation within this Realm, and furthering of Policie within the samyn, We for ourselves, and in Name of our hail Brethren and Craftsmen, with Consent foresaid, AGREES and CONSENTS, that *William Sinclair*, now of *Rosline*, for himself and his Heirs, purchase and obtain, at the Hands of our sovereign Lord, Liberty, Freedom and Jurisdiction upon Us and our Successors, in al Time coming, as Patrons and Judges to Us, and the several Professors of our Craft within this Realm, whom of we have Power and Commission, swa that hereafter we may acknowledge him and his Heirs as our Patrons and Judges under our sovereign Lord, without any Kind of Appellation, or declining from his Judgment, with Power to the said *William* and his Heirs to depute Judges under him, ane or mae, and to use such ample and large Jurisdiction upon Us and our Successors, als well in Burgh as Land, as it shall please our sovereign Lord to grant to him and his Heirs. *Sic subscribitur, William Shaw* Master of Work, *Thomas Weir* Mason in *Edinburgh*, *Thomas Robertson* Warden of the Lodges of *Dumfermling* and *St. Andrews*, and taking the Burden upon him for his Brethren of the Mason-Craft within the Lodges, and for the Commissioners aftermentioned, *viz. David Skougal, Alexander Gilbert, and David Spens*, for the Lodge of *St. Andrews*, *Andrew Alison* and *Archibald Angoue* Commissioners for the Lodge of *Dumfermling*, and *Robert Baillie* for the Lodge of *Haddingtoun*, with our Hands led at the Pen be the Notar underwritten, at our Commands, because we could not write. *Ita est* Laurentius Robertson Notarius publicus ad praemissa requisitus de speciali alicuius mandatis dictarum personarum, scribere nescien. ut asseruerunt teste manu mea

propria. Ita est Henricus Bannantine Co-notarius ad præmissa de mandatis antedict. personarum scribere nescien. ut asseruerunt teste manu mea chirographo. Andrea Simpson, Jobu Robertson, St. Andrews, Hadingtounne, P. Campbell, R. Valance, William Ayloun, Achieson's Haven, George Atoun, John Rufener, Thomas Petticrew, Dumfermling, Robert Peers.

[No. II.]

BE IT KEND to all men, be thir present letters, Us the Deacons, Masters and Freemen of the MASONS and HAMMERMEN within the Kingdom of Scotland, THAT FORASMEIKLE AS, from Age to Age, it has been observed amongst Us and our predecessors, that the Lairds of *Rosline* has ever been Patrons and protectors of Us and our Privileges, LIKEAS our Predecessors has obeyed and revered and acknowledged them, as Patrons and Protectors, whereof they had Letters of Protection, and other Rights granted by his Majesty's most noble Progenitors of worthy Memory, whilks, with sundry others of the Lairds of *Rosline* his Writs; being consumed in an Flame of Fire, within the Castle of *Rosline*, in anno the Consumation and Burning whereof being clearly known to Us, and our Predecessors, Deacons, Masters and Freemen of the said Vocations, and our Protection of the samen, and Privileges thereof, be Negligence and Slouthfulness, being likely to pass furth of Use, wherethrough not only would the Lairds of *Rosline* ly out of their just Right, but also our haill Crafts would have been destitute of an Patron, Protector and Overseer, whilk would engenner manifold Imperfections and Corruptions, both amongst ourselves and in our Craft, and give Occasion to many Persons to conceive evil Opinions of Us, and our Craft, and to leave off many and great Interprizes of Policy, whilks would be undertaken if our great Misbehaviour were not suffered to go on without correction: FOR REMEID whereof, and for keeping of good Order amongst in all Time coming, and for Advancement of our Craft and Vocation, within his Heines Kingdom of *Scotland*, and furduring of Policy thereintil, the most Part of our Predecessors, for themselves, and in name and Behalf of our Brethren and Craftsmen, with express Advice and Consent of *William Shaw*, Master of Work to his Heines umquhil dearest Father of worthy Memory, all in once Voice agreed, consented and subscribed, that *William Sinclair of Rosline*, Father to Sir *William Sinclair* now of *Rosline*, for himself and his Heirs, should purchase and obtain at the Hands of his Majesty, Liberty, Freedom, and Jurisdiction upon Us, and our Predecessors, Deacons, Masters, and Freemen of the said Vocations, as Patrons and Judges to Us, and the haill Professors thereof within the said Kingdom, whereof they had Power and Commission, swa that they and we ought thereafter to acknowledge him, and his Heirs, as our Patrons and Judge, under our souverain Lord, without any Kind of Appellation or Declinations from their Judgments for ever as the said Agreement, subscribed by the said Master of Work, and our Predecessors, at more Length proports. IN THE WHILK OFFICE, Privilege and Jurisdiction over Us, and our said Vocation, the said *William Sinclair of Rosline*, ever continued till his going to *Ireland*, where he presently remains, since the whilk Time of his Departure furth of this Realm, there are very many Corruptions and Imperfections risen and ingenerit, both amongst ourselves and in our said Vocations, in Defect of an Patron and Overseer over Us and the samen, swa that our said Vocations are altogether likely to decay; and now for Saifty thereof, we having full experience of the afauld good Skill and Judgment whilk the said *William Sinclair* now of *Rosline* has in our said Craft and Vocations, and for Reparation of the Rewins, and manifold Corruptions and Enormities done by unskilful Persons thereintil, We all in one voice have ratified and approven, and be thir Presents ratifies and approves the foresaid former Letter of Jurisdiction and Liberty, made and subscribed by our Brethren, and his Heines umquhil Masterr of Work for the Time, to the said *William Sinclair of Rosline*, Father to the said Sir *Wil-*

William Sinclair, whereby he, and his Heirs, are acknowledged as our Patron and Judge, under our sovereign Lord, over Us, and the hail Professors of the said Vocation, within this his Heines Kingdom of *Scotland*, without any Appellation or Declination from their Judgments, in time hereafter, forever. AND FARDER, We all in one Voice, as said is, of new, have made, constitute and ordained, and be thir Presents makes, constitutes and ordains the said Sir *William Sinclair* now of *Rosline*, and his Airs male, our only Patrons, Protectors and Overseers under our souveraine Lord to us and our successors, Deacons, Masters and Freemen of our said Vocations of Masons, Hammermen, within the hail Kingdom of *Scotland*, and of our hail Privileges and Jurisdictions belonging thereto, wherein he, his Father, and their Predecessors Lairds of *Rosline*, have been in use of Possession thir many Ages bygane, with full power to him and them, be themselves, their Wardens and Deputes to be constitute be them, to affix and appoint Places of Meeting for keeping of good Order in the said Craft, as aft and sua aft as Need shall requyre, all and sundry Persons that may be known to be subject to the said Vocation, to make be called absent, to amerciate, Transgressors, punish Unlaws, Casualitys, and other Dewtys whatsomever pertaining and belonging, or that may befall to be payed be whatsomever Person or Persons subject to the said Craft, to ask, crave, receive, intromet with and uplift, and the samen to their own proper Use to apply, Deputes under them in the said Office, with Clarks, Serjands, Assisters, and all other Officers and Members of Court needful, to make, create, substitute and ordain, for whom they shall be holden to answer ALL and sundry Plents, Actions and Causes pertaining to the said Craft and Vocation, and against whatsomever Person or Persons Professors thereof, and to hear, discuss, decern and decide, Acts, Decrets and Sentences thereupon to pronounce, and the same to due Execution to cause be put; and generally all and sundry other Priviledges, Libertys and Immunitys whatsomever concerning the said Craft, to do, use and exerce, and cause be done, or might have done themselves in any Time bygane, freely quietly weel and in Piece, but ony Revocatione, Obsticle, Impediment or Again-calling whatsomever. IN Witness of the whilk Thing, to thir Presents written be *Alexander Ackhead* Servitor to *Andrew Hay* Writer, we have subscribed thir Presents with our Hands at, *Sic subscribitur*, The Lodge of *Dundee*, *Robert Strachan* Master, *Andrew Wast* and *David White* Masters in *Dundee*, with our Hands at the Pen led be the Notar under subscriband at our Commands, because we cannot write. *Thomas Robertstone* Notarius Publicus asseruit, *Robert Johnston* Master, *David Mason* Master. The Lodge of *Edinburgh*, *William Wallace* Deacon, *John Watt*, *Thomas Paterson*, *Thomas Fleyming* Wairdine in *Edinburgh*, and *Hugh Forrest*, with our Hands at the Pen led by the Notar under subscribing for us at our Command, because we cannot write, *Tb. Fleyming* Notarius Publicus. I *Robert Caldwell* in *Glasgow*, with my Hand at the Pen led by the Notar under subscribing for me, because I cannot write myself, *J. Henryson* Notarius Publicus asseruit. The Lodge of *Glasgow*, *John Boyd* Deacon, *Robert Boyd* one of the Masters, *Hew Dick* Deacon of the Mason Craft and Wrights of *Ayr*, *George Lyddel* Deacon of the Squeremen, and was Quarter-master. The Lodge of *Stirling*, *John Thomson*, *James Ryne*, I *John Servito* Master of the Crafts of *Stirling*, with my Hand at the Pen led be the Notar under subscribing for me, because I cannot write, *J. Henryson* Notarius asseruit. The Lodge of *Dumfermling*, *Robert Alison* one of the Masters of *Dumfermling*, I *John Burrock* one of the Masters of *Dumfermling*, with my Hand at the Pen led be the Notar under subscribing for me at my Command, because I cannot write myself, *J. Henryson* Notarius asseruit. *David Robertstone* one of the Master-Masons of *St. Andrews*, and *Thomas Persone* of the said Lodge of *St. Andrews*.

COPY OF A LETTER

FROM

THE REV. DR. STURGES,

CHANCELLOR OF THE DIOCESE OF WINCHESTER, TO

JOHN WILMOT, ESQ.

CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE RELIEF OF THE SUFFERING CLERGY OF
FRANCE, REFUGEES IN THESE DOMINIONS.

SIR,

IMMEDIATELY on my return home, I set about the enquiries I promised you to make, respecting the French Priests in this place and neighbourhood; and the result of them is such as I think will give you pleasure.

The unfavourable reports, both in conversation and in print, concerning the conduct of these unfortunate men, related chiefly to the following particulars:—Ordinations at the King's house—young Students, not Ecclesiastics, making a great part of the number there, or at least young Ecclesiastics of the Lower Orders—their activity in making Converts in this place and neighbourhood—their dispersing small English Tracts for the purpose, and having a Press at their command.

I will lay before you the information I have received with respect to all these particulars. The day after my return, I had a long conference with Mr. MARTIN, on the two first Ordinations, and the qualities of the persons in the King's house. He told me there had been (as we all knew) three Ordinations, but the last was two years ago. One was by the Bishop of St. POL DE LEON, the only one he has holden in England. In all these three, the number of persons ordained was thirty-three from seven French Dioceses; thirty-two of these were before irrecoverably fixed in the Ecclesiastical profession, and the remaining one was appointed to a Low Order, which did not fix him, but left him at liberty to betake himself to any other way of life. This account of the Ordinations seems to me to do away the offensive part of them; which was, "that without necessity, there being no function for such persons, when ordained, to perform, *fresh men* should be engaged in the Ecclesiastical profession, and be made to subsist as such, on the Charity of this Country, being precluded thereby from gaining their subsistence by any other means. As to the Students, not Ecclesiastics, Mr. MARTIN assured me there was only one person of that description in the King's house, and who was to leave it in the course of this week. This person has not lived on the charity, but his board is paid by the Grand Vicairé of Baieux, who lives in London, and is brought to account. All besides are Ecclesiastics, and as to their age and ranks as such, I have before me a

note from Mr. MARTIN himself, in which he says, there are only *twenty-nine* who are not Priests; so far is it from being true, "that at least two thirds of the whole number are improper objects of the Charity."

I cannot hesitate a moment in giving Mr. MARTIN full credit for the truth of this account. Not only his character and situation, but his whole manner and expression, while we were talking over these things, could not fail to give any one a strong impression of his sincerity and openness.

I have enquired personally of all the Parochial Ministers of this place, and they all agree in assuring me, that, to their knowledge, no cause of complaint has arisen since COUVER's case, about a quarter of a year ago: and it should be remembered, that in the course of a year preceding, this was the single case discovered which admitted of proof, in a place where there are between 800 and 1000 French Clergy. COUVER was treated as he deserved, by being sent out of the kingdom; and as every person should be treated who could so far abuse the Benevolence of this Country.

It has been said that the neighbouring villages are full of French Priests. I have made it my business within these two or three days to visit most of them, and have made personal enquiry of almost every Parochial Minister. The villages which encompass this place are Weeke Sparsholt, Headborne Worthy, King's Worthy, Martyr Worthy, Itchin Abbas, Easton, Chitcombe, Marested, St. Cross and Littleton, Twyford, Compton, and Horsley; none of them, except the three last, have ever known or seen any of the French Priests, unless in their occasional walks, nor have they been admitted (as far as is known) into any house; indeed a general dislike to them prevails in most of these places. At Twyford there is a Mr. MARGIN, a most respectable inoffensive man, well known to Mr. WILLIAMS, Prebend of Canterbury, and Rector of Compton; he is esteemed by him, and teaches his daughter French. In the same house with him lodge two Ecclesiastics of an inferior class, equally inoffensive. At Compton there is a poor man, who received a blow on his head from some villain while he was reading in a field, and was forced to retire from the noise and crowd of the King's house to this place, where he is not yet recovered from the effects of the blow; and at Horsely there is one who lives with a School-master, and assists him; a worthy man, well respected by the better part of the neighbourhood, and in high estimation, as I am informed, with Dr. GAUNTLETT, Warden of *New College, Oxford*, and Vicar of the parish.

Otterborne, about four miles off; I have not enquired at. I have heard it said there are French Priests *there*, but they are not likely to frequent this spot, because just by is the seat of an old Catholic family (Mr. SMITH's) which has always had a resident Priest of it's own, and now has Mr. WALMESLEY, who is (I believe) a Titular Roman Catholic Bishop and an Apostolic Vicar. With respect to their getting and dispersing *English* controversial Tracts, Mr. BURDON, the principal Bookseller of the place, tells me that he had frequently ap-

plication for such Tracts, but that considering them as likely to be employed improperly, he had declined procuring or selling any for a considerable time, and knows nothing now of any thing suspicious or offensive of this sort. Mr. ROBBINS, a Bookseller and Printer, says the same as Mr. BURDON about Tracts. He had formerly applications to procure them, but on it's being represented that an improper use might be made of them, he has also declined having any in his hands, and has actually not had any for a twelvemonth.

This circumstance of *English* Tracts carries with it more presumptive evidence of a desire to make converts than any other. His press is (I believe) that supposed to be at their command. He has only printed for them three or four works, and those in French (see the end of this letter) which he apprehended could only be for their own use, and therefore unexceptionable, and which (taking them to be such) he printed in the common course of trade, declaring he would not print any thing that had a suspicious tendency.

I have now gone through the particulars I mentioned; the truth of what I have told you, must rest with the persons who have given me this information; but on their evidence I am perfectly satisfied, *that what I have told you is true.* In a place where so many priests are assembled, of a communion so different from our own, and in some respects so hostile to it, it is natural and commendable for us, to be vigilantly on our guard against any aggressions by which the religious profession of our own people may be shaken. But while we are thus on our guard, it is surely but justice to these unfortunate men, sufferers for that religion which they professed and administered under the ancient laws of their country, not to give a ready admission to all complaints against them, without proper information or proof; or if there were any real ground for complaint, not to exaggerate it beyond its just dimensions, and thereby to increase the popular dislike towards them. The general prejudice of Englishmen against their Church and Nation---their long stay---their maintenance by this Country---and the excessive price of the necessaries of life concurring with it; have already raised this dislike to an alarming degree; a degree by which they are continually exposed to insults, and their personal security often endangered.

It surely becomes the wiser and more temperate part of the community, at the same time that we take all proper precautions not to suffer by our kindness to them, rather to soften the public disposition; not to turn suspicions into proofs, and apprehensions into actual injuries; even to consider the infirmities of our common nature, and to reflect how unreasonable it is (supposing causes of complaint to exist) to expect that a thousand men will, for a considerable length of time, *all* act properly, and *all* do what their superiors, from motives of interest, if not of virtue, would wish them. I confess I have considered their general conduct apart from the particular subjects of this letter) as exemplary in the highest degree. I have upon all occasions, and to all persons, borne this testimony of them, and bear it still with pleasure, that during their continuance here,

which is now, I think, above three years, I have never known any of them accused of any behaviour immoral or unbecoming; and have heard all those, with whom I am well acquainted, express, in the strongest terms, their gratitude for the protection, the relief, and the humanity they have experienced from us.

To be unjust to them at this period of our kindness would be casting a shade on the brightest instance of national benevolence, by which, in my opinion, any Christian country ever was distinguished.

I am, Sir, &c.

H. STURGES.

JOHN WILMOT, Esq.

The titles of the two last books printed by Mr. Robbins are :

REFLEXIONS CHRETIENNES pour tous les Jours de l'Année puisees dans les Peres, dans l'Histoire de l'Eglise et dans les Auteurs des livres de Piété, par un Pretre Francois du Diocese de Rennes---Exile pour la Foi---1796. [555 Pages.]

INSTITUTION CATHOLIQUE ; par demandes et par reponses, sur les Droits de l'Autel et du Trone ou l'on prouve la verité des Principes combattus par les Auteurs de la Revolution Françoise.---1795. [112 Pages.]

FOR THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE.

THE FOLLY OF NOBLEMEN AND GENTLEMEN PAYING THEIR DEBTS.

IT must give every Englishman infinite satisfaction, when he considers what a progress arts and sciences, and politeness of every kind, has made among us since the days of honest Queen Bess; nay, it would not a little add to his satisfaction, to look back even upon the reign of King Charles II. which has been so much celebrated for one continued scene of wit and gaiety, and reflect how superior we are, through every rank of men, to our ancestors of the last century. But among all the improvements we have made, there is one, which, while it distinguishes our country from the rest of Europe, sets proper bounds at the same time between the well-bred patrician and the mechanic multitude; I mean, that admirable invention, of being supplied with the necessaries and superfluities of life, without the expence of a single farthing. This is a thing which many a great man has long sighed after; for though it has been approved of in theory many ages, yet a certain obsolete custom, and prejudice of education, has, till within these few years, prevented so noble a scheme from being put in execution. But as all things, from the most essential to the most minute, are regulated by fashion, this admirable art is at length established by the general consent of the nobility and gentry; and that it may not be debased like other fashions, by descending to the mob, the legislature has very prudently taken care to reserve it as a peculiar privilege to themselves by Par-

liamentary authority*. But as innovations of all kinds, let them be ever so productive of public utility, generally meet with opposition, so there are at present a few among the quality, who either through a tenacious disposition of habit, a stubborn opposition to the court, or an unaccountable frenzy that has seized them, still persevere in the old road of paying; and annually fling away vast sums in the unnecessary discharge of what is commonly called lawful debts. However, as the number of these is very small, and daily decreases, I hope no inconvenience will accrue from their obstinate dissension; yet, lest vulgar error should invest such people with characters to make them the objects of admiration, and consequently imitation, to the young nobility, I think it the duty of one who wishes well to that body, to expose the absurdity of such a proceeding, and to warn the unexperienced against this enthusiasm. I call it enthusiasm, because these schismatics plead conscience, and an inward calling, that instigates them to these ungentleman-like, as well as unsociable, actions.

In the first place I must deviate a little from my subject, to make a proper distinction between two things which have been confounded of late on purpose by this party to advance their doctrine, viz. Honour and Honesty. Now they have long argued in vain, and used many sophisticated reasons, to prove that the punctual observance of one, constitutes the other; whereas, a little insight into the present age, will clearly demonstrate, that they not only can, but do actually exist separately and independent of each other. For instance, Honour is not that little pitiful thing it has long been taken for, of servilely keeping a promise, paying debts, &c. No, 'tis of a more high and aerial extraction. Honour runs in the blood, nods under the coronet, and is enrolled in the patent; and in that shape is transmitted unalienable down to posterity, from generation to generation. My Lord's ancestors had titles, and he and his offspring are persons of Honour, in spite of any dirty mechanic's uncross'd shop-book among them. This is Honour, and appears at Court in the greatest lustre; whilst Honesty, the paltry inhabitant of a Cottage, has no manner of business in a palace; and if by chance any of the above-mentioned faction invite her there, they are looked upon as men who delight in low company, and are stigmatized and avoided accordingly.

I would have, therefore, our young people of quality, who are desirous of being esteemed polite, persons of honour and high breeding, be particularly careful not to be influenced by the precepts or examples of such antiquated bigots: for paying debts now-a-days, is looked upon as a great mark of honesty, which, I dare say, people of their rank and education would industriously fly from, if they knew it, as it is become in some measure incompatible with honour. Long bills and no receipts ought to be as an inseparable mark of a patriot, as the coronet upon the coach; and the different degrees of

* Alluding to the privilege of the Members of either House, from being arrested for their debts.

dignity should be distinguished, by the number of duns at his lordship's doors, as they are, by the spots in the ermine upon the parliamentary robes. But there is a farther advantage accruing from this honourable art, more than ornamental, which has hitherto been entirely overlooked; that is, the vast power that it will by degrees place in the hands of the aristocracy, by making so many dependents upon them: for in case of an invasion, every Baron may by this means be enabled to raise a regiment or two in twenty-four hours, by calling his creditors about him; which service they would not so willingly enter into, if they were made rich and saucy by frequent payments.

As I have already said enough for the instruction of these illustrious debtors, I think it is my duty to give a word or two of advice to the plebeian creditors: for I have been informed that the progress of this art has lately been often obstructed, by their ill-timed impatience, ill-conducted manner of dunning, and want of mercantile faith. And since they have so far forgot their duty, I shall take upon me to remind them of it, and prescribe proper rules for their behaviour, in this respect, for the future. Faith, silence, and patience, should be the characteristics of a tradesman, and every one ought to write the names of these three virtues in golden letters over his counter: the one will dictate to him to give proper credit; the second will prevent him from making use of any impertinent expression, when he attends the levee; and the third will inure him to the disappointments of 'Mr. Such-a-one, I'll pay you to-morrow:' for procrastination is now a constant attendant on the great, and with them, as Shakespear says,

To-morrow, and To-morrow, and To-morrow,
Creeps in this petty Pace from Day to Day;

and tradesmen ought no more to expect their money, than my lord or my lady intends to pay it. 'Tis sufficient honour to be employed by them, and the name of a Right Honourable should stand for no more in their day-books, than the arms upon the sign-post, to draw in other customers. If shopkeepers and mechanics would practise this part of their duty, I dare say, a perpetual harmony would be established between the court and city, and those opprobrious names with which they brand each other would be entirely abolished; but while the dirty shoes of Ludgate-Hill and Covent-Garden presume to pollute the stairs at St. James's, the citizens can never reasonably expect to be countenanced; nay, perhaps, if they carry their impertinence a little further, that useless thing they live by, called 'Trade,' may, in a second improvement of politeness, be banished the kingdom.

PHILARETES.

SKETCHES

OF THE

MANNERS AND CUSTOMS OF THE
NORTH-AMERICAN INDIANS.

[From "A Journey to the Northern Ocean from Prince of Wales's Fort, in Hudson's Bay, in the Years 1769, 1770, 1771, and 1772."]

(CONTINUED FROM P. 236.)

TREATMENT OF WOMEN.

IN our last number, we gave a sketch of the respect in which females are held, among the American Indians. The following instances will prove, that there is no part of the world in which they are treated with so much cruelty.

"Having finished such wood-work as the Indians thought would be necessary, and having augmented our stock of dried meat and fat, the twenty-first was appointed for moving; but one of the women having been taken in labour, and it being rather an extraordinary case, we were detained more than two days. The instant, however, the poor woman was delivered, which was not until she had suffered all the pains usually felt on those occasions, for near fifty-two hours, the signal was made for moving, when the poor creature took her infant on her back, and set out with the rest of the company; and though another person had the humanity to haul her sledge for her, (for one day only,) she was obliged to carry a considerable load beside her little charge, and was frequently obliged to wade knee-deep in water and wet snow. Her very looks, exclusive of her moans, were a sufficient proof of the great pain she endured, insomuch that although she was a person I greatly disliked, her distress at this time so overcame my prejudice, that I never felt more for any of her sex in my life: indeed her sighs pierced me to the soul, and rendered me very miserable, as it was not in my power to relieve her.

