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Andinet sc.

To the Memory of
DAVID GARRICK,
who died in the Year 1779, at the Age of 63.

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THE
SCIENTIFIC MAGAZINE,
 AND
FREEMASONS' REPOSITORY,

FOR OCTOBER, 1797.

EMBELLISHED WITH AN ENGRAVED REPRESENTATION OF THE
MONUMENT OF DAVID GARRICK, ESQ.
 IN WESTMINSTER ABBEY.

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THE
SCIENTIFIC MAGAZINE,
AND
FREEMASONS' REPOSITORY,

FOR OCTOBER, 1797.

THE LIFE
OF
DAVID GARRICK, ESQ.

WITH A REPRESENTATION OF HIS MONUMENT IN WESTMINSTER ABBEY.*

AT last the customary tribute to departed excellence has been erected in Westminster Abbey to the memory of the English Roscius. It is not for us to enquire why this mark of respect has been so long delayed; neither shall we make any remarks, in our notice of the dead, that may affect the feelings of the living. The opportunity offers of delineating the life and character of this great favourite of the public, and we embrace it with pleasure.

DAVID GARRICK was the son of Capt. Peter Garrick, and was born at Hereford, February 20th, 1716. At the time of his birth his father was on a recruiting party in that city; but his usual residence was Litchfield. His grandfather, it is said, was a merchant of French extraction, who left his native country on the revocation of the edict of Nantz in 1685. He had two sons and two daughters; one of the former became a wine-merchant at Lisbon; and the father of Mr. Garrick adopted the military profession, and at the time of his death was advanced to a majority. His lady was a native of Ireland. Not long before his death he entered into an agreement with a gentleman to sell his commission, for which he was to have had 1100*l*.; but unfortunately his death happening before the comple-

* The following lines, inscribed on the Monument of Mr. Garrick, although inserted in a former Number, are necessary here to be repeated, to accompany the Plate.

To paint fair Nature, by Divine command,
Her magic pencil in his glowing hand,
A Shakspeare rose—then to expand his fame
Wide o'er this breathing world, a GARRICK came.
Tho' sunk in death the forms the Poet drew,
The Actor's genius made them breath a-new;
Though like the Bard himself in night they lay,
Immortal Garrick call'd them back to-day:
And till Eternity, with power sublime,
Shall mark the mortal hour of hoary time,
Shakspeare and Garrick like twin stars shall shine,
And earth irradiate with a beam divine.

This Monument, the tribute of a Friend, was erected 1797.

tion of the sale, his numerous family were left in a great measure unprovided for.

His son, David, received the first part of his education at the free school of Litchfield; and early met with a friend in Mr. Gilbert Walmsley, register of the ecclesiastical court of that diocese, (then unmarried, and well advanced in years) whose friendship seemed to promise some favourable expectations of a permanent provision; all which, however, were destroyed by his unexpectedly taking a wife. Mr. Walmsley was also the friend of Dr. Johnson, who has given him the following excellent character: "At his table, I enjoyed many cheerful and instructive hours, with companions such as are not often found; with one who has lengthened, and one who has gladdened life; with Dr. James, whose skill in physic will be long remembered; and with David Garrick, whom I hoped to have gratified with this character of our common friend. But what are the hopes of man! I am disappointed by that stroke of death, *which has eclipsed the gaiety of nations and impoverished the public stock of harmless pleasures.*"

So early did he conceive an attachment to theatrical representation, that when he was little more than eleven years old, he played the part of *Serjeant Kite*, in the *Recruiting Officer*, at Litchfield, with some other young persons; and the play was acted in a manner so far above the expectation of the audience, that it gave general satisfaction, and was much applauded. This early attempt was in 1727.

Not long after he was invited to Lisbon by his uncle, who was a considerable wine-merchant there; but his stay in that city was short, for he returned to Litchfield the following year. During his short stay at Lisbon, he made himself agreeable to all who knew him, particularly to the English merchants who resided there, with whom he often dined. After dinner they usually diverted themselves by placing him on a table, and calling upon him to repeat verses and speeches from plays, which he did with great readiness, and much to the satisfaction of his hearers. Some Portuguese young gentlemen of the highest rank, who were of his own age, were also much delighted with his conversation. I have heard him say (Mr. Davies adds) that he had been often in company with the unfortunate Duke D'Aveiro, who was afterwards put to death for a conspiracy against the king of Portugal.

He was for some time pupil to Dr. Samuel Johnson, who then kept an academy at Edial, near Litchfield. On that great man's quitting the situation of schoolmaster, and setting out for London, young Garrick determined on accompanying him, with an intention to complete his education, and follow the profession of the law.

This joint expedition of those two eminent men to the metropolis was many years afterwards noticed in an allegorical poem on Shakspeare's 'Mulberry Tree,' by Mr. Lovibond, the ingenious author of 'the Tears of Old May-Day.' They were recommended to Mr. Colson, an eminent mathematician, and master of the academy at Rochester, by the following letter from Mr. Walmsley:

TO THE REVEREND MR. COLSON.

DEAR SIR,

Litchfield, March 2, 1737.

‘ I HAD the favour of yours, and am extremely obliged to you; but I cannot say I had a greater affection for you upon it than I had before, being long since so much endeared to you, as well by an early friendship, as by your many excellent and valuable qualifications; and, had I a son of my own, it would be my ambition, instead of sending him to the university, to dispose of him as this young gentleman is. He, and another neighbour of mine, one Mr. Samuel Johnson, set out this morning together for London. Davy Garrick is to be with you early next week, and Mr. Johnson to try his fate with a tragedy, and to see to get himself employed in some translation, either from the Latin or the French. Johnson is a very good scholar and poet, and, I have great hopes, will turn out a fine tragedy-writer. If it should any way lie in your way, I doubt not but you would be ready to recommend and assist your countryman.

G. WALMSLEY.*

How long he continued in Mr. Colson’s academy is unkuown, but it is not likely that the mathematics and natural philosophy could have charms to entertain a mind like his.

He afterwards entered himself of Lincoln’s Inn; but the law was soon abandoned for more pleasing pursuits. Having a legacy of one thousand pounds left him by his uncle at Lisbon, he engaged for a short time in the wine-trade, in partnership with his brother, Peter Garrick: they hired vaults in Durham-yard, for the purpose of carrying on the business; but the union between the two brothers did not last long. Peter was calm, sedate, and methodical. David was gay, volatile, impetuous, and perhaps not so confined to regularity as his partner could have wished. The partnership, therefore, was soon dissolved.

He now turned his attention seriously to the stage as an employment. He frequented the company of the most eminent actors, he got himself introduced to the managers of the theatres, and tried his talent in the recitation of some particular and favourite portions of plays. Now and then he indulged himself in the practice of mimicry, a talent which, however inferior, is never willingly resigned by him who excels in it. Sometimes he wrote criticisms upon the action and elocution of the players, and published them in the prints. These sudden effusions of his mind generally comprehended judicious observations and shrewd remarks, unmingled with that illiberality which often disgraces the instructions of modern stage critics.

Diffidence withheld him from trying his strength at first on the London stage; he therefore engaged with a company of players at Ipswich, of which Messrs. Giffard and Dunstall were managers, in the Summer of 1741.

His first theatrical effort was Aboan in the tragedy of Oroonoko. Under the disguise of a black countenance, he hoped to escape being

* Boswell’s Life of Johnson, 2vo. vol. i. p. 78.

Known, in case he should happen to be unsuccessful. Though this is not a first rate character, yet the scenes of pathetic persuasion and affecting distress, in which that character is involved, must command the attention of an audience when well represented. The applause which he met with exceeded his most sanguine expectations. Under the assumed name of Lyddell he not only acted a variety of characters in plays, particularly Chaumont in the Orphan, Captain Brazen in the Recruiting Officer, and Sir Harry Wildair; but he also attempted the agility of Harlequin, and in every effort he gave so much satisfaction to the audience, that they repaid him with constant and loud testimonies of their approbation.

Having secured great credit as a performer at Ipswich, he came to London, and engaged with Mr. Giffard, of the theatre in Goodman's Fields. He made his first appearance, October 19th, 1741, in the character of Richard the Third, which he played in a manner that at once fixed his reputation as the first actor of the age.

Two circumstances were observed on his first night's performance; one, that on his entrance on the stage, he was under so much embarrassment, as for some time to be unable to speak; the other, that, having exerted himself with much vehemence in the first two acts, he became so hoarse as to be almost incapable of finishing the character. This difficulty was obviated by a person behind the scenes recommending him to take the juice of a seville orange, which he fortunately had in his pocket, and which enabled him to go through the remainder of the character with that degree of excellence which he ever afterwards shewed in the performance of it. The person to whom he owed this seasonable relief was the late Mr. Dryden Lead, the printer.

Among other novelties attending his first performance of this character, Mr. Davies remarks, that when news was brought to Richard, that the Duke of Buckingham was taken, Garrick's look and action, when he pronounced the words,

————— ' Off with his head,
So much for Buckingham! '---

were so significant and important, from his visible enjoyment of the incident, that several loud shouts of approbation proclaimed the triumph of the actor, and the satisfaction of the audience. The death of Richard was also accompanied with the loudest gratulations of applause.

' The same play was acted six or seven times successively; and the manager seeing Garrick's merit, did all in his power to support it. Several other parts, among which were Aboan, Chamont, Claudio in the Pop's Fortune, Bays in the Rehearsal, succeeded Richard, which last, however, was the favourite character, and was repeatedly called for, and acted to crowded audiences.