"One of the Indian's wives, who for some time had been in a consumption, had for a few days past become so weak as to be incapable of travelling, which, among those people, is the most deplorable state to which a human being can possibly be brought. Whether she had been given over by the doctors, or that it was for want of friends among them, I cannot tell; but certain it is, that no expedients were taken for her recovery: so that, without much ceremony, she was left, unassisted, to perish above-ground.

"Though this was the first instance of the kind I had seen, it is the common, and indeed the constant practice of those Indians: for when a grown person is so ill, especially in the Summer, as not to be able to walk, and too heavy to be carried, they say, it is better to leave one who is past recovery, than for the whole family to sit down by them,

and starve to death; well knowing that they cannot be of any service to the afflicted. On those occasions, therefore, the friends or relations of the sick generally leave them some victuals and water; and, if the situation of the place will afford it, a little firing. When those articles are provided, the person to be left is acquainted with the road which the others intend to go; and then, after covering them well up with deer skins, &c. they take their leave, and walk away crying.

“ Sometimes, persons, thus left, recover; and come up with their friends, or wander about till they meet with other Indians, whom they accompany till they again join their relations. Instances of this kind are seldom known. The poor woman above mentioned, however, came up with us three several times, after having been left in the manner described. At length, poor creature! she dropt behind; and no one attempted to go back in search of her.”

FEMALE BEAUTY.

“ Take them in a body, the women are as destitute of real beauty; as any nation I ever saw, though there are some few of them, when young, who are tolerable; but the care of a family, added to their constant hard labour, soon make the most beautiful among them look old and wrinkled, even before they are thirty; and several of the more ordinary ones, at that age, are perfect antidotes to love and gallantry. This, however, does not render them less dear and valuable to their owners, which is a lucky circumstance for those women, and a certain proof that there is no such thing as any rule or standard for beauty. Ask a Northern Indian, what is beauty? he will answer, a broad flat face, small eyes, high cheek-bones, three or four broad black lines a-cross each cheek, a low forehead, a large broad chin, a clumsy hook-nose, a tawney-hide, and breasts hanging down to the belt. Those beauties are greatly heightened, or at least rendered more valuable, when the possessor is capable of dressing all kinds of skins; converting them into the different parts of their clothing; and able to carry eight or ten stone in Summer, or haul a much greater weight in Winter. These, and other similar accomplishments, are all that are sought after, or expected, of a Northern Indian woman.”

METHOD OF WAR, AMBUSH, &c.

On the banks of the Copper River, Mr. Hearne was witness to a scene of warfare, so fraught with cruelty and horror, that the polished European will perhaps hardly credit the relation of it. We extract it, however, as containing a more exact picture of the warlike manners of the Northern Indians, than has been given by any former traveller.

“ At this time (it being about noon) the three men who had been sent as spies met us on their return, and informed my companions that five tents of Esquimaux were on the west side of the river. The situation, they said, was very convenient for surprising them; and, according to their account, I judged it to be about twelve miles from

the place we met the spies. When the Indians received this intelligence, no farther attendance or attention was paid to my survey, but their whole thoughts were immediately engaged in planning the best method of attack, and how they might steal on the poor Esquimaux, the ensuing night, and kill them all while asleep. To accomplish this bloody design more effectually, the Indians thought it necessary to cross the river as soon as possible; and, by the account of the spies, it appeared that no part was more convenient for the purpose than that where we had met them, it being there very smooth, and at a considerable distance from any fall. Accordingly, after the Indians had put all their guns, spears, targets, &c. in good order, we crossed the river, which took up some time.

“ When we arrived on the West side of the river, each painted the front of his target or shield; some with the figure of the Sun, others with that of the Moon, several with different kinds of birds and beasts of prey, and many with the images of imaginary beings, which, according to their silly notions, are the inhabitants of the different elements, Earth, Sea, Air, &c.

“ On enquiring the reason of their doing so, I learned that each man painted his shield with the image of that being on which he relied most for success in the intended engagement. Some were contented with a single representation; while others, doubtful, as I suppose, of the quality and power of any single being, had their shields covered to the very margin with a group of hieroglyphics quite unintelligible to every one except the painter. Indeed, from the hurry in which this business was necessarily done, the want of every colour but red and black, and the deficiency of skill in the artist, most of those paintings had more the appearance of a number of accidental blotches, than of any thing that is on the earth, or in the water under the ‘ earth;’ and though some few of them conveyed a tolerable idea of the thing intended, yet even these were many degrees worse than our country sign-paintings in England.

“ When this piece of superstition was completed, we began to advance toward the Esquimaux tents; but were very careful to avoid crossing any hills, or talking loud, for fear of being seen or overheard by the inhabitants; by which means the distance was not only much greater than it otherwise would have been, but, for the sake of keeping in the lowest grounds, we were obliged to walk through entire swamps of stiff marly clay, sometimes up to the knees. Our course, however, on this occasion, though very serpentine, was not altogether so remote from the river as entirely to exclude me from a view of it the whole way: on the contrary, several times (according to the situation of the ground) we advanced so near it, as to give me an opportunity of convincing myself that it was as unavigable as it was in those parts which I had surveyed before, and which entirely corresponded with the accounts given of it by the spies.

“ It is perhaps worth remarking, that my crew, though an undisciplined rabble, and by no means accustomed to war or command, seemingly acted, on this horrid occasion, with the utmost uniformity

of sentiment. There was not among them the least altercation or separate opinion; all were united in the general cause, and as ready to follow where Matonabee led, as he appeared to be ready to lead, according to the advice of an old Copper Indian, who had joined us on our first arrival at the river, where this bloody business was first proposed.

“ Never was reciprocity of interest more generally regarded among a number of people, than it was on the present occasion by my crew: for not one was a moment in want of any thing that another could spare; and if ever the spirit of disinterested friendship expanded the heart of a Northern Indian, it was here exhibited in the most extensive meaning of the word. Property of every kind that could be of general use now ceased to be private, and every one who had any thing which came under that description, seemed proud of an opportunity of giving it, or lending it those who had none, or were most in want of it.

“ The number of my crew was so much greater than that which five tents could contain, and the warlike manner in which they were equipped so greatly superior to what could be expected of the poor Esquimaux, that no less than a *total massacre of every one of them* was likely to be the case, unless Providence should work a miracle for their deliverance.

“ The land was so situated that we walked under cover of the rocks and hills till we were within two hundred yards of the tents. There we lay in ambush for some time, watching the motions of the Esquimaux; and here the Indians would have advised me to stay till the fight was over; but to this I could by no means consent: for I considered that when the Esquimaux came to be surprised, they would try every way to escape, and if they found me alone, not knowing me from an enemy, they would probably proceed to violence against me, when no person was near to assist. For this reason I determined to accompany them, telling them at the same time, that I would not have any hand in the murder they were about to commit, unless I found it necessary for my own safety. The Indians were not displeased at this proposal; one of them immediately fixed me a spear, and another lent me a broad bayonet for my protection, but at that time I could not be provided with a target; nor did I want to be encumbered with such an unnecessary piece of lumber.

“ While we lay in ambush, the Indians performed the last ceremonies which were thought necessary before the engagement. These chiefly consisted in painting their faces; some all black, some all red, and others with a mixture of the two; and to prevent their hair from blowing into their eyes, it was either tied before and behind, and on both sides, or else cut short all round. The next thing they considered was to make themselves as light as possible for running; which they did, by pulling off their stockings, and either cutting off the sleeves of their jackets, or rolling them up close to their arm-pits; and though the muskettées at that time were so numerous as to surpass all credibility, yet some of the Indians actually pulled off their

their jackets, and entered the lists quite naked, except their breech-cloths and shoes. Fearing I might have occasion to run with the rest, I thought it also advisable to pull off my stockings and cap, and to tie my hair as close up as possible.

“By the time the Indians had made themselves thus completely frightful, it was near one o'clock in the morning of the seventeenth; when, finding all the Esquimaux quiet in their tents, they rushed forth from their ambuscade, and fell on the poor unsuspecting creatures, unperceived till close at the very eves of their tents, when they soon began the bloody massacre, while I stood neuter in the rear.

“In a few seconds the horrible scene commenced; it was shocking beyond description; the poor unhappy victims were surprised in the midst of their sleep, and had neither time nor power to make any resistance; men, women, and children, in all upward of twenty, ran out of their tents stark naked, and endeavoured to make their escape; but the Indians having possession of all the land-side; to no place could they fly for shelter. One alternative only remained, that of jumping into the river; but, as none of them attempted it, they all fell a sacrifice to Indian barbarity!

“The shrieks and groans of the poor expiring wretches were truly dreadful; and my horror was much increased at seeing a young girl, seemingly about eighteen years of age, killed so near me, that, when the first spear was stuck into her side, she fell down at my feet, and twisted round my legs, so that it was with difficulty I could disengage myself from her dying grasps. As two Indian men pursued this unfortunate victim, I solicited very hard for her life; but the murderers made no reply till they had stuck both their spears through her body, and transfixed her to the ground. They then looked me sternly in the face, and began to ridicule me, by asking, if I wanted an Esquimaux wife? and paid not the smallest regard to the shrieks and agony of the poor wretch, who was twining round their spears like an eel! Indeed, after receiving much abusive language from them on the occasion, I was at length obliged to desire that they would be more expeditious in dispatching their victim out of her misery, otherwise I should be obliged, out of pity, to assist in the friendly office of putting an end to the existence of a fellow-creature who was cruelly wounded. On this request being made, one of the Indians hastily drew his spear from the place where it was first lodged, and pierced her through her breast near the heart. The love of life, however, even in this most miserable state, was so predominant, that though this might justly be called the most merciful act that could be done for the poor creature, it seemed to be unwelcome: for though much exhausted by pain and loss of blood, she made several efforts to ward off the friendly blow. My situation and the terror of my mind, at beholding this butchery, cannot easily be conceived, much less described; though I summed up all the fortitude I was master of on the occasion, it was with difficulty that I could refrain from tears; and I am confident, that my features must have feelingly expressed how sincerely I was affected at the barbarous scene I

then witnessed; even at this hour I cannot reflect on the transactions of that horrid day without shedding tears.

“Among the various superstitious customs of these people, it is worth remarking, and ought to have been mentioned in its proper place, that immediately after my companions had killed the Esquimaux at the Copper River, they considered themselves in a state of uncleanness, which induced them to practise some very curious and unusual ceremonies. In the first place, all who were absolutely concerned in the murder were prohibited from cooking any kind of victuals, either for themselves or others. As luckily there were two in company who had not shed blood, they were employed always as cooks, till we joined the women. This circumstance was exceedingly favourable on my side: for had there been no persons of the above description in company, that task, I was told, would have fallen on me; which would have been no less fatiguing and troublesome, than humiliating and vexatious.

“When the victuals were cooked, all the murderers took a kind of red earth, or oker, and painted all the space between the nose and chin, as well as the greater part of their cheeks, almost to the ears, before they would taste a bit; and would not drink out of any other dish, or smoke out of any other pipe, but their own; and none of the others seemed willing to drink or smoke out of theirs.”

METHOD OF CURING DISEASES BY THEIR CONJURERS.

“Several of the Indians being ill, the conjurers, who are always the doctors, and pretend to perform great cures, began to try their skill to effect their recovery. Here it is necessary to remark that they use no medicine either for internal or external complaints, but perform all their cures by charms. In ordinary cases, sucking the part affected, blowing, and singing to it; haughing, spitting, and at the same time uttering a heap of unintelligible jargon, compose the whole process of the cure.

“When a friend for whom they have a particular regard is, as they suppose dangerously ill, beside the above methods, they have recourse to another very extraordinary piece of superstition; which is no less than that of pretending to swallow hatchets, ice-chisels, broad bayonets, knives, and the like; out of a superstitious notion, that undertaking such desperate feats will have some influence in appeasing death, and procure a respite for their patient.”

DISCIPLINE.

A CENTINEL at Maker Tower was interrupted in his watch by a Lady of the very first breeding—“Who goes there?” said the Centinel; “you cannot pass.” “Not pass,” exclaimed the enraged Fair—“do you know who I am, fellow! do you know that I am the Colonel’s own Lady!” “That’s neither here nor there,” returned the honest military watchman; “if you was the Colonel’s own Wife, you should not walk here.”

EXTRACTS

FROM THE

MEMOIRS OF THE LIFE AND WRITINGS OF

EDWARD GIBBON, ESQ.

COMPOSED BY HIMSELF.

JUST PUBLISHED

BY JOHN LORD SHEFFIELD.

(CONTINUED FROM P. 232.)

WE resume with pleasure the continuation of this article; convinced that an account of the Life and Writings of a character, so high in the republic of letters, must be entertaining to our readers.

In the year 1758, during his residence in Switzerland, Mr. Gibbon became acquainted with Voltaire, then in his retirement near Lausanne.

“ Before I was recalled from Switzerland, I had the satisfaction of seeing the most extraordinary man of the age; a poet, an historian, and a philosopher, who has filled thirty quartos, of prose and verse, with his various productions, often excellent, and always entertaining. Need I add the name of Voltaire? After forfeiting, by his own misconduct, the friendship of the first of kings, he retired, at the age of sixty, with a plentiful fortune, to a free and beautiful country, and resided two winters (1757 and 1758) in the town, or neighbourhood, of Lausanne. My desire of beholding Voltaire, whom I then rated above his real magnitude, was easily gratified. He received me with civility as an English youth; but I cannot boast of any peculiar notice or distinction, *Virgilium vidi tantum*.

“ The ode which he composed on his first arrival on the banks of the Lemane Lake, *O Maison d'Aristippe! O Jardin d'Epicure, &c.* had been imparted as a secret to the gentleman by whom I was introduced. He allowed me to read it twice; I knew it by heart; and as my discretion was not equal to my memory, the author was soon displeased by the circulation of a copy. In writing this trivial anecdote, I wished to observe whether my memory was impaired, and I have the comfort of finding that every line of the poem is still engraved in fresh and indelible characters. The highest gratification which I derived from Voltaire's residence at Lausanne, was the uncommon circumstance of hearing a great poet declaim his own productions on the stage. He had formed a company of gentlemen and ladies, some of whom were not destitute of talents. A decent theatre was framed at Monrepos, a country-house at the end of the suburb; dresses and scenes were provided at the expence of the actors; and the author directed the rehearsals with the zeal and attention of paternal love. In two successive winters his tragedies of Zayre, Alzire, Zulime, and

his sentimental comedy of the *Enfant Prodigue*, were played at the theatre of Monrepos. Voltaire represented the characters best adapted to his years, Lusignan, Alvarez, Benassar, Euphemon. His declamation was fashioned to the pomp and cadence of the old stage; and he expressed the enthusiasm of poetry, rather than the feelings of nature."

In the years 1764 and 1765, our author visited Italy; and his feelings on seeing the different places, once the seats of arts and of arms, in that country, are very elegantly described.

"I shall advance with rapid brevity in the narrative of this tour, in which somewhat more than a year (April 1764—May 1765) was agreeably employed. Content with tracing my line of march, and slightly touching on my personal feelings, I shall wave the minute investigation of the scenes which have been viewed by thousands, and described by hundreds, of our modern travellers. ROME is the great object of our pilgrimage: and 1st, the journey; 2d, the residence; and 3d, the return; will form the most proper and perspicuous division. 1. I climbed Mount Cenis, and descended into the plain of Piedmont, not on the back of an elephant, but on a light Osier-seat, in the hands of the dextrous and intrepid chairmen of the Alps. The architecture and government of Turin presented the same aspect of tame and tiresome uniformity; but the court was regulated with decent and splendid economy; and I was introduced to his Sardinian majesty Charles Emanuel, who, after the incomparable Frederic, held the second rank (*proximus longo tamen intervallo*) among the kings of Europe. The size and populousness of Milan could not surprise an inhabitant of London; but the fancy is amused by a visit to the Boromean Islands, an enchanted palace, a work of the fairies, in the midst of a lake encompassed with mountains, and far removed from the haunts of men. I was less amused by the marble palaces of Genoa, than by the recent memorials of her deliverance (in December 1746) from the Austrian tyranny; and I took a military survey of every scene of action within the inclosure of her double walls. My steps were detained at Parma and Modena, by the precious relics of the Farnese and Este collections: but, alas! the far greater part had been already transported, by inheritance, or purchase, to Naples and Dresden. By the road of Bologna and the Appenine, I at last reached Florence, where I reposed from June to September, during the heat of the summer months. In the Gallery, and especially in the Tribune, I first acknowledged, at the feet of the Venus of Medicis, that the chissel may dispute the pre-eminence with the pencil, a truth in the fine arts which cannot on this side of the Alps be felt or understood. At home I had taken some lessons of Italian; on the spot I read, with a learned native, the classics of the Tuscan idiom; but the shortness of my time, and the use of the French language, prevented my acquiring any facility of speaking; and I was a silent spectator in the conversations of our envoy, Sir Horace Mann, whose most serious business was that of entertaining the English at his hospitable

table. After leaving Florence, I compared the solitude of Pisa with the industry of Lucca and Leghorn, and continued my journey through Sienna to Rome, where I arrived in the beginning of October. 2. My temper is not very susceptible of enthusiasm; and the enthusiasm which I do not feel, I have ever scorned to affect. But, at the distance of twenty-five years, I can neither forget nor express the strong emotions which agitated my mind as I first approached, and entered, the *eternal city*. After a sleepless night, I trod, with a lofty step, the ruins of the Forum; each memorable spot where Romulus stood, or Tully spoke, or Cæsar fell, was at once present to my eye; and several days of intoxication were lost or enjoyed, before I could descend to a cool and minute investigation. My guide was Mr. Byers, a Scotch antiquary of experience and taste; but, in the daily labour of eighteen weeks, the powers of attention were sometimes fatigued, till I was myself qualified, in a last review, to select and study the capital works of ancient and modern art. Six weeks were borrowed for my tour of Naples, the most populous of cities, relative to its size, whose luxurious inhabitants seem to dwell on the confines of paradise and hell-fire. I was presented to the boy-king by our new envoy, Sir William Hamilton; who, wisely diverting his correspondence from the Secretary of State to the Royal Society and British Museum, has elucidated a country of such inestimable value to the naturalist and antiquarian. On my return, I fondly embraced, for the last time, the miracles of Rome; but I departed without kissing the feet of Rezzonico (Clement XIII.), who neither possessed the wit of his predecessor Lambertini, nor the virtues of his successor Ganganelli. 3. In my pilgrimage from Rome to Loretto I again crossed the Apennine; from the coast of the Adriatic I traversed a fruitful and populous country, which could alone disprove the paradox of Montesquieu, that modern Italy is a desert. Without adopting the exclusive prejudice of the natives, I sincerely admire the paintings of the Bologna school. I hastened to escape from the sad solitude of Ferrara, which in the age of Cæsar was still more desolate. The spectacle of Venice afforded some hours of astonishment; the university of Padua is a dying taper; but Verona still boasts her amphitheatre; and his native Vicenza is adorned by the classic architecture of Palladio; the road of Lombardy and Piedmont (did Montesquieu find them without inhabitants?) led me back to Milan, Turin, and the passage of Mount Cenis, where I again crossed the Alps in my way to Lyons."

During the administration of Lord North, Mr. Gibbon (by the interest of Lord Eliot, who married his first cousin) was returned in parliament for the borough of Leskeard; and he has given a sketch of the talents and genius of the leading political characters who then sat in the House of Commons. This sketch, drawn by the pen of an historian, who could with equal accuracy delineate the characters of an Alexander Severus or a Caracalla, of an Augustus or an Antoninus, though brief, shews the hand of a master; and may afford materials to the future historians of that period,

‘I took my seat at the beginning of the memorable contest between Great Britain and America; and supported, with many a sincere and silent vote, the rights, though not, perhaps, the interest, of the mother country. After a fleeting illusive hope, prudence condemned me to acquiesce in the humble station of a mute. I was not armed by nature and education with the intrepid energy of mind and voice.

Vincentem strepitus, et natum rebus agendis.

Timidity was fortified by pride, and even the success of my pen discouraged the trial of my voice. But I assisted at the debates of a free assembly; I listened to the attack and defence of eloquence and reason; I had a near prospect of the characters, views, and passions of the first men of the age. The cause of government was ably vindicated by *Lord North*, a statesman of spotless integrity, a consummate master of debate, who could wield, with equal dexterity, the arms of reason, and of ridicule. He was seated on the Treasury-bench between his Attorney and Solicitor General, the two pillars of the law and state, *magis pares quam similes*; and the minister might indulge in a short slumber, whilst he was upholden on either hand by the majestic sense of *Thurlow*, and the skilful eloquence of *Wedderburne*. From the adverse side of the house an ardent and powerful opposition was supported, by the lively declamation of *Barre*, the legal acuteness of *Dunning*, the profuse and philosophic fancy of *Burke*, and the argumentative vehemence of *Fox*, who, in the conduct of a party, approved himself equal to the conduct of an empire. By such men every operation of peace and war, every principle of justice or policy, every question of authority and freedom, was attacked and defended; and the subject of the momentous contest was the union or separation of Great Britain and America. The eight sessions that I sat in parliament, were a school of civil prudence, the first and most essential virtue of an historian.”

At the close of the sixth volume of the ‘History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire,’ we have an account of the circumstance which first gave our author the idea of beginning that great work. This account he has given in the Memoirs,; and has added a description of his sensations, on bringing it to a conclusion.

“It was at Rome, on the 15th of October 1764, as I sat musing amidst the ruins of the Capitol, while the barefooted friars were singing vespers in the Temple of Jupiter, that the idea of writing the Decline and Fall of the City first started to my mind. But my original plan was circumscribed to the decay of the City, rather than of the Empire: and, though my reading and reflections began to point towards that object, some years elapsed, and several avocations intervened, before I was seriously engaged in the execution of that laborious work.”

“I have presumed to mark the moment of conception; I shall now commemorate the hour of my final deliverance. It was on the day, or rather night of the 27th of June 1787, between the hours of

eleven and twelve, that I wrote the last lines of the last page, in a summer-house in my garden. After laying down my pen, I took several turns in a *berceau*, or covered walk of acacias, which commands a prospect of the country, the lake, and the mountains. The air was temperate, the sky was serene, the silver orb of the moon was reflected from the waters, and all nature was silent. I will not dissemble the first emotions of joy on the recovery of my freedom, and, perhaps, the establishment of my fame. But my pride was soon humbled, and a sober melancholy was spread over my mind, by the idea that I had taken an everlasting leave of an old and agreeable companion, and that whatsoever might be the future date of my History, the life of the historian must be short and precarious. I will add two facts, which have seldom occurred in the composition of six, or at least of five, quartos. 1. My first rough manuscript, without any intermediate copy, has been sent to the press. 2. Not a sheet has been seen by any human eyes, excepting those of the author and the printer: the faults and the merits are exclusively my own.

“I cannot help recollecting a much more extraordinary fact, which is affirmed of himself by Retif de la Bretorme, a voluminous and original writer of French novels. He laboured, and may still labour, in the humble office of corrector to a printing-house; but this office enabled him to transport an entire volume from his mind to the press; and his work was given to the public without ever having been written with a pen.”

When the first volume of the work was put to press, Mr. CADELL (as our author informs us) wished the number printed to be 500; but STRAHAN interfered, and the edition was made 1000. Which of the two was right, time has determined: near *four* editions of it were sold in a few weeks.

Mr. Gibbon continues his Memoirs as far as the year 1788. Some general observations on human life and manners, and a sketch of his own character and sentiments, conclude them.

“When I contemplate the common lot of mortality, I must acknowledge that I have drawn a high prize in the lottery of life. The far greater part of the globe is overspread with barbarism or slavery; in the civilized world, the most numerous class is condemned to ignorance and poverty; and the double fortune of my birth, in a free and enlightened country, and in an honourable and wealthy family, is the lucky chance of a unit against millions. The general probability is about three to one, that a new-born infant will not live to complete his fiftieth year. I have now passed that age, and may fairly estimate the present value of my existence in the three-fold division of mind, body, and estate.