Such was his fame, that the Theatres of Drury-Lane and Covent-Garden were deserted. Goodman's Fields was full of the splendour of St. James's and Grosvenor square; and the coaches of the nobility filled up the space from Temple-bar to Whitechapel. Those who

had been the most attached to the old performers could not but confess that he had excelled them all in the variety of his exhibitions, and equalled them all in their most applauded characters.

Mr. Pope was persuaded by Lord Orrery to see him in the first dawn of his fame. That great man was struck with the propriety and beauty of Mr. Garrick's action; and as a convincing proof that he had a good opinion of his merit, he told his Lordship, that he was afraid the young man would be spoiled, for he would have no competitor.

The jealousy, however, of his contemporary actors was roused. Quin, who had hitherto been deemed the first tragic performer, could not conceal his uneasiness. After he had been a spectator of Garrick's Richard, he declared 'that if the young fellow was right, he and the rest of the players had been all wrong:' and upon being told that Goodman's-Fields Theatre was crowded every night, he said, 'That Garrick was a new religion: Whitfield was followed for a time, but they would all come to church again.'

Mr Garrick being informed of this sarcasm, made the following epigram:

'Pope Quin, who damns all churches but his own,
Complains that heresy infests the town;
That Whitfield-Garrick has misled the age,
And taints the sound religion of the stage:
Schism, he cries, has turn'd the nation's brain;
But eyes will open, and to church again!
Thou great infallible, forbear to roar,
Thy bulls and errors are rever'd no more;
When doctrines meet with general approbation,
It is not heresy but reformation.'

Colley Cibber, after seeing his performance of Bays, said 'Garrick was well enough, but not superior to his son Theophilus;' who had hardly any thing to recommend him besides pertness and vivacity.

Mrs. Bracegirdle, a celebrated actress, who had then left the stage about thirty years, and whose opinion on theatrical matters was much respected, being in conversation with Cibber when he spoke of Garrick in contemptuous terms, generously said, 'Come, come, Cibber, tell me if there is not something like envy in your character of this young gentleman: the actor who pleases every body must be a man of merit.' The old man feeling the force of the rebuke, took a pinch of snuff, and frankly said, 'Why, faith, Bracey, I believe you are right; the young fellow is clever.' Mr. Garrick's weekly income did not at first exceed six or seven pounds a week. But when his importance was perceived, and the house was found to be empty if his name was not in the bills, the manager readily allowed him a moiety of the profits. In consequence of this he was constantly employed; and frequently performed in both the play and farce. Thus, after exciting distress in the audience by his Lear and Richard, he relieved them with the tricks of the Lying Valet, or the humours of the School Boy.

[TO BE CONCLUDED IN OUR NEXT.]

SINGULAR CUSTOM IN DEVONSHIRE.

THE southern part of Devonshire is remarkable for producing excellent cyder. In order to ensure a good harvest, the following custom is generally observed in that quarter. On the eve of the Epiphany, the farmer and his men take with them a large pitcher of cyder to the orchard, and there circling one of the best trees, they drink the following toast three times:

' Here's to thee, old apple-tree ;
 Whence thou may'st bud and whence thou may'st blow !
 And whence thou may'st bear apples enow !
 Hats full ! Caps full !
 Bushel—bushel—sacks full !
 And my pockets full too !
 Huzza, huzza, huzza !'

This done, they return to the house, the doors of which are fastened by the women, who are inexorable to all entreaties to open them, till one of the men has guessed what is on the spit, which is generally some nice thing difficult to be hit on, and is the reward of him who names it first. Some are so superstitious as to believe, that if they neglect this custom, the trees will bear no apples that year. w.

WEST INDIA CRUELTY.

RELATED BY THE BARON DE WIMPEFFEN, IN HIS VOYAGE TO ST. DOMINGO,
 IN 1790, &c.

A YOUNG lady, and one of the handsomest in the island, gave a grand dinner. Furious at seeing a dish of pasty brought to the table overdone, she ordered her negro cook to be seized, and *thrown into the oven, yet glowing with heat!*—and this horrible Megæra, this infernal fiend, whom public execration ought to drive with every mark of abhorrence from society—this worthy rival of the too famous Chaperon, is followed and admired—for she is rich and beautiful!

So much for what I have heard, and now for what I have seen.

The day after my return, I was walking before the *casa* of a planter with one of his neighbours, when we overheard him bid a negro go into the enclosure of this very neighbour, pull up two young trees which he pointed out to him, and replant them immediately in a terrace he was forming. The negro went: the neighbour followed him, surprized him in the fact, and brought him to his master. Conceive, Sir, what passed in my mind, when, on the complaint of the neighbour, I heard the master coldly order another of his negroes to tie the pretended culprit to a ladder, and give him an hundred lashes! We were both of us struck with such astonishment, that, stupified, pale, and shuddering, while the unhappy negro received the barbarous chastisement in silence, we looked at one another without being able to utter a single word. And he who thus punished his own crime on the blind instrument of his will is here one of the first organs of the law, the official protector of innocence!