“1. The first and indispensable requisite of happiness is a clear conscience, unsullied by the reproach or remembrance of an unworthy action.

————— Hic murus aheneus esto,
Nil conscire sibi, nulla pallescere culpa.

“ I am endowed with a cheerful temper, a moderate sensibility, and a natural disposition to repose; rather than to activity; some mischievous appetites and habits have perhaps been corrected by philosophy or time. The love of study, a passion which derives fresh vigour from enjoyment, supplies each day, each hour, with a perpetual source of independent and rational pleasure; and I am not sensible of any decay of the mental faculties. The original soil has been highly improved by cultivation; but it may be questioned, whether some flowers of fancy, some grateful errors, have not been eradicated with the weeds of prejudice. 2. Since I have escaped from the long perils of my childhood, the serious advice of a physician has seldom been requisite. ‘ The madness of superfluous health’ I have never known; but my tender constitution has been fortified by time, and the inestimable gift of the sound and peaceful slumbers of infancy, may be imputed both to the mind and body. 3. I have already described the merits of my society and situation; but these enjoyments would be tasteless or bitter if their possession were not assured by an annual and adequate supply. According to the scale of Switzerland, I am a rich man; and I am indeed rich, since my income is superior to my expence, and my expence is equal to my wishes. My friend, Lord Sheffield, has kindly relieved me from the cares to which my taste and temper are most adverse: shall I add, that since the failure of my first wishes, I have never entertained any serious thoughts of a matrimonial connection?

“ I am disgusted with the affectation of men of letters, who complain that they have renounced a substance for a shadow; and that their fame (which sometimes is no insupportable weight) affords a poor compensation for envy, censure, and persecution. My own experience, at least, has taught me a very different lesson: twenty happy years have been animated by the labour of my History; and its success has given me a name, a rank, a character, in the world, to which I should not otherwise have been entitled. The freedom of my writings has indeed provoked an implacable tribe; but, as I was safe from the stings, I was soon accustomed to the buzzing of the hornets: my nerves are not tremblingly alive, and my literary temper is so happily framed, that I am less sensible of pain than of pleasure. The rational pride of an author may be offended, rather than flattered, by vague indiscriminate praise; but he cannot, he should not, be indifferent to the fair testimonies of private and public esteem. Even his moral sympathy may be gratified by the idea, that now, in the present hour, he is imparting some degree of amusement or knowledge to his friends in a distant land; that one day his mind will be familiar to the grandchildren of those who are yet unborn. I cannot boast of the friendship or favour of princes; the patronage of English literature has long since been devolved on our booksellers, and the measure of their liberality is the least ambiguous test of our common success. Perhaps the golden mediocrity of my fortune has contributed to fortify my application.

“ The present is a fleeting moment, the past is no more; and our

prospect of futurity is dark and doubtful. This day may *possibly* be my last; but the laws of probability, so true in general, so fallacious in particular, still allow about fifteen years. I shall soon enter into the period which, as the most agreeable of his long life, was selected by the judgment and experience of the sage Fontenelle. His choice is approved by the eloquent historian of nature, who fixes our moral happiness to the mature season in which our passions are supposed to be calmed, our duties fulfilled, our ambition satisfied, our fame and fortune established on a solid basis. In private conversation, that great and amiable man added the weight of his own experience; and this autumnal felicity might be exemplified in the lives of Voltaire, Hume, and many other men of letters. I am far more inclined to embrace than to dispute this comfortable doctrine. I will not suppose any premature decay of the mind or body; but I must reluctantly observe, that two causes, the abbreviation of time, and the failure of hope, will always tinge with a browner shade the evening of life."

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

ON

THE MASONIC JEWELS.

THIS Magazine having been embellished with engravings of the JEWELS of a LODGE, the illustration of those emblems requires attention.

Our JEWELS then, or ornaments, imply, that we try our affections by justice, and our actions by truth, as the workmanship is tried and adjusted by the SQUARE.

We regard our mortal state, whether dignified by title or not, whether opulent or indigent, as being of one nature in the beginning, and of one rank in its close. In sensations, passions, and pleasures, in, infirmities, maladies, and wants, all mankind are on a parallel; nature has given us no superiorities: for real superiority, only wisdom and virtue can constitute. From such maxims we make estimates of our brother, when his calamities call for our counsels, or our aid: the works of *charity* are from sympathetic feelings, and *benevolence* acts upon the LEVEL.

To walk uprightly before heaven and before men, neither inclining to the right nor to the left, is the duty of a mason, neither becoming an enthusiast nor a persecutor in religion, nor bending toward innovation or infidelity. In civil government, firm in our alliance, yet stedfast in our laws, liberties, and constitution. In private life, yielding up every propensity, inclining neither to avarice nor injustice, to malice, nor revenge, to envy, nor contempt, with mankind; but uprightly and with integrity should the mason carry himself toward the world, as the builder raises his column by the perpendicular, or PLUMB.

To rule our affections by justice, and our actions by truth, is to wear a *jewel* which would ornament the bosom of the highest poten-

tate on earth ; human nature has her impulses from desires, which are often too inordinate : love binds with prejudices, and resentment burns with fevers ; contempt renders us incredulous, and covetousness deprives us of every generous or human feeling. To steer the bark of life upon the seas of passions, without quitting the course of rectitude, is one of the highest excellencies to which human nature can be brought, aided by all the powers of philosophy and religion.

Yet merely to act with justice and truth, is not all that man should attempt : for even that excellence would be selfishness : that duty is not relative, but merely proper : it is only touching our own character, and doing nothing for our neighbour : for justice is an indispensable duty in each individual : we were not born for ourselves alone, only to shape our course through life in the tracks of tranquility, and solely to study that which should afford peace to the conscience at home ; but men were made as mutual aids to each other ; no one among us, be he ever so opulent, can subsist without the assistance of his fellow-creatures. Nature's wants are numerous ; our nakedness must be clothed, our hunger satisfied, our maladies visited. Where shall the proud man toil for sustenance, if he stands unaided by his neighbours ? When we look through the varied scene of life, we see our fellow creatures attacked with innumerable calamities ; and were we without compassion, we should exist without one of the finest feelings of the human heart. To love and to approve, are movements in the soul of man which yield him pleasure ; but to pity, gives him heavenly sensations ; and to relieve, is divine. *Charity* there has its existence ; its rise is from the consciousness of our similarity in nature ; the *LEVEL* on which morality was created in the beginning ; its progress is in sympathetic feelings, from the affections of the heart, breathing love towards our brother, coupled with the touch of original estimation in our minds, which proves all our species to be brethren of one existence. Its conclusion is, from comparison producing judgment ; we weigh the necessities of our suffering fellow-creatures by our natural equality, by compassion, our sympathy, and our own abilities, and dispense our gifts from affection. Pity and pain are sisters by sympathy.

To be an upright man, is to add still greater perfections to the *mason's* character : to do justice and to have charity, are excellent steps in human life ; but to act uprightly, gives a superlative degree of excellence ; for in that station we shall become examples in religious, in civil, and in moral conduct. It is not enough that we are neither enthusiasts nor persecutors in religion, neither bending towards innovation or infidelity ; not to be in the passive only, but we should appear in the active character : we should be zealous practisers of, and steadfast members in, religious duties. In civil matters, we should not only submit to, but execute, the laws of our country ; obey all their ordinances, and perform all their precepts ; be faithful to the constitution of the realm, and loyal to our king ; true soldiers in the defence of our liberty, and of his crown and dignity. In morality, it requires of us, not only that we should not err, by injuring,

betraying, or deceiving, but that we should act uprightly in all things, in that station of life, wherein Providence has placed us.

By such tests let the *mason* be proved; and let him testify that his emblematical *jewels* are ensigns only of the inward man: thence he will stand approved before heaven and before men, purchasing honour to his *masonic profession*, and happiness to himself.

S.

ON

PRESENCE OF MIND.

MR. EDITOR,

IT is an observation of a celebrated French writer—"That great men, like great objects, appear best, when viewed at a certain distance:" for, in considering the general beauty of the object before us, the less important parts escape our notice; and in our wonder at the grandeur of the colonade or the porch, we forget the various inferior offices the mansion contains; but which are still necessary to the perfection of the whole. To apply this observation to human life;—Alexander the great did not, perhaps, appear so much of a hero to his valet, who saw him in his moments of privacy, and who knew every little foible and weakness of his nature, as he has since done to the many enthusiastic admirers of his character. Every man we meet is composed of mixed materials; and the love of fame may urge many to deeds of public valour, who in their chamber would tremble at the rustling of the wind, or the buzzing of an insect. Nay so true is this, that I have read (I cannot now recollect where) of a soldier, who, after marching up to a breach exposed to the enemies' fire, with the greatest coolness, stood aghast at his own shadow. In forming our estimate, therefore, of great men, we are not to judge of them altogether, from their public deeds: for vanity, may in them, urge them beyond themselves; nor from their private life: for, among their intimates, they bring themselves down to the level of their company. How then, it may be said, are we to form a true estimate of the human character? To this, I think, it may be replied—from the conduct of a man on occasions, where vanity did not exalt, nor circumstances debase him; where he could only act from—*himself*. Thus in forming my judgment of the hero I have just mentioned (Alexander the Great) I should entertain a higher opinion of him from his prompt and intrepid conduct, in the moment of danger, when his Macedonians had revolted, than I should from his exploits on the plains of Arbela, or the banks of the Indus.

The Arabian writers record of Mahomet, that having promised as a miracle, that a mountain should move to his followers; when it was discovered it remained fixed its base,—“*If, said the Prophet, the mountain will not come to Mabomet, Mabomet will go up to the mountain.*” This instance furnishes a stronger proof of the greatness

of his character, than any other that is recorded of him: his active and ready genius, in a perilous moment, saved himself, and the religion he preached, from destruction.

Both ancient and modern history afford us many examples, from which to judge of men, whose names rank high on the roll of glory. The cool reply of the Athenian to his fellow-citizens, who were eager for his destruction, "*Strike, but bear me!*" saved his country from civil discord and foreign invasion, and immortalized his own name.

I have been led into these reflections by two uncommon instances of presence of mind, which I have lately met with; the one, in a polished European; the other, in an untutored savage. They are both so extraordinary, and I presume so little known, that I must beg you will give them a place in your valuable miscellany:

"Dr. C——, who for many years was the Munro of Paris, and had deservedly obtained great reputation for his treatment of maniacs, one day paid a professional visit to a private mad-house. A certain Nobleman, then confined there, followed him up to the garret, where his patient lay; and when arrived at the last landing, insisted on his jumping over the bannisters from thence to the bottom of the house. To jump was certain death, as the house was six stories high; and resistance was altogether vain: for the madman was six feet two inches high, and strong in proportion, while the doctor was a very little, deformed man, of about four feet six. His presence of mind, however, saved him. "*I could, says he, jump with the greatest ease from hence to the bottom; but that would be nothing wonderful. If you will permit me to descend the stairs, I will jump from the bottom to this place.*" In this the maniac willingly acquiesced; and by that means the doctor preserved his life."

"A Hottentot, who lived in the service of a Dutch merchant at the Cape of Good Hope, had been sent by his master with a letter to one of the colonists, who lived at a distance up the country. On his return, about midway between the place he had been to and Cape Town, he found he was followed by a lion. Now it is a singular fact in the natural history of this animal, that he never attacks his prey, while it is day-light. But he has been frequently known to follow persons, at the distance of a few hundred yards, for many hours, while it was light, and to attack and destroy them, as night came on. When the Hottentot first discovered his danger, it was within a short time of sun-set; he knew, therefore, that he could neither return to the colonist, or arrive at the Cape Town before dark. In this perilous situation, with a famished lion gazing on him, and growling with satisfaction at the prospect of a good repast, he had recourse to an expedient, which might do honour to a more enlightened being. In passing the chain of mountains, which are not far from Cape Town, he took of his clothes, consisting merely of a thin jacket, trowsers, and a cap, and stuck them on a walking stick, so as to appear like something human. He then let himself a few yards down the edge of a precipice, and set the stick with his clothes on

it, just above the edge of it; while he remained on a small shelf of the rock. The king of the forest was deceived: for when it was near dark, he sprung eagerly forward on his supposed prey, and was dashed to pieces by his fall down the steep. We need hardly add, that the Hottentot arrived at Cape Town in safety.

L.

THE
DOG-TAX;
A
FRAGMENT.

“YES, dearest Pompey, I will pay the *tax*!”

Hearken to my motive, ye snarling cynics of the day, who vilify the nature of the *dog*; and, in the time of taxation, rashly call aloud for the halter and the gibbet!—

In the morning, I arise from sleep, and dress myself. Pompey anticipates my purpose. He instantly leaps from off his little snug cushion, near my bed, and fawningly approaches me; he watches my most trivial actions. I prepare to go out. Pompey stares me wistfully in the face, wagging his tail. *May he come with me; or, must he stay behind?* His anxiety and whining impatience are extreme. I take up my sword, my hat, and my cane; whilst Pompey’s sparkling eyes are steadfastly fixed upon mine. I tantalize, and keep him in doubt; every joint, every muscle trembles. At length, I exclaim: “Come on!” and each feature beams with tenfold animation. He darts forward, like a flash of lightning, licking whatever comes in his way, and barking forth to every passenger his triumph and exultation.—But, should the poor fellow meet with a denial, he hangs down his head, and slinks away, betaking himself to some remote corner, to sulk and pine in silence.—

I quit the house. The door is hardly shut, before my unfortunate cur creeps up close to it, listening attentively to hear if, perchance, I be not on the return. He springs up into the hall-window-seat; investigates what passes out of doors; and, then, sadly paces back again, to sit by my old morning-gown, which he licks all over; making, at the same time, piteous moans and lamentations.—Hark! He fancies he has heard my voice!—Ha! he pricks up his dappled ears in haste, and rushes back to the window—fumes—frets—hesitates—*Yes! yes! It is, it is his master, his much-loved master!*—Heavens! how lively are his transports! How insupportable his pleasing emotions! He hurries backward and forward, here and there, to and fro, turning round and round, every minute. Anon, he rustles close about my legs, sheds tears, and affectionately throws his shaggy paws upon my knees and feet.

And now, see the obsequious rogue fetches my slippers, and my morning-gown; he frisks, and bounds again in the air, or blithely

rolls along upon the ground, unable sufficiently to evince his joyous zeal. Every gesture betokens mirthful extravagance; every sound is expressive of empassioned fondness.—

Ah! tell me, ye modern philosophical sages, profound disciples of Descartes, to what happy combination of matter and motion do ye attribute all these wonderful effects? What secret springs, think ye, actuate a machine, thus differently working in exact conformity to varying circumstances, thus with amazing pathos communicating the alternate ebullitions of sensibility? Were Pompey, indeed, a creature destitute of intelligence; were his attachment indeed, produced merely by the force of intricate machinery; could I, when travelling in a foreign land, and ignorant of surrounding probabilities, could I dare to entrust my life to his protection and safeguard, amidst solitary plains and gloomy forests—But now, I carelessly lay me down to rest under the ample foliage of a wide-spreading oak; and sleep most soundly, secure in the tried fidelity of my dog: for, I well know that Pompey will bark amain, in case of surprize, and intrepidly defend me; till fully awakened from repose, I can myself engage in the contest.

Placid, honest Pompey! Inseparable companion in my toils and dangers! Witness both to my unmerited troubles, and to my fortitude under them! Oh! may this hasty tribute of gratitude and affection consecrate thy good qualities; and may future times record thy humble eulogy: *thou continuedest faithful to thy poor master, when intimate friends and acquaintances either betrayed, or forgot, or forsook him; when those, to whom he applied for succour, cruelly united to oppress him.*

“Yes, dearest Pompey, I will pay the tax!”

W. B.

Chelsea, May 12, 1796.

CIVIC ANECDOTE.

A CERTAIN Lord Mayor of London, whose name we conceal, for the honour of that high station, being seated at the Old Bailey in all the form and state of Chief Judge, but forgetting where he was, and the character he had to sustain, called out to one of the attendants, in waiting, whom he personally knew, and in a familiar tone of voice, “*Loades! Loades!*”—“*My Lord*”—“*Put that candle out; it makes such a d——d stink in court, there’s no bearing on’t!*” Soon after, perceiving a man with his hat on, he called again upon *Loades* to turn that *feller out a court*, who had his hat on; but upon the man refusing to comply, he was called by my Lord to *the Bar!* “*Sirrah,*” said his Lordship, “*what is the reason you wear your hat on in court, and would not go out when I ordered you?*” “*Why, my Lord, no more I won’t,*” replied the fellow, “*for this here chap has got my backer box.*” My Lord made the man return it. When the stink was out, the man’s hat in his hand, and the box in his pocket, the court proceeded to *other* business.

EXCERPTA ET COLLECTANEA.

HÆC SPARSA COEGI.

ALEXANDER LAINEZ.

L AINEZ was born at Chimay; where, after various voyages and travels, he had retired. As he was very poor, he led a solitary life for the space of two years; and was then drawn from it by a very singular adventure. Mr. DE FAUTRIER, a man of great knowledge, was Intendant of the Province of Hainault; and, at that time, received an order from Mr. DE LOUVOIS to find out, and arrest, the authors of certain libels then circulated throughout Flanders. Mr. De Fautrier, hearing that there was a man at Chimay, who was always shut up in his house, and employed in writing, went thither with a detachment of fifty men; and found Lainez in a dirty night-gown, surrounded by papers. These were searched; and nothing found in them but pleasant stories, and elegant verses. The perusal of them gave the Intendant great delight; and he told the poet, he was not circumstanced as his merit deserved; and made him an offer of conducting him to his own house, as a more proper abode for him. Lainez told him frankly, he had no other clothes than his night-gown. "Never mind that," replied the Intendant, "go into my coach, and I will take care that you have clothes, and every thing necessary."

When Lainez was at Paris, he hired a room in the environs of St. Germain; a place no person of rank was acquainted with. Whenever he had an invitation to dine, he had a coach to carry him home, if he chose; but his constant orders to the drivers were, to set him down on the *Pont-Neuf*, opposite to the Brazen Horse; from whence he went on foot to his obscure lodgings.

He divided all his time between the table and his books. His monstrous appetite surprized every one he dined with. One day, after having been at table five or six hours, he was asked by a person who saw him sit down again a few minutes after, *if he had not dined? Is my stomach,* replied he, *endowed with memory do you think?* One of his friends seeing him enter the King's library, after a debauch of eight hours, there to remain till bed-time, expressed great astonishment at his conduct. Lainez, seeing his wonder, repeated the following Latin distich, which he composed on the instant:

Riguat Nocte Calix, voluntur Biblia mane:
Cum Phœbo Bacchus dividit Imperium.

Lainez never gave any copies of the verses he recited; and, as they could not be perfectly remembered, he used pleasantly to say—*I shall certainly be obliged to build an Invalid Hospital for all my lame verses.*

Lainez was once told, that an acquaintance of his had composed a volume, on the subject of two short lines, in one of his poems; where, speaking of himself under the character of an agreeable epicurean, he says:—

La Debauche le fuit,
La Volupte le suit.

Debauch flies him,
Voluptuousness follows him.

Finding the use this person had made of these two lines—*He is a comical fellow*, said he: *he has taken a drop of my essence to mix in a gallon of water.*

When Lainez had received the sacrament in his last illness, his confessor ordered a box full of licentious verses to be carried off, while he was asleep. This was not done without a great deal of opposition on the part of the servant, which awakened the poet; who, finding what they were about, cried out—*Thieves! thieves!* and ordered a Commissary to be sent for, to whom he made his complaint, and the box was ordered to be replaced by his bed-side. After this he conversed some time with his priest with great vivacity, and desired to be carried in a chair to the parish of St. Roch, where he died. He had intended to be carried to the plain of Montmartre, to behold the rising sun once more before his death; but in this he was prevented.

CLOWNISH SIMPLICITY.

In a village in France, an old farmer was dying. The son was dispatched to the Cure to confess him. He remained three hours at the Cure's door, knocking very softly. The door was at length opened by the Cure himself, who asked him, why he had not knocked louder? 'I was afraid to waken you,' answered the peasant. 'What is the business, however, you come about?' said the priest. 'My father was dying,' replied he, 'when I left him four hours ago.' 'He is by this time then certainly dead; and I have no occasion to go to him,' said the priest. 'Ob no, Sir,' replied the fellow, 'our neighbour Pierrot promised to keep him alive till you should come.'

BON MOT OF THE DEVIL.

[From Quevedo, a Spanish writer.]

A wretched miser in Salamanca being on his death-bed, his infernal majesty dispatched his messenger Moloch to convey his soul to the shades to meet its due reward as soon as it should leave its mortal frame. Moloch, however, returned very shortly after, and informed his majesty, that he had found the bed of the miser so encompassed with trustees and executors (for the miser was willing all his wealth to charitable purposes) that he could not get near it. 'That is very unfortunate,' said the Devil; 'the wretch has; it is true, been too cunning for us; but his immense fortune, left for CHARITIES, will insure us all the trustees and executors.'

ORIGINALITY IN

DR. ROBERTSON AND MR. GIBBON.

It is a maxim of the wise man, that 'there is nothing new under the sun.' Ingenious and novel as many things appear to us, we frequently find others who have known them before; and the condition of the human mind is such, that it is hardly to be wondered at, that different people should have the same ideas, at very remote periods.

Dr. Robertson, in his History of America, dwells a great deal on an hypothesis, which he thinks to be original, viz. that America was peopled from the *North-West* part of *Tartary*. And Mr. Gibbon, in his Roman History, has decked, in all the beauty and elegance of language, his comparison of the irruptions of the northern nations into Europe, to the waves of the sea impelling each other along. Now both these ideas, applied to nearly the same subjects, are to be met with in a work, published at the beginning of this century, from which the extract that follows is taken:

"We say then, that the world was *first peopled from the East*, as holy writ assures, and history and reason persuades; arts and arms first flourished there, almost innumerable armies appearing in early times; whence repeated swarms or inundations still issuing in the same course with the sun, *thrust on one another* from place to place, and island to island, we mean those less remote from the continent, and which in clear weather might be seen from it, and ships easily get thither: for whatever other authors say, we are sure there was *shipping as early as* Noah; but what's this to those more remote, as *America*, when the compass was not invented; first let that be proved an island, and then we'll dispute further on it; in the mean time we shall take the liberty to suppose on, that 'twas peopled from the *North-West* part of *Tartary*, which, if not a continent, must yet be much nearer to those parts than our side of the world."

"As to the second enquiry, beasts might pass the same way, and perhaps easier than men: if 'tis all land, through *inaccessible snows* and woods; if only some strait and narrow sea separates, nothing more common than for sailors, in that part of the world, to find great numbers of living beasts floating upon the ice; and this way, as well as others, *wild beasts* might be driven over, or be there without so much trouble, if we admit this following hypothesis, wherein I can foresee no absurdity. That there were *islands before the flood* can't be proved by history or reason: Let's suppose, therefore, there were none, but some actually made by its fury and violence; other parts of the continent, only disposed or prepared for islands, continuing joined by a very small *isthmus*; while that remained, there was a bridge large enough for the beasts to go over, which being in process of time worn away, whereof tradition, observation, and history give us instances, those *peninsulas* were thereby transformed into compleat islands."

SOME ANECDOTES OF
HENRY PRINCE OF WALES,

ELDEST SON OF KING JAMES THE FIRST.

[From Doctor Birch's Life of that Prince, published in March 1760.]

THIS Prince (says the Doctor) was of a comely stature, about five feet eight inches, of a strong, strait, well-made body, with shoulders somewhat broad, and a small waist; of an amiable and majestic countenance; his hair was of an auburn colour; he was long visaged, and had a broad forehead, a piercing eye, and a most gracious smile, but a terrible frown.—

He was (adds the Doctor) courteous, loving, and affable; naturally modest, and even shame-faced; most patient, and slow to anger*. He was merciful to offenders, after a little punishment to make them sensible of their faults. His sentiments of piety (continues the writer) were strong and habitual, and his great aversion to swearing, is evident from the following anecdote:—His Highness being once hunting the stag, it happened that the stag, being spent, crossed the road, where a butcher and his dog were travelling. The dog killed the stag, which was so large that the butcher could not carry it away; when the huntsmen and attendants came up, they expressed great resentment, and endeavoured to incense the Prince against the butcher. But the Prince answered coolly: "If the dog killed the stag, how could the butcher help it." They replied, "that if his father had been so served, he would have sworn intolerably." "Away," rejoined the Prince, "all the pleasure in the world is not worth an oath."

His courage and intrepidity shewed themselves from his earliest years.—Being asked, when very young, what instrument of music he liked best, he answered "a trumpet;" in the sound of which, and of drums, and of small and great pieces of ordnance, shot off near him, he took great delight. He was scarce seven years of age when a boy of good courage, and almost a year older, falling by accident to blows with him, and exerting his whole strength, his Highness not only had the superiority in the contest, but loved his antagonist the better ever after for his spirit.—While a child, he wept much

* Perhaps this character will not be found altogether consistent with the following anecdote, which the author has related concerning his Highness's behaviour on the accusation of Mr. Pett, his favourite servant.—Mr. Pett having been unjustly accused, and his innocence made clear before the king, who heard the cause in person, attended by the prince, his highness on his servant's being cleared, expressed his resentment against the accusers, by calling out in a low voice, "Where be now these perjured fellows, who dare thus to abuse his majesty by false informations! Do they not worthily deserve the gallows!" This impetuous resentment which his highness, who was then but fifteen years old, shewed in the presence of his royal father, is a proof, that he was not altogether so patient and slow to anger as the above character represents him.

less than others of his age. Having at one time severely bruised his hands by a fall, which bled very much, yet the pain only drew a few drops from his eyes: he rose up with a smile, and dissembled what he suffered.—Being asked whether he was as fond of hunting as his father, he answered, “Yes; but there is another kind of hunting which I love better.” Being asked again what that was, replied, “The hunting of thieves and rebels with brave men and horses;” then turning to one of his pages descended of Highland parents, who were reported to have been thieves, he added, “and such thieves as I take shall be hanged, the great ones higher than the rest; and you, sirrah, if you prove a thief, highest of all.”—He was scarcely ten years of age, when being desirous to mount a horse of prodigious mettle, and refusing the assistance of his attendants, who thought it too hazardous an undertaking, he mounted him from the side of a bank, and spurred the animal to a full gallop, in spite of the remonstrances of those who stood by; and at last having thoroughly exercised the horse, brought him in a gentle pace back, and, dismounting, said to them, “How long shall I continue to be a child in your opinion.”—Such of our readers, as are desirous of obtaining other anecdotes of this young Prince, may peruse the Doctor’s history of the royal youth, as published in 1760. To relate any more of them might be deemed prolix, and not very entertaining.

M.

SOME PARTICULARS NOT GENERALLY KNOWN RESPECTING MONSIEUR BAILLY.

LATE MAYOR OF PARIS.

A PAMPHLET has been published at Paris, and is much sought after; it is entitled *Memoires d'un Detenu, pour servir a l'histoire de la Tyranni de Robespierre*. (Memoirs of a prisoner, serving as additional proofs of the tyranny of Robespierre.) That pamphlet is said to contain the most curious particulars about some personages famous in the history of the Revolution, and whom different factions led to the scaffold. We shall quote only the following passage concerning the unfortunate BAILLY, the first Mayor of Paris.

“Towards the same period was brought in a companion to our sufferings, Bailly, the man who was the happiest in former honours, and whose agony was now the greatest. He suffered all the ferocity of the rabble, whose idol he had been, and was basely abandoned by the people, who so highly esteemed him. He died in the midst of ignominy: his face was spit on; the *drapeau rouge* was burnt before his face; men, transported with fury, went by him to strike him, in spite of the executioners, who themselves shuddered at so many outrages; he was covered with dirt; he remained three hours at the place of execution, and his scaffold was erected on a heap of filth. A cold rain that poured down, added still to the horror of his situation.

His hands tied behind his back, he sometimes demanded when would be the end of so many hardships? but these words were uttered with a calmness worthy of one of the first philosophers of Europe. He answered to one, who said to him, 'Thou tremblest; Bailly,'—'My friend, it is from the cold.'

"If we were asked, how we were so well informed, let it be known that it was by the channel of the executioner, who, during the whole year, has not been a single day, without being called for in our execrable residence, and who related to our gaolers those shocking, but wonderful circumstances.

"Were I to abandon myself to the painful task of naming individually all the interesting beings sacrificed in so long a butchery, to speak in due terms of their virtues and courage, I should pile volumes on volumes. I confine myself to say, that death was become a trivial thing, and that Socrates himself, in the midst of 4000 persons of every age and sex, that I have seen murdered in less than a year, could not have surpassed them, except by his eloquence and his sublime speeches on the immortality of the soul."

In addition to these particulars, we find the following in another Paper; and as any thing relative to a man who fills so great a place as Bailly, either in the literary or in the political world, cannot but be interesting and gratifying to our readers, we give them without apology.

"Bailly wrote in his dungeon a *Memoire Justificatif* on all the facts he was indicted for, and especially on the affair of the Champ de Mars. That memoir was printed under the modest title of, *Bailly to his Fellow-citizens*; but it is very little known: for though it was written with the greatest moderation, and inculpated nobody, and was only confined to the defence of a single accused person, no bookseller or hawker dared to sell it. This is not one of the least striking features of the universal oppression under which a whole people groaned, who spoke of nothing but of liberty.

"Bailly communicated his Memorial to some of the companions of his captivity; and especially to a man of great sense, who, by the distinguished talents, and the wise principles he had displayed in one of our National Assemblies, deserved well to be included in the *Grande Conspiration* plotted by Robespierre against all kinds of merit.

"The friend of Bailly was strongly impressed with the evidence of the proofs that attested his innocence—'if your Memorial is perused,' said he, 'it is impossible they should condemn you.' 'They will not read it,' answered Bailly, 'and were they, they no less would condemn me. They wish to have my head; they shall have it; and I think,' he added, 'that such is their animosity, that they will change the nature of my punishment; they will not deem the ordinary execution cruel enough.' Then, after a moment of reflection, he pursued, 'That thought hangs heavy upon my heart, for the sake of the unfortunate victims who will fall after me, for the death by the guillotine is a very mild one.'"

REVIEW

OF

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

The Paradise of Taste. By Alexander Thomson, Esq. author of *Whist, a Poem.* Cadell and Davies. 1796. 4to. Pages 124. Price 6s.

NEVER were *disjecti membra poetæ* more glaringly exhibited than in this motley composition. Avowedly written in defiance of established authorities, it maintains a claim to originality by extravagant methods; and this, at least, is certain, that the daring independence asserted in Mr. T.'s preface, is preserved with unabating spirit throughout his poem. To intimate the writer's age, were needless; abundant marks of youth are discoverable: felicity of expression, however, bursts forth occasionally, rolling along such majestic floods of imagery, that, overwhelmed with the unexpected torrent, criticism becomes lost in admiration.

The work being *unique*, we shall grant unusual latitude to its review. It divides itself into seven Cantos, viz. the *Library*; *Vision*; *Garden of Beauty*; *Vale of Pity*; *House of Ridicule*; *Mountain of Sublimity*; and *Island of Fancy*. We would here gladly close our remarks; with advising Mr. T. to ride Pegasus with shorter reins in future; but ours is a sacred office: we must not deal merely in loose, general observation. Examples are wanting to corroborate applause and censure.

We object to a *wanton change of versification* in a *continued poem*. Poor, indeed, is the performance that requires stage-trick to fix attention. The profit and loss of such process are lamentably disproportionate. We are surprized—we expect—we examine—we are disappointed. Irregularity and variety are *not* synonymous.—Our strictures in this respect are pointed; because attempts are made at justification.

The personification, Canto II. page 19, forcibly reminds us of Cowley's *Gabriel*. Johnson's celebrated sarcasm upon that description, is equally applicable to the portrait of *Taste**. The celestial employments of Mr. T.'s bards are, for the most part, insipid and ridiculous. Ovid, Ariosto, and Spenser, are huddled together upon a *joint-stool*; whilst Virgil and Pope sit in chairs, *to hear birds sing*. Euripides and Otway skulk *perdus* in a cave. Fontaine either apes *Narcissus* of old, or makes eddies in the water. Racine and Rowe turn galley-slaves. Richardson lolls on a coffin. Statius and Young are puny sprites *squatting on the apex of a pyramid*. Fielding tipples *ale*, Moliere *Champaine*, Cervantes *Madeira*; they then *mix* their beverage. Lucian and Swift gobble down beef-steaks. Plautus, Aristophanes, and Rabelais, bespatter themselves with *porridge*. Sterne rests propped up by two tombs, like a maudlin bacchanal—a leer in one eye, and a tear in the other. In fine, Shakespeare (the author's favourite) stands perched upon a cragged rock, "*like eagle chained*," and carelessly vibrates a vast club, too ponderous for other hands.

Canto VII. page 117, presents a passage that we strove in vain to understand:

" ————there of dazzling moons an army bright
 " Still broke the silence of the midnight air,
 " With many-shap'd and many-colour'd light,
 " With azure beams and purple splendors rare,
 " And many an oval green and many a scarlet square."

* See Samuel Johnson's *Lives of the Poets*, Vol. I. page 84.

Were we to transcribe the stanza that concludes the piece, we are convinced Mr. T. would never forgive our malignity.

But, of reproof enough. Let us resume the tone of panegyric. The description of Ossian is pathetic; and the characters of Lucan and Corneille highly appropriate: The close—

“ And stern Horatius, whose heroic mind
 “ Wish'd that his son had rais'd the shield of death
 “ To save his honour——”

—is sublime. Plato, Demosthenes, and Longinus; Pindar, Dryden, and Gray; Homer also, and Milton; are well depicted, The contrast between the last is grand:

“ ——Both, as they sate,
 “ Appear'd of equal size; but I could well
 “ Perceive, delighted, that when each uprear'd
 “ His mighty stature, Britain's giant son
 “ Would proudly rise, and leave the Greek below.”

We shall not particularize more minute blemishes and graces:—Mr. Thompson has certainly, with all his defects, very strong claims to approbation; and the present poem is a strong earnest of what we may expect from his muse. His originality ranks him very high; and his beauties, as well as his faults are all his *own*. He has boldly soared an unknown flight, and though the sun may have *dazzled*, it has not *blinded* him.

An Apology for the Bible, in a Series of Letters, addressed to Thomas Paine, &c. By R. Watson, D. D. F. R. S. Lord Bishop of Landaff, and Regius Professor of Divinity in the university of Cambridge. 385 Pages. Price 4s.

THIS is a masterly performance; and were alone sufficient to place its writer in the fairest light, independent of his other celebrated tracts. The misguided object of his censure is well known. “Landaff's good bishop” reproves with gentleness, and chastises with a smile. Partial extracts would but faintly demonstrate the splendid talents, the critical acumen, the caustic raillery, the extensive erudition, the sweet benevolence, the Christian charity, which alternately enrich, whilst they diversify, the *Apology*.

Pages 207, 208, 209, present a fine specimen of Dr. W.'s powers of imagination. To follow the excursive flight of metaphor with ardour, to soar sublimely above it, and to pounce with resistless force upon the prey, is one of the most arduous efforts of genius. Paine's allusion is apposite; his reverend adversary's amplification is replete with awful grandeur.

We shall rejoice to peruse a translation of this treatise. The *French* clergy may gloriously vindicate their character from obloquy, by uniting in the accurate selection of similar works, and clothing them in such a garb as shall attract notice from their deluded countrymen.

Lastly, we recommend the adoption of worse paper, and of an inferior type; that, if possible, the antidote may be as widely disseminated as the corrosive poison against which it is directed. *Four shillings* is, indeed, too high a price: it constitutes full half the weekly stipend of many thousands in that industrious portion of our fellow-creatures, who

“ Live but to labour, labouring but to live!”

who, yet, possess good understandings, and eagerly long to ascertain sound principles of morality and religion.

Three Dialogues on the Amusements of Clergymen. London, B. and J. White, Fleet-Street, 1796, 12mo. Pages 224. Price 3s. 6d.

THIS elegant tract, we can assure our readers, is written by Mr. Wilberforce, M. P. for Yorkshire; and adds fresh laurels to the ample wreath that encircles the brow of our philanthropist. It is composed in a strain of colloquial diction, admirably adapted to keep attention awake; whether we consider the importance of its doctrines, in general, or the more particular delightful sentiments of benevolence it inculcates. We will not press the many advantages resulting from the introduction of *dialogues*. Spence, in his preface to *Polymetis*, has fully anticipated us.

Mr. W's speakers are *Dr. Josiah Frampton*, and *Dr. Edward Stillingfleet*, dean of *St. Pauls*: the latter performs the office of mentor to his young friend, then curate of *Wroxal* in *Warwickshire*. The scene is laid in *Sir Roger Burgoin's* hospitable mansion, where the good dean is supposed to be confined with the gout.

Although no frivolous merriment intervenes, delicate touches of good-natured raillery occasionally appear, which, while they play round the imagination, cannot fail, we trust, to affect and to amend the heart. The limits of our publication permit us not largely to expatiate, even in the fair fields of panegyric: but, to review the productions of cotermporaries, is too often so invidious a task, that we are most happy whenever we can conscientiously apply "*the amarantbine end of the sceptre*." [See *Rambler*, No. 3.] Might we venture to suggest an improvement, it would be the insertion of fixed rules for the economy of a married clergyman's family; together with temperate strictures upon the sadly dependent state of the inferior clergy. SLOW RISES WORTH BY POVERTY DEPREST!

An Inquiry into the authenticity of certain Papers and Instruments, attributed to Shakespeare, in a Letter addressed to the Right Honourable James, Earl of Charlemont. By *Edmond Malone, Esq.* 8vo. Pages 424. Price 7s. Cadell and Davies.

(CONTINUED.)

IN our last Month's Review, we made some cursory observations on the two first of Mr. Malone's objections to the authenticity of the MSS. produced by Mr. Ireland. We shall now proceed to the consideration of the two that remain.

The first of these is to "the dates given, or deducible by inference." One of the grand points on which Mr. Malone seems to rest here, is the mention of the *Globe Theatre*, when it did not exist; and the proofs of its non-existence are drawn from—1st. Its being mentioned in some authorities (which are quoted) as the "*New Play-house*," in the year following that in which it is mentioned in the MSS. and—2dly. On the *Globe Theatre* not being mentioned in several accounts and documents of the theatrical affairs, of that period in which the MSS. state it to have been the property of Shakespeare. Now that a theatre, which had existed many years, might be called the "*New Play-house*," is not only possible, but probable. In the beginning of this century, we had for thirty years the "*New Theatre, in Lincolns Inn fields*;" and more recently we have had the "*New Theatre royal, Covent Garden*," and the "*New Theatre royal, Drury Lane*;" yet we cannot deny that they are both very old Houses. Nay a place that has once been called *NEW*, always continues to be called so: thus we have the "*New Church, in the Strand*," the *New Street, Covent Garden*, and the *New Exchange in the Strand*. As to the second point, it is a very fair presumption; but it can only become

positive proof by the silence of the advocates for the authenticity of the papers in question. There is a very long investigation of several other dates "deducible by inference;" more particularly of one, which arises from the mention of the Earl of Leicester in the letter of Queen Elizabeth; but our limits will not allow us to follow Mr. M. in the diffuse investigation.

The *fourth* and *last* objection is "the dissimilitude of the hand-writing to the real writing of the person to whom it is ascribed." In support of this objection *Fac similes* of the hand-writings of Queen Elizabeth, Lord Southampton, John Heminges, &c. &c. are produced. To make any observations on these is almost unnecessary, since ocular demonstration alone can be satisfactory. We cannot, however, but think, that the objection to the hand-writing has not all the force Mr. M. wishes it to have: for it is perhaps not too bold an assertion to say—that *there is not a man existing, who would be positive of his own for 7 or 10 years* together. The variation or dissimilitude of hand-writing is so great, from various accidental circumstances. Besides that some of the *Fac similes* produced in the "Inquiry," seem to stand as much in need of proof, as those produced by Mr. Ireland. We wish not to espouse either one side or the other; we are neither over *credulous*, nor altogether *infidels*; but we are quite of opinion that the hand-writing of Elizabeth, as given by Mr. Ireland, does not vary more from that given by Mr. Malone, than the difference of a good, or bad, pen might occasion.

We have thus cursorily considered the principal objections of Mr. Malone to the authenticity of the MSS. in Mr. Ireland's possession; and upon fairly summing-up the evidence on both sides, we give, as our decided opinion—that the arguments contained in the Enquiry, however ingenious, are not conclusive; and that it is only the silence of Mr. Ireland, and his friends, that can make them so.

When Dr. Farmer wrote his "Essay on the learning of Shakespeare," a great critic of that time upon reading it, observed, "that whatever opinions might have before existed on the subject, the point was then put beyond all doubt, and settled for ever." We could almost wish to say the same of the present performance, but truth will not let us. Perhaps, hereafter, the learned doctor just mentioned, who is still in the full vigour of intellect, may favour the world with his thoughts on this mysterious subject.

The style of Mr. Malone's book, taken altogether, is but indifferent: he affects to be *elegant*, and is *puerile*. Politics and criticism are things *generically* different; yet politics are here dragged in with all the rage and fire of Edmund Burke; and Mr. M. is as violent against the rulers in France, as against the supposed forgers of the MSS. We could wish he had pursued his inquiry with more temper and less egotism: he is constantly telling us of the "bungling impostors" and of "the hundred authentic documents in his possession, from which he is composing his life of Shakespeare." This somewhat resembles Mr. Sylvester Daggerwood in the farce, who, on every occasion, informs us that "*his benefit is fixed for such a day*." We know not whether Mr. M. be an Irishman or not; but he is very fond of bulls; thus we have frequent doubts—"whether any one of the *decisive* proofs of forgery which have been produced, are *valid*." (Page 346) and many other doubts equally *rational*. We cannot close our observations without a smile at the folly of Mr. Malone in introducing himself unasked among the celestials. (Pages 356, 357.) He seems to think a seat on Parnassus as easy to be obtained, as a seat in the pit of Drury-lane Theatre. It has been very frequent with poets to introduce their patrons, and heroes, among the Gods; but we believe Mr. Malone to be the first critic, poet, or other person, who has written his own apotheosis, and introduced himself there. This is a very curious proof of his modesty, and of that regard for strict propriety, which he so strongly recommends.

An Essay on the Maranta, or Indian Arrow-root. By Thomas Ryder, 8vo. Pages —. Price 1s. Bell, Oxford Street.

THE author of this pamphlet is one of the many speculators, who, in the present time of scarcity, comes forward to propose his plan for the public relief. This plan relates to the making of Starch from a root called the "Maranta," which grows in Jamaica. This wonderful secret it seems was communicated to Mr. R. in the course of his business, as an apothecary. He states, that he has received a letter of thanks from the Society in the Adelpfi for his communications relative to it; and after some flowery and tedious digressions on the *Pyramids of Egypt*, and *Perry's Wet Docks, at Blackwall*, concludes by informing us, that the starch prepared from the Arrow Root, is worth about 15d. per lb. in Jamaica, which would, of course, be doubled before it could be sold in England, by duty, freight, profits of the merchants, &c.; but that nevertheless it would be cheaper and better than English made starch, which, on the average of the last seven years, has not been more than ten pence per lb. *Risum teneatis! This is an age of speculation indeed!*

Bagatelles of original and translated Poetry. By Weedon Butler, B.A. 8vo. Price 3s. Cadell and Davies.

MR. BUTLER comes before the world partly as an original writer, partly as an editor. We cannot from his book, however, distinguish the Bagatelles he has written, from those he has edited. The collection consists of every lesser species of composition; many of them possessing *great merit*, some of them below *mediocrity*. We sometimes travel over a few pages of waste, and are suddenly surprised at the beauty of the landscape that rises before us; and at other times, after passing a rich garden, we are almost prevented from proceeding by a ditch, or a swamp, that threatens to arrest our progress. Most of these trifles we think are the efforts of very young men; there is nevertheless strong marks of genius; and we doubt not that they may continue successfully and improve.

A Reply to the Letter of Edmund Burke, Esq. to a noble Lord. By Gilbert Wakefield, B. A. late Fellow of Jesus College, Cambridge. 8vo. Pages 52. Price 2s. Kearsley.

GILBERT WAKEFIELD, who is too good a man himself to let vice pass without a lash, and too blunt to deck his opinions in any but a plain garb, is one among the many who have attacked Mr. Burke and his pension. The present pamphlet has a great deal of merit; the arguments are clear, satisfactory, and convincing; and we are of opinion that Mr. Burke will have much trouble to answer them. The quotations are in general well chosen, and well applied. The language is throughout *forcible* and so etimes *elegant*; and we believe what the writer says, because he appears to be always in *earnest*, and to wish to investigate not words, but facts.

LIST OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

DIVINITY.

AN Essay on the Biblical Hebrew.
By Gerald Fitzgerald, D. D. 8vo.
Price 6s. *Robinsons.*

An Essay on the Necessity of Revealed Religion. 8vo. Price 2s. 6d.
Rivingtons.

A Sermon preached at Saint Paul's Church, May 7, 1796. By C. F. Lazard, D.D. F.R.S. F.A.S. 8vo. Price 1s. *Rivingtons.*

LAW.

A Treatise by Lord Chief Justice Hale, entitled "the Jurisdiction of the Lords' House, or Parliament considered according to ancient records," including a Preface. By Francis Hargrave, Esq. 4to. Price 1l. 7s. *Cadell and Davies.*

PHYSIC.

Chemyco---Physiological Observations on Plants. By M. Von Uslar. 8vo. Price 3s. 6d. *Robinsons.*

HISTORY and TRAVELS.

Collections for the History of Hampshire, and the Bishopric of Winchester. By the Rev. Richard Warner. 6 vol. 4to. Price 5l. 5s. *Faulder.*

POETRY.

Specimens of Arabian Poetry. By J. D. Carlyle, B.D. F.R.S.E. 4to. Price 16s. *Payne.*

Sketches in verse, with prose illustrations. 8vo. Price 4s. *Cadell and Davies.*

The Lamentation of a Dog on the Tax, with Notes. By Scriblerus Secundus. 8vo. Price 1s. *Symonds.*

The Dog Tax, in verse. 4to. Price 1s. *Low.*

Leonore, a Tale. By H. J. Pye. 4to. Price 1s. 6d. *Low.*

Bagatelles of original and translated Poetry. By Weedon Butler, B.A. 8vo. Price 3s. *Cadell and Davies.*

NOVELS.

Consequences, or Adventures of Raxhall Castle. By a Gentleman. 12mo. Price 6s. *Boosey.*

Hannah Hewit. By Mr. Dibdin. 12mo. 2 vol. *Dibdin.*

DRAMATIC.

The Smugglers, a Musical Drama. By Samuel Birch. Price 1s. *Dilly.*

The Dramatic works of Shakespeare. By James Rann, A. M. 6 vol. 8vo. Price 2l. 2s. *Rivingtons.*

MISCELLANEOUS.

Geographical Extracts. By John Payne. 8vo. Price 8s. *Robinsons.*

The ancient Bee Master's Farewell. By John Keys. 8vo. Price 3s. 6d. *Robinsons.*

Dialogues on the Amusements of Clergymen. 8vo. Price 3s. 6d. *White.*

A General and Introductory View of Professor Kant's Principles concerning Man, the World, and the Deity. By F. A. Nitsch. 8vo. Price 5s. *Downes.*

Anecdotes of some distinguished persons, chiefly of the present and two preceding centuries. Vol. IV. 8vo. Price 8s. *Cadell and Davies.*

A Treatise on the Discipline of the Light Cavalry. By Captain L. Neville. 8vo. Price 4s. *Egerton.*

Letters to Archdeacon Paley, containing some strictures on his Moral and Political Philosophy. 8vo. Price 3s. *Johnson.*

PAMPHLETS.

Dispassionate Observations on the Death and Succession to the late Nabob of Arcot and the Carnatic. 8vo. Price 1s. *Stockdale.*

The substance of a Speech made by Lord Auckland on the 2d. of May, 1796. 8vo. Price 1s. *Walter.*

Observations on the Expediency of making Bye-Laws to prevent the Sale of the Commands of East India Ships. By Richard Twining. 8vo. Price 1s. *Cadell and Davies.*

An Examination of Jones's English System of Book-keeping. By James Mill. 4to. Price 2s. 6d. *Fernor and Hood.*

BRITISH PARLIAMENT.

THE SIXTH SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

MONDAY, April 25, 1796.

RECEIVED several private Bills from the Commons, which were read, and laid upon the Table.

Tuesday 26. The Assent was given by Commission to fifty-five private and public Bills. The Commissioners were the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor, and Lord Chief Justice.

Marquis of LANSDOWNE said, that as the majority of the Papers he had moved for were now on the Table, and the rest, as he understood, in forwardness, he would move that their Lordships be summoned for Mondy next.---Ordered.

DEBTOR AND CREDITOR BILL.

The Order of the Day being read for the second reading of this Bill,

Earl MOIRA introduced the business with a few general remarks, and stating the difference between the present and a former Bill which he had submitted to the House upon the same subject.

The Lord CHANCELLOR left the Woolsack, in order to oppose the Bill in its present Stage, and prevent its going farther. He disliked the Bill in general, on the principle of Innovation, and the danger of Political Experiment. In particular he objected to a clause intended to empower Justices of the Peace, in certain cases, to arbitrate between the Debtor and Creditor; a power very different from any entrusted with the Legal Judges.

Lord MOIRA replied to the Noble Lord, that if the Bill were suffered to go into a Committee, he doubted not but the wisdom of the House would remedy any objectionable clauses; and as to the principle of the Bill, so far from being founded on doubtful speculation, he was willing to rest its fate on their experience of the insufficiency of the present code of Laws; which had obliged the House repeatedly to pass Acts of Insolvency, and other Bills of temporary relief.---He then stated several instances, in support of the necessity of his proposed Bill; and particularly observed, that as it was intended only to be temporary in its duration, no danger could result from the experiment, except it were in some cases to lessen the extent of Credit, which he rather considered as an advantage, than otherwise, to the community. The plea of Innovation his Lordship endeavoured to render ridiculous, by mentioning that, some years since, it was the custom in Madrid for the inhabitants to deposit all their filth and ordure in the streets, and that when a proposal was first made to remedy this by the erection of Privies and Drains, the same cry of Innovation was raised against it; and some persons went so far as to assert, that the exhalation of this filth was necessary to correct the sharpness of their air.

Lord THURLOW said, if the Bill had gone to the *Cessio Bonorum* [the surrender of the Prisoner's property] and the reform of Prisons, it would have met with his concurrence and support; for he thought it extremely unjust, that a fraudulent Debtor should possess a suit of rooms, and enjoy the comforts of a domestic man. But to the present Bill his Lordship objected *in toto*, because he thought it a dangerous innovation, that would tend to the benefit of nineteen fraudulent Debtors, for the relief of one who might deserve commiseration.

Lord KENYON, beside disapproving the general principle of the Bill, thought its provisions impracticable, because he saw no method by which a Magistrate could judge of the honesty of a Debtor, but by his looks; and unjust, because, in some cases, it would relieve a Prisoner from fines imposed by Courts as the punishment of crime.

Lord MOIRA replied, and the House divided---Contents 2---Non Contents 9.

Wednesday 27. Heard Counsel on a Scots Appeal, Cameron v. Cameron.

The Bills on the Table were read in their different stages.

Thursday 28. The Lord CHANCELLOR came soon after five, and after the usual accounts being received from the East India House, the House Adjourned.

Friday 29. Received the Loan Bill, and several others, from the Commons. Read the Bills on the table and adjourned till Monday.

Monday, May 2. The order of the Day being read, that the Lords be summoned, the Marquis of Lansdown rose in consequence of a notice which he had given. His Lordship went at great length into the report of the Commissioners appointed to examine into the public accounts, and enumerated a great variety of places held by patent and other grants from the Crown, which his Lordship contended ought to be greatly diminished in number, the savings of which would benefit the public 200,000*l.* a year. His Lordship concluded with a long motion, in substance as follows:

“That the House saw with great regret the several proposed plans of commercial reform, as stated in the Report of the Committee for Enquiry into the Taxes, and that during the time of a war, so destructive and bloody as the present, such oeconomic reform was called for.”

A debate then ensued, after which the House divided, for the motion 12, against it 104.

Wednesday 4. Heard counsel on a cause wherein the Right Hon. Lord Viscount Dudley and Ward was appellant, and Anna Maria Ward and others were respondents. After which their Lordships ordered the decree to be affirmed, and that it be referred to the Master to whom the cause was originally referred, to tax the costs of all the parties in the same manner as if the cause was determined by the decree, &c.

Friday 13. The Earl of Lauderdale made his promised motion on the Finances of the Country, which after a debate of considerable length, was got rid of by Lord Hawkesbury's successfully moving the previous question.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MONDAY, April 25, 1796.

THE Bank Annuity Bill read a first time.

MR. AMYATT brought up a Bill for Regulating the Wages of Paper-Manufacturers, which was read a first time; as were also the Billingsgate Market, Croydon Road, Bromley Inclosure, and CHRISTIE'S Divorce Bills.

Alderman ANDERSON moved leave for a Bill for the Relief of the Coal-heavers on the Thames.---Granted.

The Curate's Maintenance Bill was read a second time and committed.

Account of Money issued for Temporary Barracks presented, and ordered to be printed.

The Hay and Straw Bill reported. Ordered to be printed.

The SPEAKER informed the House that an Index to the last Eleven Years Journals of the House was finished, and a Committee was appointed to examine it.

POWELL'S Estate, Fawke's Estate, Grimsby Harbour, Eveton Drainage, and Hampton Poyle Inclosure Bills read a third time and passed.

MR. ROSE presented the Account of Monies paid to American Sufferers.---Ordered to lie on the Table.

MR. ROSE stated an error of the Clerk in inserting a Clause in the Wine Duty Bill without authority, and moved for leave to withdraw it, and bring in a new one.---Agreed to.

SMALL DEBTS BILL.---Alderman LUSHINGTON moved the third Reading of the Bill for the Recovery of Small Debts in the City of London.

MR. JEKYLL opposed the principle of the Bill, as infringing on the Rights of Trial by Jury in Debts not exceeding 5*l.* and thought there was less occasion for such a measure in the City of London, than in most other parts of the kingdom. He therefore moved to postpone the Bill for three months.

Mr. M. ROBINSON opposed the Bill on the same grounds.

Mr. PITT felt the importance of the Bill, and wished some plan could be devised for trying causes of this description, and at the same time retaining Juries, and diminishing the delay and expence of the proceedings: he therefore recommended to delay the Bill till another Session.

Alderman LUSHINGTON acquiesced, and the Bill was postponed for three months.

DOG TAX.----Mr. DENT moved the Commitment of the Dog Tax Bill.

Mr. SHERIDAN went through the Bill, and reprobated the several clauses with his usual irony and wit, and with no small severity. The encouragement the Bill gave to the massacre of dogs, Mr. Sheridan considered as very ill-timed. It was a very unhandsome compliment to the military part of the species, which the Hon. Gentleman had defended with great earnestness on a former occasion. These animals had distinguished themselves in the present glorious war, in the maintenance of religious order, and civilized society, in our West-India Islands! To tax them would be shocking ingratitude to such worthy allies! He believed the Hon. Gentleman did not mean to tax *Puppies*. Nothing was to be paid till the animal was of the age of-----[*blank.*] How was this blank to be filled up? Were the Parish-Officers to attend all the bitches when they pupped, and keep a register of the births? Mr. Sheridan argued more seriously on the tendency of the Bill to distress the poor Cottager, and harden the feelings of the lower classes; and concluded, that if any tax of this nature were to take place, he could wish it to be confined to a particular description of persons.

Mr. WYNDHAM was against the Bill, though he disapproved the manner in which the last Gentleman had treated the subject. He thought if *Acteon* himself were revived, he could not shew a greater dislike to dogs than the Mover of this Bill. He disliked the idea of taxing the poor Cottager for the harmless luxury of keeping a dog; nor could he approve of the hint that had been suggested, that a poor man should receive no relief from his parish till he had hanged his dog.

Mr. PENTON agreed with Mr. Wyndham, and thought the Bill inhuman.

Mr. BUXTON supported the Bill, and objected to the exemption of Cottagers from the Tax, as he thought scarce any truly industrious poor man would keep a dog. He vindicated the humanity of the Bill, as tending to the preservation of mankind.

Mr. DENT insisted much on the alarming increase of the Hydrophobia, of late years. He also complained of Mr. Sheridan's wit, and endeavoured to answer him in his own way.

Mr. COURTENAY opposed the Bill in a manner similar to Mr. Sheridan, and endeavoured to ridicule Mr. Dent as an enemy both to *Dogs* and *Wit*. He told a ludicrous story of the Turn-spit-Dogs of Bath, which some years since roasted all the dinners of the inhabitants; and concluded with moving an adjournment of the Bill for three months.

Mr. PITT never was for an indiscriminate tax, and now thought it would be better to exempt the poor altogether, except in two cases:---where a Cottager kept more than one dog, or a dog of a particular kind, as a Pointer, Greyhound, &c. As to taxing the Proprietors of dogs having assessed houses, he was an earnest friend to the measure, and meant to move in the Committee of Ways and Means, a tax of 3s. for one dog, and 5s. for more.

Sir R. SALUSBURY spoke for the Bill, and Mr. LECHMERE against it. Mr. DENT explained, and on Mr. Sheridan's Motion the Bill was postponed for three months.

ARMY EXTRAORDINARIES.----Mr. GREY moved for an account of all Sums issued from October 29, 1795, to April 5, 1796. Ordered.

WESTMINSTER POLICE BILL.----The House in a Committee went through this Bill, and the Blank for limiting the time of the Magistrates.

SUPPLY.----The House in a Committee voted 885,673l. 19s. 10d. for the Extraordinaries of the Army, unprovided for by Parliament, from November 15, to December 24, 1795. Also 210,194l. 15s. 4d. for the Extraordinaries of the Ordnance in the same Interval.

INDIA BUDGET.----Mr. DUNDAS moved that the several Accounts submitted relative to the East India affairs be referred to a Committee of the whole House on Thursday se'nnight.---Ordered.

Tuesday 25. The **SPEAKER** having returned from attending the Royal Commission in the House of Peers, on a motion of Mr. **CANNING**, it was agreed, to allow 1000*l.* per annum to be divided between the Clerks in the Secretary of State's Office, in case the new regulations should take place with respect to the conveyance by Post, of the Votes of Parliament and Newspapers, by which their perquisites would be injured to that amount, or more.

The Wine Duty-Bill read the first time.

The Bill for a New Duty on Black Lead---the City Militia Bill---and Ferrer's Divorce-Bill, went through a Committee.

Several Reports of Committees brought up and agreed to.

CORN.---Mr. **C. DUNDAS** moved the order of the Day, for the Second Reading of the Bill for regulating the Sale of Corn by Weight.

The Lord **MAYOR** proposed an exception for the Port of London, where he thought the regulation impracticable. The Bill was referred to a select Committee.

QUAKERS.---Serjeant **ADAIR** (agreeably to notice) moved for leave to bring in a Bill for the farther Relief of the people called Quakers, as to the imprisonment of their persons for tythes, when they had sufficient property to pay; and also for making their solemn affirmation receivable in Criminal cases, as it is in Civil. The Motion was seconded by Mr. **WILBERFORCE**, and leave given.

SLAVE-CARRYING-BILL.---The House resolved itself into a Committee, Sir **W. DOLBEN** in the Chair.

Mr. **WILBERFORCE** stated to the House, that what he now meant to propose, went merely to make some alteration in the number of Slaves that were to be carried, in order to prepare the Islands for Abolition, which was so great an object with many. He wished to render the Slaves somewhat dearer, in order to encourage the good treatment of them, and to prevent any new settlements of them being formed. By this means a Total Abolition might be effected in the manner most desired by many Gentlemen. The clause he wished to move was, that the proportion of the Slaves to the tonnage should be limited, in the proportion of one Slave per ton for ships of 200 tons, and four Slaves for every five tons above that number; also that no more ships than those now employed in the Trade should engage in it.

General **TARLETON** opposed the Motion as unnecessary, and affecting the interest of the West-India Planters, as did Messrs. **JENKINSON**, **DUNDAS**, and **BARHAM**.

Mr. **PITT** stated, that notwithstanding all the regulations hitherto made, still the average number of deaths was very great, and required some farther provisions. It was about one half, which was infinitely greater than the number on board our Transports, in which troops were embarked for distant expeditions, or even than in those which conveyed Criminals to Botany Bay. Farther in the Debate, Mr. Pitt trusted the House would think with him, that measures should be put in train for the insensible and gradual Abolition of the Trade. It had been urged, that when the sexes were proportioned so as to maintain a population in the Islands, the Trade itself should be abolished. He hoped the House and the Planters themselves were sincere in that proposition; and that the horrid commerce was not to continue, and be daily and yearly extended; that they would even see the policy of giving up partial and temporary considerations, for future and solid advantages; and that they would not, for any motives of lucre, pursue measures that would sully the glory of our Commercial and Territorial Interests.

Mr. **ROSE** moved, that Accounts be laid before the House of the number of Slaves imported from Africa to the West Indies from 1789 to 1795, both inclusive; stating the number which had died in the Passage.---Ordered.

HAT TAX.---The day of the commencement of the New Hat Duty was fixed for July 5, 1796.

Mr. **MARTIN** asked whether, as the Stamp was to be on the Hat-lining, it could be evaded by wearing Hats without lining?

Mr. **PITT** said that was provided against.

Wednesday 27. Sir **W. LEWES** moved for leave to bring in a Bill to license the Royalty Theatre in Well-close Square, as a *Summer Theatre*. After some conversation, the subject was adjourned till Monday.

Mr. C. LONG asked leave to introduce a Bill for the Prevention of Landing Goods without the inspection of the proper Officers, &c.---Granted.

The Report of the Committee with respect to allowing 1000*l.* to the Clerks of the Secretary of State's Office, approving such allowance was read, and, after some debate, agreed to.

The Reports of several Committees read, and agreed to.

The Mackarel Fishery Bill read a second time.

The House in a Committee voted certain allowances to Subaltern Militia Officers. Several private Bills read a third time, and passed.

WAYS AND MEANS, AND NEW DOG TAX.

The House having resolved itself into a Committee of Ways and Means, Mr. PITT proposed a tax of 5*s.* each for every Hound, Pointer, Greyhound, Setting-Dog or Spaniel, kept by any person whatever.---Also that persons living in assessed houses pay 3*s.* for one dog they keep (not of the above description) and 5*s.* for every other, annually.

Mr. DENT objected strongly to the exemption of unassessed houses, and greatly apprehended this measure would rather increase the evil he wished to remedy than otherwise, since it would encourage the Poor in keeping dogs, and tempt the rich to quarter their dogs among their poor tenants, in order to evade the tax.

Mr. JOLLIFE opposed the exemption, from the principle, that the luxuries of the Poor ought to be taxed, as well as those of the Rich.

Mr. PITT could not admit that the luxuries of the Poor ought to be placed on a par with those of the Rich. As to evasions of the Rich, these he thought might be provided against in the progress of the Bill. He thought there was no danger of Ladies putting out their Lap-Dogs, and if Gentlemen put out their Sporting-Dogs, they would pay the same at a poor man's house as at their own.

C. BERKELEY proposed to include Lurchers and Terriers, and to exempt *Puppies*.

Mr. COURTENAY complimented the Chancellor of the Exchequer on the adoption of this measure, and ridiculed the fears of Mr. Dent, particularly as to the danger of the Hydrophobia; it reminded him of the celebrated Baron Munchausen, in whose absence a mad-dog got into his wardrobe, and having bit his fur-cloak, this infected all the other articles of his dress, and produced a commotion beyond his power to quiet! [*An universal laugh*].

Mr. DENT thought the Hon. Gentleman a very fit rival of the Baron; and that with the assistance of another Gentleman (Mr. Sheridan) for his Merry-Andrew, he might exhibit very successfully at Bartholomew-Fair.

Mr. COURTENAY retorted, that if he and the Hon. Gentleman were reduced to the necessity of making such an experiment, he thought the one might live while the other starved.

After some farther conversation the Committee divided on Mr. Pitt's Motion---Ayes 53---Noes 29.

QUAKERS.---Serjeant Adair brought in the Bill for the Relief of Quakers, mentioned in yesterday's Debate.

Mr. Hawkins Browne feared that some persons might improperly assume the character of Quakers.

Mr. ADAIR thought the inconvenience under which the Quakers would still labour, sufficiently obviated this; but had no objection to any cautionary hints that Gentlemen might suggest.

The Bill was ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Monday, next.

Thursday 28. Several Inclosure Bills reported, and ordered to be engrossed.---Agreed to the Lord's Amendments in that of Old Malton.

The Succession to Estates Bill went through the Committee, and was ordered to be printed.

The Resolutions of the Committee of Ways and Means reported, and agreed to.

The Resolutions of the Committee on the Dog Tax reported, and agreed to; as were those of the Committee on the Hat Duty.

CURATE'S RELIEF BILL.---Mr. JODRELL observed, that being a Money Bill it ought to have originated with the Commons, and not the Lords.

The SPEAKER understood it to be no infringement of Privilege, because it laid no new impost on the People, but only made certain regulations to enable the Bishops to make a distribution of certain funds in a manner more favourable to poor Curates.

Deferred till Monday.

WAR IN THE WEST-INDIES.

The order of the Day being moved for the adjourned Debate on Mr. SHERIDAN's former motion for Papers relative to the West Indies, Mr. Dundas said, he should not be against the production of many of those papers; but, in agreeing to this, he thought it necessary to enter into a detail of circumstances, to shew (what he felt himself conscious of) that in the whole conduct of the West Indian War no neglect was imputable to the Executive Government. He then entered into a circumstantial history of that War, from its commencement to the present time, very ably justifying his own conduct, and that of his Colleagues in Office, as well as of the Officers employed.---Mr. Dundas added, that if he had at any time expressed himself warmly against any of the Public Boards, (as those of Ordnance and Transports) he begged it to be understood, that those expressions arose only from the feelings of the moment, and that he was now perfectly satisfied with their conduct. He concluded by saying, that he was now happy to announce, that of the last Fleet for the West Indies, notwithstanding all its disasters, only four transports were missing, and that 67 ships had arrived at Barbadoes, with more than 7000 men, and a complete artillery.

Mr. SHERIDAN thought the Hon. Gentleman's defence rather ill-timed and unnecessary, as well as (to him at least) very unexpected; nor did he think some of his excuses such as would have been given by an able War-Minister. He only wished at present to move for Papers.---These being moved for, several were granted, and others added on the motion of Mr. Dundas himself.

Friday 29. Christie's Divorce, Billingsgate Fish, and Paper Manufacturers Bills, read a second time.

The Loan Bill read a third time, and passed.

The Hay and Straw Bill recommitted for Tuesday.

Mr. ROSE moved 5000l. for the Board of Longitude.---Granted.

GAME LAWS.

The Order of the Day being read for the second reading of the Game Bill.

Mr. CURWEN stated, that from being called upon to bring forward the Bill sooner than he at first intended, he was apprehensive it might contain some defects and inaccuracies which would require the correction of the Committee; the leading principle of the Bill, however, he flattered himself would meet with general approbation, as it only went to give every Land-holder a right to kill Game on his own grounds, a principle founded in justice, and such as, in every other case, the Legislature recognized, as just and proper.

Capt. BERKELY, though he admitted the general principle of the Bill, that every man might kill Game on his own ground, as harmless, strongly objected to the clause which allowed a person who started Game on his own ground to pursue it farther; this, he thought, left an opening for dangerous abuses, since any one pursuing Game, might say he started it at home.---Some other clauses were ridiculous, or worse. Another clause authorized any man to seize another carrying a gun to destroy Game between sun-set and sun-rise, and to wrest it violently from him, even to the endangering the loss of life or limbs; allowing the person maimed, or killed, to seek redress at the next Quarter Sessions!!! For these and other reasons he assigned, Capt. B. moved to defer the Bill to that day three months.

Sir R. SURTON defended the principle of the present Game Laws, as making a proper distinction between Landed Proprietors and others, and affording an inducement to Gentlemen to reside in the Country, which he thought, a consideration of importance. He was willing, however, to allow Game to be brought openly to market by those who had a right to it; but to Poachers he would shew no mercy.

Mr. BUXTON approved the general tendency of the Bill; nor did he think it liable to the ridicule thrown on it by Capt. B.

Mr. FOX professed himself a warm friend to the leading principle of the Bill, though some of its clauses might be exceptionable. He thought the Game itself

would be increased by giving the Landholder an interest in its protection; and that without some such alteration there was little prospect of any quantity being brought to market. To shew his approbation, he should vote for its commitment, though he had no objection to its being deferred till next Session, to give Gentlemen longer time for reflection.

Mr. PITT thought the preservation of the Game an object of considerable importance. He admitted it would be very desirable to allow the landholder to amuse himself in killing Game; but to render this article marketable, he thought a dangerous expedient, as tending to encourage Poachers, and destroy the Game. For these reasons he wished the Bill to be deferred.

Mr. FRANCIS thought, that to give the tenant a property in his Game, and make it marketable, would be the surest method to increase it.

Mr. SHERIDAN strongly reprobated the present Game Laws, as highly iniquitous and unjust, and thought their repeal would have the happiest effect in reducing the victims of the penal law.

Mr. HARRISON supported the Commitment of the present Bill.

Mr. JENKINSON had no objection to some mitigation of the Game Laws, or to giving farmers a liberty of sporting on their own land, without giving them a right to sell their Game; they might then share in the amusement without any temptation to abuse their privilege.

Sir R. SALUSBURY agreed with Mr. Jenkinson.

Sir J. ROUS and Mr. COX spoke against the Bill.

Mr. CURWEN concluded the debate with observing, that even in *Russia* the privilege of sporting was to be obtained by a small pecuniary consideration, which was exactly his idea.

The House divided, and the Bill was postponed for three months.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY.----Mr. PITT proposed the Funding Navy Bills to the amount of 4,321,000*l.* Resolved.

Mr. ROSE moved various resolutions for sums of money for purposes not hitherto provided for; which were all agreed to.

COMMITTEE OF WAYS AND MEANS.----Mr. PITT stated, that he had disposed of the Lottery for next year, consisting of 60,000 tickets, for 780,000*l.* The Prizes amount to 500,000*l.* so that the public will gain 280,000*l.* Approved.

The Bills for an Allowance to subaltern Officers, and that to prevent the Illicit Landing of Goods, read a first time.--- Adjourned.

Monday, May 2. The ATTORNEY GENERAL moved for leave to bring in a Bill to renew the Alien Act for a time limited. Leave given.

Sir P. STEPHENS brought up the report of a resolution passed in the Committee of Supply, granting 5000*l.* annually, for seven years, to the Board of Longitude, to be given to persons making improvements in navigation.

General SMITH moved the Order of the Day, for taking into consideration the proceedings of the Court-Martial in the case of Colonel Cawthorne.

He next moved that copies of the said proceedings be read; a few sentences of which being read *pro forma*,

Colonel CAWTHORNE then being in his place, was informed by the Speaker, that if he had any thing to say in his defence, this was the proper time.

The Colonel then rose, and having claimed the indulgence of the House, proceeded to read a written defence from a paper he held in his hand.

General SMITH moved, "That Colonel Cawthorne having been found guilty on the 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 10th, 11th, and 13th articles of the charges brought against him, be now expelled this House.

Mr. WIGLEY entered into a defence of Colonel Cawthorne; he could not see that he had acted corruptly or fraudulently; he concluded by moving an amendment to the motion, "That the further consideration of the debate be adjourned till that day six weeks."

General M'LEON seconded the amendment, on which a division took place, when there appeared against it 108, for it 12; majority 96; the Colonel was consequently expelled by the vote of the House.

Tuesday 3. The House resolved itself into a Committee of the whole House to consider the propriety of the exempting Dairies, where cheese and butter are

made, from paying the Window Tax. A resolution was moved to that purpose, the House resumed, and the report ordered to be received on the morrow.

Mr. HOWART brought up the resolution of the Committee of Supply of the preceding day, granting 200,000*l.* to his Majesty, to make good his engagement with the King of Sardinia.

Mr. Fox opposed it; if he was, he said, to give credit to public rumour, the King of Sardinia had very lately manifested an intention of negotiating a separate peace with the French; if so, it would be for our advantage; but still he thought it material for us to know how far it would be right or prudent for us to grant the subsidy under these circumstances; if on the other hand he intended a separate peace, it was necessary for us to know how far this was done with the approbation of Ministers; but if no such measure could be taken by the King of Sardinia without the consent of this country, it became necessary to know how far it had been consulted; if lastly, he intended to continue the war, how he was to carry it on under existing circumstances. This he would wish Ministers to explain.

Mr. PITT said, that, if any new circumstances had arisen, for this very reason we were the more called on to keep our engagements with that Monarch. The conduct of the King of Sardinia had been of such a nature, and so honourable, as to afford a most laudable example to all the allied powers. It was true that he had attempted to negotiate, and had consented to an armistice, not for himself alone, but for the Emperor; but the terms proposed by the enemy were such as he could not, consistent with his honour, agree to; and therefore he thought it better manfully to face the danger than yield to such ignominious conditions; he submitted it, therefore, to the House, whether they were not bound in honour to continue the subsidy, and whether it was not our interest to do so? As to the other point, that it would have been better for this country that he had made a separate peace, the only way to enable him to make one, which would be advantageous, would be not to withdraw our aid: for if we did, it was manifest that he would not obtain better terms than those proposed at first by the enemy.

Mr. FRANCIS said, if he should be found in such a situation as not only to make a separate peace with the French, but join his arms to theirs to make conquests in Italy, our own subsidy would be turned against us.

Mr. WINDHAM said, that if the King of Sardinia was found to be in the situation described, it would put an end to all, but the only way to prevent this was to enable him to make a stand against the French.

General SMITH and Mr. HARRISON were for voting the money, but retaining to ourselves a power of conducting ourselves according to circumstances, and not to transmit the money, if what had been reported was true. The resolution was carried in the affirmative without a division, and the Bill ordered thereon.

The report of the Committee of Ways and Means was brought up, the resolutions read, and Bills ordered on the said resolutions.

A motion was made for a Committee of the whole House, on the Bill that originated in the Lords for the Relief of Curates. It had been called in question whether it was not an infringement of the privileges of the House, that Bills of such a nature should originate there.

The Speaker informed the House that any Bills of a private nature might originate there, but no money Bills, or Bills of a public nature. It was carried without a division to go into a Committee. Adjourned.

Thursday 4. The Lottery Bill was read a first time.

Mr. Pitt moved, that the Land Succession Bill be recommitted.

Mr. Fox said if the principle of this Bill was once admitted, a precedent might be laid by Government for the most wanton acts of despotism. Here the Hon. Member entered into a recapitulation of the various kind of heirs whom this Bill would materially affect; and concluded by declaring that the Bill was pregnant with the most pernicious consequences to the present generation and posterity.

Several other Members spoke, and then the House divided, for the recommitment 65, against it 24.

The House went through the several clauses of the Curates Bill.

* * * The Debates in both Houses of Parliament will be regularly continued in each Number.

THE FINE ARTS.

ROYAL ACADEMY.

“ Omnes tacito quodam sensu, sine ulla arte aut ratione, quæ sint in artibus, et in picturis, et in signis, et in aliis operibus, recta ac prava dijudicant.”

Cicero de Oratore, lib. 3. l. 50.

“ Most have the seeds of judgment in their minds.”

POPE.

AFTER twenty-seven successive and annual exhibitions of the fine arts of this country, we look in vain in the present for that general and splendid display of genius, which it was once thought the royal bounty, in founding the Academy, would produce. A variety of causes have contributed to check the progress of this noble institution; and to prevent its being so generally useful as it might be. Among these causes is to be ranked—*first*—the dissensions of some of the members, which unhappily began before the death of the late President; and—*second*—by a want of that patronage to the *higher branches* of the art, which can alone bring them to perfection. Painting, like poetry, has always flourished in proportion to the meed that has been bestowed on it. The generosity of Augustus was, perhaps, the first and chief cause that produced the *Æneid* of Virgil; and it is to the bounty of Elizabeth that we are, probably, indebted for some of the sublimest effusions of the muse of Shakespeare; nor can it be denied, that it is to the refined, though luxurious, taste of Leo, and his extensive encouragement of the arts, we are indebted for the best productions of the pencil of Raphael. If we apply this observation to the state of the arts in this country, we shall find that the great patronage given to portrait painting, has produced a degree of excellence in it, which leaves all competition far behind; while Historical painting, and sculpture (the *higher branches* of art) have improved very little within the last twenty years: for what artist will paint that which produces only fame? Or who has sufficient resolution to look, in his performances, only to posterity? After these preliminary remarks, we shall proceed to a short review of the present exhibition, under the respective heads of Historical Painting, Sculpture, Architecture, Portrait Painting, and Landscape.

HISTORICAL PAINTING.

FOREMOST (or at least most conspicuous from situation) in this branch stands the picture of the president, “Moses and Aaron before Pharaoh,” (No. 175.) painted for his Majesty’s Chapel at Windsor. This certainly does not add in the smallest degree to Mr. West’s reputation. When he was a younger man, we were accustomed to admire the harmony of his groups, the softness and richness of his colouring, and the chaste grandeur and correctness of his whole design; but the present performance has not, in our opinion, one of these requisites. In most artists, age, while it mellows and ripens the judgment, checks the exuberance of the fancy; but Mr. West is so far an exception to this rule, that it is only in his later compositions we find the *unnatural wildness* of fancy which is so manifest here; he aims at sublimity, and becomes either monstrous, or ridiculous. The scene in this picture is in a watch-house, Pharaoh is the constable of the night, Aaron is a watchman bringing in Moses drunk, and the attendants are, in appearance, the usual attendants on such a place.

We are glad to pass from Mr. West to Westall; this year, he carries away the palm from every other artist. The fervid glow of his fancy, and the boldness of his conceptions, begin now to be chastened by the maturity of judgment; and we may hope soon to see him leave every rival behind. His picture, or rather drawing, of "Hesiod instructing the Greeks in the arts of peace," (No. 706.) is, we think, the best in the exhibition. The calm and exalted dignity expressed in the countenance of Hesiod and the mute attention of the surrounding Greeks, leave us hardly any thing to wish for. The poet is more than mortal, yet he is not a God; he is uniting poetry and legislation, and instructing his countrymen in their true interests and happiness; nor do they seem insensible of the blessing. Every countenance, every attitude, is strictly *Grecian*; and lost in admiration, at the whole we are prevented noticing particular parts. This picture, and that of Mr. West, are, we think, the two most remarkable exhibited this year; and we have, therefore, noticed them as such. There is, however, a picture by Downman of "the Angel and Hagar" which has much merit, if we except the indecency of the angel's pointing with his finger in the way he does.

SCULPTURE.

IN this branch of art there are very few productions; the only ones which deserve notice, are the two models of figures, intended for the new Trinity House, by Mr. Bacon. *jun.* which give good earnest of his future success.

ARCHITECTURE.

THIS seems to have made a more rapid progress in this country, than any of the fine arts. The talents and exertions of ADAM and WYATT have raised a degree of emulation, which must be attended with the happiest consequences. Upon the whole, the architectural part of the exhibition is the best we have ever seen. Were we to point out particular excellence, we should refer to the design for a triumphal bridge (No. 733.) by MAYHEW—the design for the entrance to an arsenal (No. 726.) by J. KAY—and the designs for a mansion (No. 832, and No. 844) by BONONI. The design for an entrance to Hyde Park (No. 731.) by SOANE may perhaps rank next.

PORTRAIT PAINTING.

IN this department, where there is such general excellence, it is perhaps an invidious task to point out individual merit. Lawrence still improves; and his portrait of serjeant Shepherd (No. 183.) is equal to any one in the room. He has caught the exact expression of his countenance (which we have been so much used to admire in our Courts of Law) when he pleads the cause of innocence against oppression, or endeavours to bring down law to the standard of reason. In the *minatures* all is done that art can do; and that, by many of its professors; we shall not, therefore, attempt to select *even one* from the many.

LANDSCAPE.

IN this division, there is one performance by the President, (No. 189.) which is *stiff* and *hard* indeed! An honorary exhibitor, Sir George Beaumont, however, leaves the regular members far behind. His landscapes (No. 152, and No. 192.) whether we consider the correctness of their composition, or the richness of their colouring, deserve great praise. There are several other landscapes, that are much above mediocrity.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

THEATRE-ROYAL, DRURY-LANE.

April 13. A NEW Comic Opera, in two acts, entitled "The Smugglers," was performed for the benefit of Mr. Bannister, junior. This piece is, we believe, the production of Mr. Birch, author of the "Adopted Child," &c. and is upon the whole a very pleasing little performance. The music is by Atwood; and does the highest credit to his muse. The duet of Miss Leake and Master Welch, is one of the most exquisite compositions we have heard for some time past. The piece was throughout favourably received; and will, no doubt, become a great favourite with the public.

THEATRE-ROYAL, COVENT-GARDEN.

April 22. A Farce, under the title of "the Doldrum, or 1803," was brought out at this theatre, the avowed production of Mr. O'Keeffe. This gentleman has here soared a higher flight than he has ever done: for the whole plot depends on Brummagem, an old dotard, being persuaded, that he has slept *seven years*—from 1796 to 1803. This attempt upon the old man's credulity is made, in order to induce him to consent to the marriage of his son, which he has sworn shall not take place for seven years.

This Farce will less bear to be tried by the rules of criticism, than any Mr. O'Keeffe has ever written; it is however, throughout, irresistibly laughable, and was received with the loudest applause.

THEATRE-ROYAL, DRURY-LANE.

April 30. A new opera, from the pen of Mr. HOARE, under the title of MAHMOUD, or the PRINCE OF PERSIA, was brought forward at this theatre, in order (as we believe) to introduce to public notice a new singer of the name of Braham, a pupil of Mr. Leoni, who for so many years charmed the frequenters of Covent-Garden with the melody of his voice.

The fable of this Opera is taken from the *Contes Persannes*; and is briefly this:—The Sultan dooms his elder son, Mahmoud, from his infancy, to imprisonment; in order to raise his younger son, Noureddin, to the throne. The fierce spirit of Mahmoud, however, breaks forth; and he determines to assert his natural right. In this he meets no opposition from Noureddin, whose mind is more given to the sports of the field, than to the cares of royalty.—Mahmoud, at first sight, falls violently in love with Gobeide; and love, in some degree, tames the fierceness of his nature. Abdoul Cassan, who has been elevated from his former humble situation of a manufacturer of carpets, to a place of more consequence, is buried alive (according to the custom of the country) with his deceased wife, a Princess of the Blood Royal; but his life is preserved by the contrivance of Zebia, his former lover. The piece ends with the marriage of Noureddin to his favourite Balsora—of Mahmoud to Gobeide—and of Abdoul Cassan to Zebia.

Slender and trifling as this fable is in itself, it is made still less interesting by the conduct of it, and the general dullness, and want of point and force, in the dialogue. Mahmoud, the hero of the piece, is a bad attempt at what in itself is unnatural. The characters throughout are brought on the stage, without our being able to guess how they came there, or indeed, without their being able to tell us themselves. The incidents are a jumble of we know not what; nor can we distinguish the *opening*, in point of time, from the *catastrophe*.

—————Nec pes, nec caput uni
Reddatur formæ.—————

If there be any merit, it is in the parts of Abdoul Cassan and of Barakka; both of which were ably performed by Mr. Bannister, junior, and Mr. Suett, who, too often, make us laugh where we ought to censure. The great subject of expectation, however, was Mr. Braham's Noureddin, which was so excellent as to be the salvation of the opera. His uncommon powers will certainly be a very valuable acquisition to the stage; and we hope soon to see that period, when the people of this country will not be able to insist upon the necessity of an Italian opera, from the want of the first musical talents, in our English theatres.

The music was by poor Stephen Storace; (to the memory of whose sweet strains we were glad to hear so just a tribute delivered previous to the opera by Mr. Benson) and gave us only farther reason to lament the loss of that genius, which all must deplore. The scenery, and all the managerial department, was as splendid as possible.

The Characters were as follows:

The Sultan,	-	-	Mr. Aikin.
Mahmoud,	-	-	Mr. Kemble.
Noureddin,	-	-	Mr. Braham.
Helim,	-	-	Mr. Packer.
Barakka,	-	-	Mr. Suett.
Abdoul Cassan,	-	-	Mr. Bannister, Jun.
Mossufer,	-	-	Mr. Kelly.
Makouk,	-	-	Mr. Sedgwick.
Hassan,	-	-	Mr. Dignum.
Aladdin,	-	-	Miss Menage.
Balsora,	-	-	Miss Leak,
Gobeide,	-	-	Miss Miller.
Zebia,	-	-	Signora Storace.
Desra,	-	-	Mrs. Bland.

The piece was in general (certainly on account of the music *only*) favourably received by a very crowded audience.

THEATRE-ROYAL, DRURY-LANE.

A new Comedy, in five acts, called CELADON and FLORIMEL, was performed, for the first time, at the Theatre-royal, Drury-lane, for the Benefit of Mrs. Kemble. Like many other plays, produced on benefit nights, this Comedy does not rank very high either for its fable or language. Manifestly written in imitation of the style of Congreve, and the other libertine, though elegant, comic writers of that period, it, in many places, arrests our attention by the brilliancy of its wit, while, in others, it disgusts the ear of modesty by double entendres and indecent allusions. We have not the least doubt that the piece was written in great haste, and left by its author in an unfinished state; and we will venture to predict that, if reduced to three acts, and more polished in its language, it will become a very popular Comedy.

The plot, in its present state, we will not attempt to relate. All the pleasing incidents in it are produced from the *universal* gallantry of Celadon, a gay young Sicilian, and the coquetry of Florimel, whom in the event he takes "to have and to hold, for better for worse." These two characters were very ably supported by Mr. Palmer and Miss Farren.

The play was, throughout, received without *any censure*, and without much applause. We cannot close our strictures without mentioning the solecism, in the second act, of a *Sicilian* Lady quoting the *Macbeth* of SHAKESPEARE.

After the play, Mrs. Kemble, in a short address, took her leave of the audience for ever, with the tear glistening in her eye; and it was not without regret that we witnessed the secession of modest worth from public notice.

MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

AT THE

GRAND FEAST

OF THE MOST ANCIENT AND HONOURABLE

SOCIETY OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS,

UNDER THE CONSTITUTION OF ENGLAND,

HELD AT FREEMASONS' HALL, LONDON.

ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 1796.

PRESENT,

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS GEORGE AUGUSTUS FREDERICK

*PRINCE OF WALES, &c. &c. &c.***GRAND MASTER.**His Royal Highness **PRINCE ERNEST AUGUSTUS.**Right Hon. the **EARL of MOIRA, A. G. M.**Right Hon. the **EARL of HARRINGTON.****JOHN MEYRICK, Esq. S. G. W.****GEORGE CORY, Esq. J. G. W.****P. S. G. W.****JAMES HESELTINE, Esq. G. T.****M. J. LEVY, Esq.****GEORGE SHUM, Esq.****HENRY CRATHORNE, Esq.****THOMAS THOMPSON, Esq.****JOHN DAWES, Esq.****P. J. G. W.****GEORGE HARRISON, Esq.****CHARLES MARSH, Esq.****THEO. TOMPSON TUTT, Esq.****JAMES GALLOWAY, Esq.****Sir LIONEL DARELL, Bart.****NATHANIEL NEWNHAM, Esq.****WILLIAM TYLER, Esq.****ARTHUR TEGART, Esq.****Hon. and Rev. F. H. EGERTON,**

Prov. G. M. for Shropshire, &c.

SAMUEL HULSE, Esq. Prov. G. M.

for Sussex.

Rev. **WILLIAM PETERS, G. P. P.**

Prov. G. M. for Lincolnshire.

Doctor **J. M. HAYES, Prov. G. M.**

for Oxfordshire.

SHERBORNE STEWART, Esq.

Prov. G. M. for Hampshire.

Sir **JOHN THROCKMORTON, Bart.**

Prov. G. M. for Buckinghamshire.

Mr. **WILLIAM WHITE, G. S.**Chev. **BARTH. RUSPINI, G. S. B.**

The Master, Wardens, and Assistants,

of the **STEWARDS LODGE**, the Master

and Wardens of sundry Lodges, and a

great number of other Brethren.

The Most Worshipful **GRAND MASTER** acquainted the **GRAND LODGE**, that his Royal Highness **PRINCE ERNEST AUGUSTUS** was initiated into Masonry this day, at a Special Lodge held for that purpose, at the house of the Right Hon. the Earl of Moira. It was thereupon

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY,

That, in testimony of the high sense the Grand Lodge entertains of the great honour conferred on the Society by the initiation of **PRINCE ERNEST AUGUSTUS**, his Royal Highness be presented with an Apron lined with blue silk, and, in all future processions, do rank as a Past Grand Master.

In consequence of the re-election of the **PRINCE of WALES** to be Grand Master, his Royal Highness was installed in ample form, and re-invested

with the ensigns of that high office. He was then pleased to appoint and invest the Officers for the year ensuing, viz.

The Right Hon. the EARL of MOIRA, Acting Grand Master.
 Sir PETER PARKER, Bart. Deputy Grand Master.
 GEORGE PORTER, Esq. Senior Grand Warden.
 R. BRETtingham, Esq. Junior Grand Warden.
 Mr. WILLIAM WHITE, Grand Secretary.
 Rev. A. H. ECCLES, Grand Chaplain.
 Chev. BARTHOLOMEW RUSPINI, Grand Sword-Bearer.

JAMES HESELTINE, Esq. P. S. G. W. was unanimously elected Grand Treasurer at the Quarterly Communication, held the 25th of November last.

The Grand Stewards having received the Thanks of the Grand Lodge for their elegant entertainment, presented to the Grand Master, for his approbation, the following Brethren as their successors for the next Grand Feast, who were approved of:

Sir John Eamer, President,	presented R. H. Bradshaw, Esq.
L. R. M'Intosh, Esq. Treasurer,	———— Baily Heath, Esq.
James Duberly, Esq. Secretary,	———— John Bullock, Esq.
William Veel, Esq.	———— Charles Turner, Esq.
Joseph Dennison, Esq.	———— Robert Harper, Esq.
Mr. Robert Sutton,	———— Mr. T. A. Loxley.
Mr. Thomas Harper,	———— Mr. Charles Millett.
Mr. Thomas Caulfield,	———— Mr. John Peareth.
Mr. William Greening,	———— Mr. Joseph Heath.
Mr. John Hunter,	———— Mr. John French, jun.
Mr. Thomas Parkes,	———— Mr. George Eves.
Mr. William Bridgeman,	———— Mr. Samuel Roberts.

GRAND LODGE, April 13, 1796.

THE GRAND LODGE being acquainted, by the GRAND MASTER in the Chair, that his Royal Highness PRINCE WILLIAM OF GLOUCESTER had been initiated into Masonry in the Britannic Lodge, No. 27; it was thereupon

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY,

That, in testimony of the high sense the Grand Lodge entertains of the great honour conferred on the Society by the initiation of PRINCE WILLIAM OF GLOUCESTER, his Royal Highness be presented with an Apron lined with blue silk, and, in all future processions, do rank as a Past Grand Master.

ORDERED, That No. 124, the St. David's Lodge, Brook-street, be erased from the list of Lodges, for having, contrary to the laws of the Grand Lodge, initiated twelve persons into the Society, at one meeting, and for unworthy considerations.
 ————Ordered also, That the said persons, viz: JOHN READ, JOSEPH TORIN, JAMES PAINE, BENJAMIN PAINE, PETER SYMONS, SAMUEL SMITH, GEORGE ROBERTSON, CHARLES JONES, THOMAS WALLACE, HENRY BAILEY, JAMES CARY, and JOSEPH PLETHEON, are not to be considered as regular Masons, or to be received or admitted into any Lodge, although the smallest blame or censure is not im-

putable to them, the Lodge, and not the individuals admitted, being culpable.

ORDERED, That No. 350, Lodge of Rural Friendship, be discontinued on the list of Lodges, being united to No. 330, the Lodge of the Nine Muses; at the Thatched-House-Tavern, St. James's-Street.

ORDERED, That the following Lodges be erased out of the list, having ceased to meet, or neglected to conform to the laws of the Society, viz.

207 Star Lodge, Chester.

336 Impregnable Lodge, Sandwich.

393 St. Margaret's Lodge, Dartmouth-street, Westminster.

N. B. A COMMITTEE OF CHARITY will be held on Friday the 5th of August, another on Friday the 18th of November, and a QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION on Wednesday the 23d of November, 1796.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

[BY A BROTHER.]

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 1796.

THIS day the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of FREE and ACCEPTED MASONS of England, held their annual GRAND FEAST, at their Hall, in Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields, which was very numerous attended. The society, on this occasion, was honoured by the presence of their illustrious and princely brother, his Royal Highness GEORGE PRINCE OF WALES, G. M. accompanied by his Royal Highness Prince ERNEST, who had been previously initiated into the mysteries of the Order, at the house of the Earl of MOIRA, A. G. M. the ceremony of which prevented the Royal Brothers arriving at an apartment in the hall, where the Grand Officers were in waiting to receive them; before six o'clock. Upon being informed that the Brethren had been waiting some time, the Prince expressed much anxiety, and politely requested Brother HESLITINE, G. T. to enter the hall, and apologize, in his name, for the unexpected cause of the delay. No sooner was this apology made (which reflects the highest honour on the affability and goodness of heart of the ROYAL GRAND MASTER) than the most unbounded plaudits echoed through the hall, and every countenance bespoke the pleasing feelings of the heart.

In a few minutes after, Brother WHITE, G. S. desired the Duke of York's band to play the Prince's March; the customary procession formed; and the Royal Brethren entered the Hall with the Earl of MOIRA, A. G. M. the rest of the Grand Officers, past and present, and several other noble and distinguished characters; amongst whom was BARON HOMSPACH, an officer in the Prussian service, and member of the Lodge of *Perfect Union* at Vienna, who appeared highly gratified with the reception he met with.

Never did Masonry receive such great honour as on this occasion; never were the effusions of loyalty and attachment more strong; never was the pleasing condescension and affectionate dignity of a Prince more manifest. Hap-

piness beamed in every face, while the benevolent principles of the Order cheered the heart.

The procession being ended, the Royal Grand Master and his Brother, with the different Officers, and the Brethren, sat down to dinner, which was served up with every luxury the season afforded, in the greatest profusion, and with that regularity which gave general satisfaction to the company, who were not less than 500; a greater number than we believe ever assembled there before.

After the cloth was removed, and the ladies had withdrawn from the gallery, which was graced with the first beauty and fashion, the ROYAL GRAND MASTER gave:—

“The King and Constitution; and may he long reign over, and in the hearts of, his faithful subjects.”

The burst of applause that succeeded this toast far exceeded any thing of the kind we ever heard. “God save the King!” was unanimously called for; and sung by Brother PAGE, accompanied in the repetitions by every person in the Hall.

The truly affectionate acknowledgments of the Prince, the condescension, courtesy, and affability, which no one else so well knows how to display, and which marked his whole demeanour, gave force to an observation of his Royal Highness, that, “of the ordinary circumstances of his life, no one had been so truly gratifying to his mind, as his reception in the Fraternity over whom he had then the happiness to preside; and in whatever station, or under whatever circumstances his future days should be spent, on the loyalty, the exemplary concord, and the universal benevolence of Masons, he should reflect with pleasure; and ever be proud of the duties of an office, which he then deemed it an honour to hold.”

His Royal Highness PRINCE ERNEST, in a short but pertinent address, assured the Brethren of “the happiness he felt in his new connection; and that no sentiment was more strongly impressed on his mind, than that of veneration for an institution founded on such universal principles of civil and political perfection.”

The EARL OF MOIRA, in a speech of considerable length, (evidently delivered under some restraint from the presence of the Royal Personage to whose virtues he wished to pay the tribute of his eloquence) entered briefly into the recent history of the institution, and dwelt with fine effect on “the period when, departing, under a pardonable (nay he would say, a laudable) fervour, from the strict letter of Masonic Regulations, the Fraternity had stepped forth, and testified, in common with all good men, their determination to support a system of government strongly constructed and mildly administered for the security of the country, and for the preservation of all that was dear to Britons. An Address to his Most Excellent Majesty, expressive of the most profound respect for his virtues, and most implicit confidence in his wisdom, was at that time framed, and by the hands of the Royal Grand Master (who could vouch for the sincerity which dictated it) presented to his SOVEREIGN and FATHER.—“Was not this then a patronage truly flattering and highly honourable to the Brethren? For his own part, he considered it of the utmost importance to the welfare of the Craft, that his Royal Highness should declare (as he had been pleased to do) his high opinion of the beneficial tendency of the institution, and of the loyalty and general rectitude of its members, a body of men so very numerous, and forming, perhaps, a majority of those over whom, by the course of nature, he would at a future period (and none more sincerely prayed for its protraction than the Personage most nearly concerned in such an event) be called to reign.”

Though we have not room to enter more at length into the excellent Speech of the noble Acting Grand Master, and are restrained by obvious considerations from touching on some admirable remarks appropriate to the occasion, we trust that the more the knowledge of our principles becomes extended, the more will Masonry be venerated; and if we may be allowed a prediction—the time will come, when monarchs, in every country of the world, shall protect, not persecute,—shall patronize, not proscribe, a body of men, the tenets of whose union must be in all exigencies the firmest supports of their thrones.

The lateness of the hour at which the dinner was served, in a great degree abridged the vocal exertions of the company; a few excellent glees were, however, well performed by Messrs. Page, Dignum, Leete, Sedgwick, &c, previous to the Grand Master's departure, shortly after whom the greater part of the company withdrew.

DARTFORD, MAY 17, 1796.

YESTERDAY the Anniversary meeting of the FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS was held here, and afforded one of the grandest spectacles ever exhibited in this town. WILLIAM PERFECT, Esq. Provincial Grand Master, and CLEMENT TAYLOR, Esq. Deputy Provincial Grand Master, arrived soon after ten o'clock, accompanied by upwards of fifty of the craft. About eleven, the Brethren of the Lodges from *Deptford, Woolwich, and Lewisham*, preceded by colours flying, and an excellent band of music, entered the town; and in about half an hour after, the whole procession formed, in number about three hundred, and headed by the Provincial Grand Master, who, in honour to the PRINCE OF WALES, wore in his hat three beautiful feathers with the motto of *Ich Dien*, on an enamelled plate with the arms of Kent. In addition to this uncommonly brilliant, numerous, and respectable procession, much beauty and elegance was derived from the LADY MASONS, who assembled in great numbers, dressed in white and purple, and after joining the procession, were politely conducted into the church by the Provincial Grand Master, whose presence and conduct was accompanied with every possible mark of approbation and respect. Soon after, the service began; and an excellent sermon was preached by the Rev. J. INWOOD, Provincial Grand Chaplain, from 14th chap. of St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans, v. 16. "*Let not your good be evil spoken of;*" which, at the request of the society, he consented should be printed. An Oration* of considerable merit was delivered in the most impressive manner by the Provincial Grand Master, and received with reiterated applause; after which the society partook of an elegant dinner, and the afternoon was spent with that harmony and good humour, so peculiar to the fraternity of FREE and ACCEPTED MASONS.—In the evening a ball was given to the ladies, which was opened by the Provincial Grand Master, and concluded a Festival, that will be long remembered with pleasure by every one who shared in its mirth and festivities.

* This Speech, says a correspondent, was distinguished by neat and polished eloquence, and was very impressive.

POETRY.

A

MASONIC SONG.

* * We have obtained from a Brother, who was present at the GRAND LODGE Anniversary, May 11, permission to lay before our Readers the following Song, written for that occasion; but which for want of opportunity (or, as we rather believe, from his own diffidence) was not sung.

(TUNE, "HEARTS OF OAK.")

A SYSTEM more pure ne'er was modell'd by man,
 Than that which we boast as the Freemason's plan;
 It unites all the world by the strongest of ties,
 And adds to mens' bliss, while it makes them more wise.

From the prince to the poor,
 Be he rich, be he poor,
 A MASON is a BROTHER,
 And each will help the other,
 So grateful the tie is of FREEMASONRY.

That hence flow the purest enjoyments of life,
 That banish'd from hence are dissension and strife,
 That the lessons are good which we practice and teach,
 Are truths that our foes vainly strive to impeach,
 From the prince, &c.

The greatest of monarchs, the wisest, and best
 Have Masons become, and been true to the test;
 And still with that SANCTION our rites are pursu'd,
 Admir'd by the wise, and approv'd by the good.
 From the prince, &c.

"The King and the Craft" having claim'd our applause,
 The guardian the one, t'other firm to the laws,
 In union, my Brethren, assist me to sing,
 "Ever true be the Craft to a patriot King!"
 From the prince, &c.

To George Prince of Wales our affections we owe,
 To his health let libations with due honours flow;
 With zeal let our Royal Grand Master be given,
 And the blessings of Masons be sanction'd by Heav'n.
 From the prince, &c.

His Consort may health and enjoyment attend,
 The Craft are assur'd that she's firmly their friend ;
 For her offspring we crave but this boon from above,
 " Be the mead of her virtues a whole nation's love !"
 From the prince, &c.

Of York and of Clarence (while o'er land and sea
 The toils of the brave serve to keep Britain free)
 May the deeds furnish subjects for many a lay,
 And their mem'ry ne'er die till all nature decay !
 From the prince, &c.

Yet let not the " Man of our hearts " be unsung,
 Nor forgot the effects of his well-pleading tongue * ;
 May the pray'rs of our orphans to Heaven ascend,
 And secure its best blessings for MOIRA their friend !
 From the prince, &c.

The task were too tedious the deeds to record
 Of the great and the good, that our annals afford ;
 In a word let us utter this truth to mankind,
 There's no temple more pure than the true Mason's mind.
 From the prince, &c.

S. J.

ELEGY,

TO THE MEMORY OF

STEPHEN STORACE, THE COMPOSER.

BY T. P.

SWEET peace shall, for ever, the shade
 Of the mouldering Corydon greet ;
 The cypress shall droop o'er his head,
 And murmur the rill at his feet !

All day shall the red-breast be there,
 And plaintively pour his soft moan ;
 At night Philomela repair,
 With strains—but less sweet than his own !

The lads and the lasses shall come,
 With the sweets of the field and the grove,
 And scatter them over his tomb—
 Whose music was pity and love.

Yet wherefore at fortune repine ?
 Ah ! surely the Gods having giv'n
 A mortal a soul too divine,
 Again have recall'd it to Heav'n !

* Alluding to a collection of upwards of 500*l.* being made for the Cumberland School, after a Speech of the Earl of Moira's in its behalf, at a Public Dinner, (See our last, p. 280.)

A NEW OCCASIONAL

LYRIC, MASONIC EULOGIUM,

SUNG BY MESSRS. DAVIS, HELME, AND BLANCHARD,

AT JONES'S ROYAL CIRCUS, ST. GEORGE'S FIELDS.

ON SATURDAY EVENING, MAY 21, 1796, FOR THE
BENEFIT OF THE ROYAL CUMBERLAND FREEMASONS' SCHOOL.

WRITTEN BY J. C. CROSS.—THE MUSIC BY MR. SHIELD.

THO' my voice can't enchant like the Syrens of old,
I'll venture your ears to assail:
The attempt do not deem too intruding or bold,
Good-humour 'tis meant to exhale.
Of the compact which binds proud ambition and pow'r,
My poor simple lays never dream;
But that which for ages true Friendship has wore,
FREEMASONRY'S Compact's my theme.

*Then join my song, BROTHERS! the sentiment pass,
No harm's in an honest endeavour,
Fill bigger—Affection presides o'er the glass,
“ May FREEMASONRY flourish for ever.”*

Their pillars of Rectitude ne'er will decay;
Honour's temple's erected on high,
And Architect Truth does a building display
Of virtue, can't moulder or die.
I Flattery scorn, it to falsehood gives birth;
But rapture the deed must impart
Which bids soft humanity patronize worth,
And light make the sad orphan's heart.
Then join, &c.

Let sensual drones to rich viands invite,
Or tempt to gay Bacchus's board,
One moment of feeling will give more delight
Than ages of mirth can afford:
To wipe from the eye the big tear of distress!
Infant gratitude view fondly shewn!
To blessings bestow, suré the donor must bless,
Whose heart is humanity's throne!
Then join, &c.

LINES TO DAPHNE,

BY DR. PERFECT.

DAPHNE, hear the lines I send,
Damon must be Daphne's friend;
Town amusements are polite,
Balls and concerts every night;
Unexhausted stores of bliss,
Sure must centre in all this!

Daphne whispers Damon Nay !
 Then, my Daphne, hear my lay ;
 Don't forget with haughty scorn,
 When the vernal op'ning morn,
 Like your eyes, with mildest ray,
 Softly usher'd in the day ;
 And the birds in mingled lays
 Music warbled from the sprays.
 Does the *morn* appear less bright ?
 With less beauty clear the sight ?
 Do the choicest of the wing
 Less sweetly warble, sweetly sing ?
 Did you not admire the groves,
 Envied scenes of sylvan loves ?
 Are the groves more gloomy grown ?
 'Tis because their Daphne's flown.
 You with pleasure oft have seen,
 Sporting o'er the merry green,
 Little lambkins, Damon's care ;
 Happy Damon, Daphne there !
 Do the lambkins sport it less ?
 You the cause, my fair, can guess :
 My bleaters saw their mistress near,
 Now she ceases them to cheer ;
 In wanton play, as heretofore,
 Daphne fled, they're seen no more :
 You forget the merry dance,
 Often urg'd by lucky chance.
 Is the rural dance all o'er ?
 Daphne's absence we deplore.
 Streams that used to purl along,
 Joining Philomela's song,
 Now in harsher accents brawl,
 Waking sorrows as they fall.
 Philomela's songs no more
 Enchant the evening as before ;
 My complaints wouldst thou remove,
 My petition too approve,
 In town no longer, Daphne, stay,
 Cottage scenes more bliss convey.

WRITTEN BY QUEEN ELIZABETH.

[FROM PUTTENHAM'S ART OF ENG. POESIE, 4TO. 1589.]

(QUOTED BY MR. MALONE.)

THE doubt of future woes
 Exiles my present joy,
 And wit me warns to shun such snares
 As threaten mine annoy.

For falshood now doth flow
 And subject faith doth ebbe,
 Which would not be, if reason rul'd,
 Or wisdom wev'd the webbe.

But clowdes of tois untried
 Do cloake aspiring mindes,
 Which turne to raigne of late repent,
 By course of changed wiundes.

The toppe of hope supposed
 The root of Ruth will be,
 And fruitlesse all their graffed guiles,
 As shortly ye shall see.

Then dazell'd eyes with pride,
 Which great ambition blinds,
 Shal be unseel'd by worthy wights,
 Whose foresight falshood finds.

The daughter of debate,
 That eke discord doth sowe,
 Shal reap no gaine, where former rule
 Hath taught still peace to growe.

No forreine banisht wight
 Shall ancre in this port;
 Our realme it brookes no stranger's force,
 Let them elsewhere resort.

Our rusty sworde with rest
 Shall first his edge employ,
 To poll their tops that seek such change,
 And gape for (such like) joy.

M.

TO DELIA.

WITH envious stroke, let Fortune still cut down
 The sweetest hope, the fondest love can frame,
 Constant in nought but her capricious frown;
 Fortune may change, but DELIA is the same.

Let Absence, clad in darkest garb of Woe,
 Press the torn heart with pangs it cannot name,
 While sad Remembrance doubles ev'ry blow;
 Joy may be lost, but DELIA is the same.

Let fell Despair rush eager for its prize,
 And mark my bosom for it's certain aim;
 Firm and unconquer'd by the dart I rise;
 Despair must fly, while DELIA is the same.
 Thus, Love! through Fortune, Absence, and Despair,
 Assert thy pow'r, and guard a faithful Pair.

C.

MONTHLY CHRONICLE.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

TRINCOMALE, (*East-Indies*) January 20, 1796.

THE King of Candy has entered into a treaty of amity and commerce with the East India Company, and dispatched ambassadors to Madras to ratify it.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, *March 12.*

Every thing remains tranquil, and nearly in the same state when I last wrote. We have had rumours here of a French fleet having left the Mediterranean to pay us a visit; if they come they will meet with a warm reception: the garrison is in excellent health, and capable of resisting a greater force than it is probable France will, or Holland can send against us.

We have accounts from Fort St. George, of the 24th November last. They mention the Paishwa to have been drowned by falling into a pond. There are strong suspicions entertained of his death not being altogether the result of accident. The minister, Fomavere, governs during the *inter-regnum*, and it is imagined will, to prolong his power, either by the murder or advancement of the son of the late Paishwa, who is at present a child. A son of the celebrated Rogoba is a candidate for the succession, and is supported by several Mahratta Chiefs.

Tippoo regards with jealousy our encreasing dominion in this hemisphere, but, he is too weak to offer impediments. The intercourse between him and Lord Hobart has the appearance of cordiality and friendship.

The Mahrattas had nearly overrun the Decan and fomented a civil war, at the head of which was the Nizam's son; but for the contest which is now about to take place amongst those mauraders, it is more than probable that the Decan would have been united to the Mahratta Confederacy. The rebellion is at an end.

The Dart packet arrived here from Europe a few days since.

CONSTANTINOPLE, *April 9.*

The Porte continues its naval operations, under the direction of the famous marine architect, Le Bron. He has constructed them a very fine 64 gun ship with which the Admiral is so contented that he makes it the flag ship. The crew of this vessel are chiefly Europeans, chosen by himself and dressed in a very well fancied uniform.

The new Beglerbeg of Romelia, who commands in the camp of Adrianople, sends daily various *beads* to Constantinople, which he says are those of the rebels of Bulgaria, whom he incessantly pursues. That, however of Passovan Ouglu, the Arch-rebel, he has not yet found it convenient to send.

HAGUE, *May 1.*

The Batavian National Assembly, in the sitting of the 28th ult. approved a Resolution which had been taken by a General Committee, by which it is ordered that a circular letter shall be written to the respective Provinces, for the purpose of raising the sum of sixty millions of florins, to provide for the service of the army and marines during the current year. It is to be paid at three different payments, the first on the 1st. of June, the second on the 1st. of September, and the 1st of December next.

The Deputy Scheemer then called the attention of the Assembly to the refusal made in the preceding year by the English minister to make any remittances to Holland, a refusal by which the inhabitants of the Republic had been deprived of the sums due as interest upon their money in the English Funds. He proposed in consequence, to decree a reciprocal refusal to pay any money to the subjects of Great Britain or Ireland, or on their account, whether for Bills of Exchange drawn from the Baltic on account of the English, or for Bills drawn on the Republic by way of Hamburg, &c.

Citizen Vackenaer moved in addition, that the interest due on sums in the English Funds shall not be laid out in those Funds. Both the motions were referred to a Committee of five members.

VIENNA, May 7.

The British Minister has communicated here the whole of the negociation which has passed between Mr. Wickham and M. Bartioleni, and the necessity for rejecting the unacceptable conditions of the French Directory. The result, which throws Peace at so great a probable distance, has caused here the most lively emotion. For the general good, humanity must wish that these differences could be composed.

The last intelligence received here from Russia states, that the affair of the King of Sweden's marriage, negotiating at Stockholm, was terminated amicably, that is to say, every thing went conformably to the good pleasure of the Empress.

His Swedish Majesty consequently will espouse the Grand Dutchess Alexander Pawlowna.

The Princess Louisa-Charlotte of Mecklenbourgh Schwerin is to receive a pension from the Empress; and the Hereditary prince, her brother, is to espouse another Grand Dutchess of Russia.

PARIS, May 7.

The Executive Directory has received intelligence of an Armistice concluded between the Commander in Chief of the Italian Army Buonaparte, and the King of Sardinia.

Besides Coni, Ceva, and Tortone, we are masters of all that part of Piedmont on the other side of the Sture and the Tenaro. The Courier arrived by the way of Turin.

CONDITIONS OF A SUSPENSION OF ARMS

Agreed between the French and Piedmontese Armies, by the Commander in Chief of the French Army in Italy, Buonaparte, and M. the Baron De la Tour, Lieutenant General of Cavalry in the service of the King of Sardinia, and the Marquis De Costa, Colonel Head of the Staff, charged by the King of Sardinia to treat with the General of the French Army.

Head-Quarters of Cerasco, 9. Floreal (April 28th) 1796.

Art. I. All hostilities shall cease between the French Army in Italy and the Army of the King of Sardinia, dating from the day whereon the conditions below shall be fulfilled, until five days after the end of the negociations set on foot to bring about a definitive peace between the two powers. To wit---Coni shall be occupied by the French, the 9th Floreal or 28th April of the present year---Alexandria shall also be occupied by them; in the mean time Tortone, as soon as possible, and at the latest on the 11th Floreal, 30th of April. Alexandria however shall only be occupied by the French until they shall be put in possession of Tortone.

Art. II. The French Army shall remain in possession of what it has conquered---namely, all the Country lying beyond the right bank of the Sture, as far as its confluence in the Tartano, and from thence following the course of the river until its discharge into the Po, for the time the French Troops occupy Alexandria---But when that place shall be rendered to the King of Sardinia for the possession of Tortone by the French, the limit shall continue from the confluence of the Sture and the Tartano to the height of Asty, on the right bank of the said river; thence, the high road leading to Nizza de la Paille, and from that last place to Cassigny shall serve for demarcation; from thence passing the Bormida below Cassigny, the French Army shall be in possession of the right bank of the Bormida, until it joins the Tartano, and finally thence to the confluence with the Po.

Art. III. The town and citadel of Coni shall be put into the hands of the French troops, as well as the town and citadel of Tortone, with the artillery, amunition, and provisions which may be therein, and of which an inventory shall be taken---this shall also be done at Alexandria, provisionally to be occupied by the French, until they are in possession of the place and citadel of Tortone.

Art. IV. The French troops shall be at liberty to cross the Po below Valence,
Art. V. Passage shall be accorded by the shortest routes to the extraordinary couriers, aides de-camp, or other officers, whom the French General may chuse to send to Paris, as well as on their return.

Art. VI. All the troops, officers, and their suite, in the pay of the King of Sardinia, making part of the Austrian army in Italy shall be comprised in the said suspension.

Art. VII. The citadel of Ceva shall be given up with its artillery, ammunition and provisions. The garrison shall retire into Piedmont.

Art. VIII. There shall be drawn up, in Coni and Tortone, or Alexandria, provisorily occupied in case Tortone cannot be instantly put in possession of the French, a statement of the artillery, arms, utensils, ammunition, and provisions; for which the French Republic shall be accountable to the King of Sardinia; that is to say, to restore the artillery, and to pay according to estimate for the ammunition and provisions which they may have consumed.

The same shall be done with those in Ceva.

The troops in these places shall retire into Piedmont, with their arms, baggage, and all the honours of war.

(Signed)

LIEUT. GEN. DE LA TOUR,
COLONEL COSTA.

BUONAPARTE.

HOME NEWS.

AT the Quarter Sessions for this borough held on Monday last, a butcher of the name of Robert Okey, of Little Dean in Gloucestershire, was indicted for regrating and forestalling. It appeared that he had bought of a butcher in Monmouth market, fifteen pounds of beef, at threepence per pound, and sold it to the prosecutor, an inhabitant of the town, after the rate of four-pence half-penny.---The defence was, that Okey had purchased this meat for the use of his own family, but, at the request of the prosecutor, had spared it to him, after much urgent intreaty.---The Justices, however, would not listen to any extenuation, but sentenced him to pay a fine of 20l. and to stand committed till the same was discharged; but being a man of property, the fine was immediately paid into court. The Justices presented the prosecutor with a guinea and returned him, their thanks for his conduct; which they hoped would at the same time, stimulate others to be alike vigilant in bringing to justice all similar offenders, against whom that Court were determined to inflict the most exemplary punishment the law justifies.

Oxford, May 4. On Thursday evening last the following melancholy accident happened:---Mr. William Badcock, a respectable Farmer of Sheepstead, in the Parish of Marcham, near Abingdon, returning in a one-horse-chaise with his wife from Highwôrth, where they had been attending the funeral of Mr. Badcock's mother, on the road from Faringdon, near Pusey Furze, the horse took fright, and ran away with the carriage, when the reins and shaft both breaking, Mr. and Mrs. Badcock were thrown out with such violence as to occasion the death of the former immediately, and his wife survived him a few hours only. They have left five children to lament their unhappy loss.

Exeter, May 5. Thursday night, a Mrs. Levy, her sister, daughter, and son, were apprehended and committed to Exeter bridewell, on suspicion of being concerned in endeavouring to set fire to that city in different parts. On Thursday night between eight and nine o'clock, the woman was observed to be loitering about St. Peter's church yard, and frequent sparks of fire were perceived, to drop from her, which awakening suspicion she was followed into the Globe passage, where she dropped a tinder-box, containing a quantity of tinder then in a livid state. Some peace officers proceeded immediately to search her house and shop in Westgate-street, where they discovered in the back yard a quantity of the same combustibles that had been found in different parts of the city. What were their view in the undertaking, conjecture itself is at a loss to determine, except it was for the purpose of plunder.---Combustibles were discovered two nights adjoining the premises of Mr. Pim, fuller, in Westgate-street.

Leeds, May 10. On Tuesday last the grand Tunnel, or subterraneous Aqueduct, on the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, at Foulridge, between Coln and Burnley, was opened. At twelve o'clock the unmooring of five vessels at the East end of the tunnel, filled with ladies, gentlemen and others, with colours flying, was announced by firing several rounds of cannon, and the shouts and acclamations of an innume-

nable concourse of people. The tunnel was passed in forty minutes by the heaviest sailing vessel, and the company proceeded to the first lock, where a very elegant cold collation was prepared for them, and from thence to Burnley, attended by an encresing and applauding multitude. At some distance from this place, the company in the first boat were surprized with the instantaneous and unexpected appearance of fifteen youths, the sons of the most respectable tradesmen in and about Burnley, smartly and uniformly dressed, who seizing the haling line, drew that boat to the bason there: pleasant as that circumstance was, its effects were much increased by the presence of a number of ladies who came on board the vessel.---The landing of the company was announced by the discharge of the cannon.---From the bason, the procession to the Bull Inn, was in the same order as from Coln to the tunnel.---At this Inn, and the Thorns Inn, dinners were prepared for the committee and the gentlemen attending.---On Tuesday evening there was a most splendid and numerous ball at Coln: and on Thursday evening the like at Burnley, to celebrate so beneficial an event.---This great tunnel, which is 1630 yards in length, begins about one mile from Colne, and ends at about six miles from Burnley, has been upwards of five years in completing, and some idea of the expence in the making thereof may be formed from the circumstance of one guinea an inch having been offered to any company that would have undertaken it. It is universally allowed to be the most complete work of the kind in England, if not in Europe.

Hull, May 14. The lamentable effects of terror have been frequently recorded. We are sorry to add another instance of its fatal power:---On Friday morning a girl living at a public-house in Mill-street in this town, was seized with an illness which threatened the most alarming consequences: to remove which, means were used without effect, for which she died early on Saturday morning.---Thursday evening, being what is called St. Mark's eve, the above girl, in company with two others, sat up to observe a custom of the most dangerous and ridiculous nature, which they called watching their suppers; in doing which it is supposed this girl heard some noise, or fancied she saw some object, which had such a terrible effect on her mind, as to produce the fatal consequences above-mentioned. We hope her awful example will be a warning to the thoughtless observers of such superstitious and impious practices.

On Monday last a servant girl, living with a respectable family in this town, on hearing that a soldier, her sweetheart, had been taken back and flogged as a deserter, when coming to this place to marry her, was afflicted with the most violent madness, and solicited a boy to cut her throat. She was secured; but remains still in a most deplorable state.---She is only nineteen years of age.

COURT OF KING'S BENCH, MAY 7.

Kydd Wake, tried and convicted last term, for hissing his Majesty on the 29th of October, on his return from the Parliament, and crying, "No war, down with George," &c. was brought up to the Court of King's Bench, on Saturday, for judgment---his sentence, five years imprisonment, and kept to hard labour in Gloucester house of correction---within the first three months to stand in the pillory in Gloucester, and at the expiration of five years, to give 1000l. security for his good behaviour for ten years.

Judge Ashurst, in passing sentence upon him:---

"If there had been any wish to stretch the laws to their utmost rigour, it may be doubted, whether the crime of which you have been found guilty might not have amounted to a crime of a much deeper die; for it has a manifest tendency to withdraw the affections of his Majesty's subjects from their lawful Sovereign, to excite the mob to disaffection and rebellion. This is the return you have made for the protection you have enjoyed under the auspicious Government of the best of Kings, and under the mildest and most excellent system of laws. I would have you remember, that there is perhaps no other kingdom in the world where for such an offence the offender's life would not have paid the forfeit."

OLD BAILEY, MAY 11.

Wednesday, at the Old Bailey, came on the trial of R. T. Crossfield, charged with conspiring, with others, to assassinate the King, by shooting at him a poi-

soned arrow from an air-gun.---Le Maitre, Higgins, and Smith, were also arraigned.

The Attorney General, after briefly stating the law in the present case, stated the substance of the indictment, and the evidence he had to produce. John Dowding would prove, that on the 8th of September, 1794. the prisoner, together with Upton, a lame man (the original informer, and since dead), went to several brass founders to enquire for a tube three feet long, of a certain bore and thickness; and that at last they agreed with one Flint for such a tube, and with Hill, a Turner, for some models in wood, which they said were for an electrical machine. Drawings also would be produced both of the machine and arrow, which was to be made with two spicæ, or forceps, with a hole to conceal any sort of poison.---He also stated, that the Prisoner had fled to France to escape justice, had changed his name, and had even boasted, while abroad, that he had attempted the King's life.---That when he returned and was taken, he tampered with the officers of justice for his escape.

After examining the witness for the Crown, Mr. Adam opened the prisoner's defence, and called a number of witnesses in his favour, whose testimony went both to invalidate the charges against the prisoner, and to attest the general loyalty of his character.

Mr. Gurney followed on behalf of the prisoner, and the Attorney General replied; after which Judge EYRE summed up the evidence.---He stated, that the overt acts charged in the indictment must be proved each by one witness. Those acts were---1st, for conspiring to make a certain instrument to discharge a poisoned arrow; the 2d, for procuring Hill to fashion two pieces of wood as models, and for delivering him certain written instructions and drawings; the 3d, for employing Upton to make the instrument. He then reviewed the evidence produced, and the decree of credit due to them respectively. The Jury withdrew for two hours, and brought in a verdict---*Not Guilty*.

May 14. Henry Weston was indicted for forging a certain deed, purporting to be a power of attorney, and executed by General Tonyn, with intent to defraud the Governor and Company of the Bank of England. A second count charged the same offence as being intended to defraud General Tonyn.

The case was rather complex; it occupied the attention of the Court a considerable time, and a variety of evidence was necessarily adduced:---however, the following is the outline of the case. It appeared that General Tonyn was possessed of 16,000l. stock in the three per cent. consols; the prisoner was acquainted with the General, and in the habits of doing business for him. In the month of February last, it appeared that the prisoner forged a power of attorney, as signed, &c. by the General, in the month of January last, (at which time General Tonyn was at Ipswich) authorising him to sell the above property in the funds. In the beginning of last month, General Tonyn wishing to transfer his property, took the necessary steps for that purpose; he sent a friend to Mr. Weston to the Bank, to desire him to be prepared to make the transfer on the following day---this was the 7th; Mr. Weston wished to have the matter postponed, as the 8th would prove an inconvenient day for transacting the business. In consequence of which the General agreed to postpone the affair until the following Monday, when it appeared that the General's property had been sold, and Mr. Weston fled.---He was pursued and taken not far from London, on the Northern Road.

Mr. Sylvester, who tried the case, summed up the evidence, of which the foregoing is the effect;---the case appeared to him to admit of very little doubt; but if any obtained on the minds of the Jury, they were bound to give the unfortunate gentleman the benefit of them, and of the very good character which he bore until the unhappy transaction.

A moment determined the Jury---*Verdict---Guilty*.

Mr. W. is a handsome young man, aged 25, of fashionable appearance, and elegantly dressed. After conviction, he addressed the Court; said he was resigned to his fate; hoped it would be a warning to every young man entrusted with property, and a caution to monied persons how they trusted young men with an unlimited power over their properties.

(See Page 292 of our last Number.)

Lord Kenyon in a Trial relative to a gambling transaction observed "The prevalence of these practices is deplorable in the extreme, and calls for the utmost exertion of Magistrates to correct. I have seen the case of the unfortunate young man, Mr. Weston. It was laid before me by a learned Divine, to whom he had submitted it. In this he declares, that he had received 50,000*l.* and paid upwards of 40,000*l.* without any means, but gambling!

Tisbury, Wilts, May 12. Two brothers were lately drowned here, in the following manner: they were the sons of a poor man of the name of Odbury, in Tisbury, and one of them had been confined some time on account of his being disordered in his senses: the father at length thinking him better, set him at liberty, when he ran out of the house, and threw himself into the river Nader, which runs near it. The father jumping in to save his son, was near drowning, when his other son a young man aged twenty-two, ran to his father's assistance, but jumping in too precipitately was the first drowned. Two men at a distance saw the transaction, and came to the spot just in time to save the father, who was with difficulty prevented jumping in again to share the fate of his two sons.

May 21. A person, said to be an American Captain, having imprudently ventured himself into a house of ill fame in Dean street, East Smithfield, near the May-pole, was robbed and murdered. The body was found concealed, the hands tied behind the back. It appears he had been hanged to a bed-post, as the cord was also hid among the feathers of the bed. Several women of the house are taken up, on whom the property of the unfortunate deceased was found. His goat was pledged for eleven shillings. A child was the principal instrument in discovering this horrid business.

LAMENTABLE DEATH OF LORD CHARLES TOWNSEND.

May 27. This morning Lord Charles Townsend, who with his brother, Lord Frederick, was returning to town from Yarmouth, was killed by the discharge of a pistol. While at Yarmouth, during the Election, their Lordships' conduct was so extraordinary as to induce Sir Edward Layton, the Mayor, to follow them to town with a view of overtaking them on the road, and to prevent that danger which the very deranged state of their minds threatened. The servant of the deceased, in his examination at the Marlborough street Police Office, stated his master to have shewn strong marks of insanity while at Yarmouth. The chaise-drivers deposed, that when the chaise stopped at Ilford, about four o'clock to change horses, they only saw Lord Frederick, who did not alight, but ordered them to drive on to Hanover-square; at Mile End they heard the report of a pistol, which they observed Lord Frederick afterwards throw out of the window; thinking no other person was in the carriage they drove on, until they reached Oxford-street, and then drew up to know which side of the square the Bishop of Norwich lived: on this Lord Frederick d--d them for their ignorance, and leaping out of the chaise struck one of them on the face, and insisting that he would fight stripped to the skin: a crowd being soon collected, the body of Lord Charles was discovered, warm, but no pulse; it was immediately taken to a chymist's close by, and Lord Frederick conducted to Mary-le-bone watchouse, where he said that his brother had shot himself on account of some religious dispute that took place between them on the road, and that he had endeavoured to do the same, but the pistol would not go off; a pistol which appeared to have been recently discharged, was found in the chaise. The Coroner's inquest, after a minute investigation, at twelve o'clock on Friday night, returned the following verdict: "Upon the view of the body, and from the evidence obtained, that Lord Charles Thomas Townsend's death was occasioned by the pistol shot, they have no proof by whose hand the pistol was fired." Lord Frederick, about two years since, was for nine or ten months under the care of Dr. Willis; drinking to excess during the Election, it is supposed has caused a return of this malady. Lord Charles, while at Yarmouth, threatened to go on board a vessel under way, he said to put an end to all his troubles.

Lord Charles Townsend was twenty-seven years of age, and remarkably handsome. Lord Frederick is again placed under the care of Dr. Willis.

PROMOTIONS.

MILITARY.

Lieutenant Colonel Harry Calvert, of the Coldstream Guards, to be Deputy Adjutant-General to the Forces in South Britain, *vice* Amherst. Colonel Jeffery Amherst, Deputy Adjutant-General, to be Governor of Upnor Castle, *vice* Irving deceased. Lieutenant James Nagle, to be Commissary of Musters at the Cape of Good Hope. Captain Bryce M'Murdo, of the 8th Foot, to be Major of Brigade to the Forces. Captain ----- Williamson, of the 46th of Foot, to be Major of Brigade to the Forces. Major F. Erskine, to be Colonel of the 50th Regiment of Foot. Major George Smith, to be Commandant of Bonifaccio, in Corsica.

CLERICAL.

The Rev. ----- Tringham, to be Chaplain to the Garrison at the Cape of Good Hope. The Rev. Claudius Buchanan, to be Chaplain to Fort William, Bengal. The Rev. John Smith, A. M. Fellow of Pembroke College, Oxford, to be master of that society, *vice* Dr. Seagrove deceased. The Rev. Augustus Bullmer, M. A. to be Rector, Sall, Com. Norfolk. The Rev. H. Cooper, M. A. to be Vicar of Saxthorpe, Com. Norfolk. The Rev. W. Baker, L.L.B. of Trinity Hall, Cambridge, to be Rector of Lyndon, Com. Rutland. The Rev. W. Benwell, to be Rector of Chilton, Com. Sussex.

NEW TITLES.

His Majesty has been pleased to grant the dignity of a Baronet of Great Britain unto the following gentlemen and to their heirs male, viz. John Cox Hipplesley, of Warfield Grove, Com. Berks, Esq. Wharton Amcotts of Kettlethorpe Park, Com. Lincoln, Esq. Edmund Cradock Hartopp, of Freeby, Com. Leicester, Esq. Thomas Turton, of Starborough Castle, Com. Surry, Esq. Robert Baker, of Upper Dunstable House, Com. Surry, Esq.

May 11. The King was pleased to confer the honour of Knighthood on Francis D'Ivernois, Esq.

MARRIAGES.

May 2. The Rev. Mr. Dixon of Humbleton in Holderness to Miss Raines, of Flinton. 5. At Swansea, Glamorganshire, A. Page, Esq. to Miss France. 6. In Dublin Major Stark to Miss Boulton. 7. At Bristol, J. Olive Esq. to Miss Ames. --- Stokes, Esq. of Dartmouth, to Miss Pickerd, eldest daughter of the late Col. Pickerd of the 13th Dragoons. 10. At St. Martin's in the Fields, George Granville Marshall, Esq. of Charing, Kent, to Miss Hutchinson, eldest daughter of the late Norton Hutchinson, Esq. of Woodhall-park, Herts. Edward Divett, Esq. of Lansdowne-place, to Miss Kensington, of New Bridge-street. At Bawtry, Mr. Wormald, of Leeds, to Miss Nettleship, only daughter of the late Jonathon Nettleship, of Mattersea Abbey, Com. Nottingham, Esq. The Hon. and Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Saint David's to Miss Penn, daughter of the late Hon. Thomas Penn, Esq. proprietor of the Province of Pennsylvania. 11. Sir Edmund Head, Bart. to Miss Western, of Cokethorp, Oxfordshire. 12. At Tooting, G. Kensington, Esq. to Miss Browne. 13. At Edmondthorpe, the accomplished Mr. P. Rippon, aged 60, to the agreeable Mrs. Judith Orailow, aged 74. Part of the Gentleman's attractions were lost on his Bride, as she had been deprived of her sight upwards of twenty years. Hugh Dillon, Massy, Esq. eldest son of Sir Hugh Massey, Bart. to Miss S. Hankey, second daughter of the late Thomas Hankey, Esq. of Bedford-square.

OBITUARY.

ON the beginning of April, at Berne, in Switzerland, after a lingering illness of many years, the Right Hon. Spencer Compton, Earl of Northampton, Lord Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of the County of Northampton.

April 15. At Hamburg, the Rev. Sir George Molesworth, Bart. Vicar of Northfleet, Kent.

April 20. At his house in James-street, Dublin, Thomas Whitehouse. His body was found suspended from the bannisters; where it was supposed, from its putrid state, to have hung some time. Mr. W. was at all times a very singular character; and had met with some reverses of fortune, which induced him to live a very recluse life. Just before his death, he discharged his female servant, and shut up his house, giving out that he was going into the country.

April 21. At Hallow Park, in Worcestershire, William Weaver, Esq. upwards of eighty years of age. In 1748 he married Lady Mary Douglas, Baroness of Mordington, which Lady died June 22, 1791, by whom he left no issue. Capt. Weaver had formerly been of the Royal Regiment of Horse Guards, was with his late Majesty at the battle of Dettingen, and with the late Duke of Cumberland at Fontenoy, and had two brothers killed in the service.

April 26. Suddenly, John Pardoe, jun. Esq. M. P. His death was occasioned by his affliction for the loss of his amiable wife. Excessive grief urged him to put an end to his own existence. This rash action was perpetrated while the other mourners were gone to attend the funeral. He has left five young orphans, the heirs to very considerable property.

May 1. Alexander Fergusson, Esq. Advocate, of Edinburgh. He was unfortunately killed on the road from Dumfries to Craigdarrock, by the overturning of his carriage.

Lately at Sierra Leone, Mr. Watt, so celebrated for his travels and discoveries in Africa.

At Horncastle, Com. Lincoln, Miss Heald, of Wakefield.

2. At Hope Park, after a short ill-

ness, James Ogilvy, Esq. Deputy Receiver General of the Customs for Scotland.

The Hon. Wandesford Butler, brother to the Right Hon. the Earl of Ormond, of the kingdom of Ireland.

Lately, at Port au Prince, St. Domingo, aged 23 years, Captain Joseph Longbotham, of the ship *Ariel*.

3. In Edinburgh, John Russel, Esq. Clerk to the Signet.

5. At Bolos, in Shropshire, ----- Higgins, Esq. father to the Countess of Exeter.

At Hull, Mr. Joseph Waite, a well-known gentleman, who not content with looking after the *money* of many people there, frequently borrowed their *persons*, in his profession as a sheriff's officer.

6. Lately, at Calcutta, Lieut. John Wittett, of the Artillery.

At Bradford, J. Shrapnell, Esq.

At Prescot, Com. Lancaster, J. Fazakerly, Esq.

7. At Norwich, aged 93, J. Wakefield, Esq.

At Chester, the Rev. J. Griffith, D. D.

At Chelmsford, aged 24, Mrs. Innes. Her husband was a Captain in the 24th regiment, and on the day of his marriage was ordered to Ireland, from whence he was sent to the West Indies, where he died; her solicitude for his safety, and subsequent distraction at his loss, literally broke her heart.

8. Mr. William Walker, surgeon to St. George's Hospital.

At the house of her father, in the Crescent, Bath, Miss Bathoe, daughter of John Bathoe, Esq.

At Llanarmon, Wales, the Rev. Mr. Williams; and on the same day, Mrs. Williams, his wife. His brother, Mr. Williams, of Llanvillin, died in his attendance on the funeral.

At Esher, Com. Surry, W. Moore, Esq.

9. After a long illness, at his house in Lombard-street, Mr. Matthew Ray.

At the palace of Hampton Court, in her 71st year, the Dowager Baroness du Tour.

10. At Norwich, Mrs. F. Gibbon, aged 85.

At Shawbury Park, A Corbett, Esq. In Cateaton-street, aged 18, Miss Cowley.

At Ardwick, Lancashire, Mr. Edward Smith.---As Treasurer to the Stranger's Friend Society, and a visitor of the sick, his uncommon philanthropy is well known. To him the character given of Job is strictly applicable---" because he delivered the poor that cried, and the fatherless, and him that had none to help him; the blessing of those that were ready to perish come upon him, and he caused the widow's heart to sing for joy.

John Smith, of Chiddingly, in the county of Sussex. As he was removing some rubbish, preparatory to the opening of a chalk pit, near Berwick, the earth fell in upon him, whereby he was so terribly bruised, that he languished until Saturday evening, and then he died. This unfortunate man has left a widow and 13 children to lament his loss; he had scarce reached his 44th year, and was a sober, industrious labourer: his wife had been 19 times pregnant in 20 years, and this numerous family supported itself with moderate assistance. In times like the present, the late industry of the deceased and his wife's good management might truly be worthy the imitation of the cottager!

At Cambridge, Mr. Jonathan Lambert, of Jesus College.

At Ramsgate, Mrs. Freeling, wife of F. Freeling, Esq. of the General Post Office. During a long and painful illness, she maintained that Christian fortitude and benevolence of mind which at all times distinguished her, and has left a numerous circle of friends to lament that happiness which they have so often known in her company and conversation.

12. At Saffron Walden, the Rev. Mr. Campbell, Vicar of Henham, Com. Essex.

At Clough, near Rotheram, Com. York, John Hirst, Esq. aged 81.

13. In her 18th year, Miss A. J.

Perkins, of Park-street, Grosvenor-square.

In his 54th year, Mr. John Binns, bookseller of Hull, Yorkshire, and formerly partner in the banking-house of Mess. Fenton, Scott, and Co. at Leeds.

14. At Neath, Com. Glamorgan, William Basset, Esq.

15. At Worle, Com. Somerset, Mr. Henry Banwell, master of the King's-head Inn, in that place.

16. At Ipswich, aged 66, Henry Gallant, Esq.

17. In his 24th year, William Jesup, Esq. only son of Daniel Jesup, Esq. of Leiston, Com. Suffolk.

18. Mrs. Arnold, wife of Aldous Charles Arnold, Esq. of Lowestoffe.

19. At her house in Hereford-street, the Right Ho. Lady Charlotte Finch, eldest daughter of the late Earl of Winchelsea.

20. At his house, Drumsheugh, near Edinburgh, the Hon. James Erskine, Lord of Alva, one of the Senators of the College of Justice. His Lordship was admitted an Advocate December 3, 1743; appointed one of the Barons of the Exchequer May 27, 1754; and on the 20th of May 1761, was appointed to be one of the Lords of Session, and took the title of Lord Barjaro, which title he afterwards altered to that of Lord Alva.

Mrs. Tremmells, wife of Mr. Tremmells, of Northumberland-street, in the Strand.

21. At her house in Ipswich, Mrs. Hatley, relict of J. Hatley, Esq. of that place.

The Rev. William Blake, Vicar of Stockland Bristol, Com. Somerset.

22. In Bloomsbury-place, Thomas Weir, Esq.

24. In Great Queen-street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, Mrs. Francklin, widow of the late Rev. Dr. Francklin, Translator of Sophocles, and author of many other literary works.

Mr. David Leathes, of George-street, Hanover-square, aged 81.

LIST OF BANKRUPTS.

April 30. SIR James Cockburn, Bart. late of London, merchant. John Wyl-der, and Nathaniel Hall, of Sun-street, Bishopgate-street, watch-makers. Robert Davies, of Bearbinder-lane, London, Merchant. George Fawell, and John Ambrose, of Tichborne-street, Westminster, linen-drappers. George Byrne, late of Vere-street, Oxford-street, Middlesex, hatter. Thomas Pritchard, of King-street, Golden-square, ironmonger. William Pickman, of Fulham, Middlesex, malster. William Haslam, of Little Bolton, Lancashire, leather-cutter. Thomas Smith, late of Liverpool, Lancashire, dealer. William Coleburn, of Wavertree, Lancashire, wheel-wright. James Brown, of Brownlow-street, St. Giles's in the Fields, London, grocer. John Smith, of Esher, Surrey, grocer. Robert Dowsberry, of Limehouse, timber-merchant. John Philpott, of Isle-worth, Middlesex, Callico-printer. Thomas Dudley, of Dudley, Worcestershire, grocer. George Grayson, of South Cave, Yorkshire, grocer. Alexander Lindores, of Little Mary-le-bone-street, Middlesex, baker. May 3. Samuel Booth, of Adam-street, St. Mary-le-bone, painter and glazier. William Phelps, of the Old South Sea House, insurer. J. Simpson, and Cornelius O'Bryan, of Bread-street, London, warehousemen. H. Ramsden, of Bethwin's-rents, Walworth, horse-dealer. May 7. Paul Woolley, of New North-street, St. Mary-le-bone, wine-merchant. William Howgate, of Bridge-street, London, haberdasher. Abraham Bellamy, late of Cannon-street, London, merchant. John Wright, of Stanhope-street, Clare-market, painter. Edward Rogers, and John Rodd, of Bread-street, Cheap-side, woollen-factors. John Taylor, of Swinton-street, Gray's-inn-lane, scivener. James Jex, of King's Lynn, Norfolk, linen-draper. William Pheasant, of Woolwich, corn chandler. Edward Slade, late of High-street, Southwark, Haberdasher. John Rhodes, and Michael Head, of Bridg-north, Salop, builders. George Parry, of Long Acre, Middlesex, coach-maker. Josiah Roote, of Whitechapel, linen-draper. May 10. J. Palmer, of Thavies-inn, money scrivener. R. Busby, of Chiselhurst, Kent, dealer. G. Hassel, of Hanover-street, Hanover-square, dealer. Ash Bond, of Lynn Regis, cordwainer. Sarah Wells, of Lincoln, milliner. Timothy Harris, of Paul's-court, Wood-street, hosier. J. Philpot, of Great Badow, Essex, butcher. J. Garside, of Stockport, Cheshire, grocer. D. Lloyd, of Ely, in the isle of Ely, shopkeeper. Cæsar Andrews, of Green Hammerton, Yorkshire, spirit-merchant. May 14. Robert Lane, of Bermondsey, Surrey, Tanner. William Busby, of Chiselhurst, Surrey, Dealer. Richard Whalley Bridgman, late of Grocers Hall, London, Scrivener. George Parker of Fetter Lane, London, Baker, Thomas Jones, of King Street Covent Garden, London, Linen Draper. James Payne, of old Bethlem, London, Turner. Joseph Thomas, of Stone-house, Gloucester, Linen Draper. Benjamin Goodman, of Staverton, Southampton, Dealer. John Esckrick Leigh, of Bolton in the Moors, Lancaster, Cotton Manufacturer. 17 John Appleton, the younger, John Wilcock, and Benjamin Astley of Bootle Lancashire, paper-manufacturers. John Graves, of Nottingham, Joiner. John Martin late of Pershore, Worcestershire, Innholder. Jacob and Abraham Rimer, of Frome Selwood, Somersetshire, clothiers. Edward Allen, of Great Hermitage, Cheesemonger. William Taylor, of Ball-Alley, Lombard Street, Taylor. Wil-liam Wright, the elder, and William Wright the younger, and John Maud Wright, of Wellclose Square, Middlesex, Coal-merchants. William Raster of Bristol, money-scrivener. Thomas Berfe and John Alger, of York, button-factors. James Aspin, of Margate, Kent, linen-draper. William Hurt of Pell's Gardens, Rat-cliff Highway, Middlesex, builder. Jonah M'Ewen of Castle-street, East Oxford-Market, Middlesex, cabinet-maker. 23. James Valentine Murray, late of Billi-ter Lane, London, Merchant. Joseph Strahan, late of Hanley, Staffordshire, Stationer. John Park, of Austin Friars, London, Merchant. James Hamilton, of Liverpool, Broker. Joseph Kirk, late of Rotheram, Yorkshire, Grocer. Thomas O'Reilly, late of Portsmouth Point, Woollen Draper, John Snook Amies, of Bath, Linen Draper. Thomas Radcliffe, late of Wigan, Com. Lancaster. John Peter Gassiot, of Union Street Bishopsgate Street, Merchant. Robert Troy, late of Greenwich, Taylor.