A REVIEW OF THE LIFE AND WRITINGS
OF
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE EDMUND BURKE.

[CONTINUED FROM VOL. IX. P. 300.]

WHEN Mr. Burke entered on public business, discontents were internally prevalent,—disaffection was rapidly spreading itself over the American colonies. At home, the promotion of Lord Bute to succeed the illustrious Pitt had given great umbrage to the Southern Britons. To the alledged inferiority of his talents* his country added in rendering him u p pular. The displeasure of the English was farther increased by the advancement of Scotchmen beyond their allowed proportion of merit. The Scotch, besides, were represented as inimical to liberty; and the Constitution was, by popular leaders, alledged to be in danger, from the principles and measures of the Scotch Minister, his friends, countrymen, and tools. When Bute ceased to be ostensible Minister, he was asserted by some, and believed by many, to be still the real manager of public affairs, and was the principal object of popular invective. Abuse of the supposed mover of the political machine extended to his country, rose to the royal family, and to the Sovereign himself. The violence of Wilkes called for a check. In prosecuting him for the famous Forty-five of the North Briton, the Officers of the Crown had overstepped the precise boundaries of law. This deviation was represented by the popular party as a branch of a general system, of invading the dearest rights of Englishmen. From this, and many other alledged effects of the influence of Bute, dissatisfaction prevailed. Circumstances, apparently unconnected with it, were referred to the same cause.

When Mr. Grenville came to be Prime Minister; his attention seemed to be chiefly directed to the increase of revenue, in order to afford new supplies to the finances of the country, exhausted by the war recently concluded. Among other objects of financial regulation were the colonies of North America. Several taxes, proposed by that Minister, were represented by the colonies as in themselves intolerable grievances, and as part of a general plan to invade their liberty and property. The famous *Stamp-Act* completed their discontent. They not only inveighed against it as a financial regulation, but disputed the right of the British Parliament to impose taxes on America, and entered into combinations to prevent the measures of Government from taking effect. At home, also, not the act only, but the principle was reprobated by the popular party. Such was the state of affairs, internal and colonial, when the Marquis of Rocking-

* Though Lord Bute (as were most men) was certainly inferior in intellectual powers, and in vigour of mind, to Mr. Pitt, he is allowed by impartial judges to have been a man of good talents and considerable knowledge.

ham was appointed Minister, and Burke began to devote his great talents to the public service. He was now chosen member for Wexford, and made Secretary to the Marquis.

He took a wide view of the question of American taxation, and formed a conclusion, that it was not consistent with the Constitution of Britain, that any of her subjects should be taxed but by themselves or their representatives. This was his grand principle, to which he resorted, whenever American affairs were the subject of discussion, and which he applied to whatever motion, relative to them, was brought before Parliament. He uniformly, indeed, shewed himself impressed with the deepest sense of the excellence of the British Constitution, making the preservation of our whole polity his great care, though he varied the means according to circumstances. To preserve the whole, he endeavoured to prevent any one part from overbearing the rest; supporting the popular, the aristocratical, or monarchical parts, according as either of them appeared likely to be overpowered.

On questions concerning measures of particular operation, and on questions concerning the conduct of particular men, he sometimes might be hurried into mere party plans, or narrow opinions; but when the subject affected the Constitution, his views were enlarged, and his counsels patriotic. When, in the case of the Middlesex election, the House of Commons had exerted a power of *declaring eligibility*, finding no statute, no applicable precedent to justify their proceedings, he censured their conduct as unconstitutional, and joined in respectfully petitioning his Majesty to call a new Parliament; but still more reprobated the violence and licentiousness of certain democratical petitions on the same subject. He never associated with any of the abettors of popular violence. He spoke with great indignation of inflammatory publications.

His principal publications, during the Grafton Administration, were 'A Vindication of the Rockingham Ministry,' and 'Thoughts on the present Discontents,' soon after the expulsion of Wilkes. The celebrated Letters of Junius were also at the time imputed, by many, to Burke. We think, that an attentive examination of Junius and of the avowed writings of Burke will convince a judicious reader, that either he did not write Junius, or wrote very differently from his usual mode. Junius has more closeness and less abundance of materials, more pungency and less force and variety of argument, than Burke. Junius has more perspicacity than expansion: rapidly penetrating into particular cases and characters; he does not rise to Burke's generalization. In closeness of reasoning, and neatness of language, Junius resembles Lord George Germaine, but surpasses the usual acuteness and force of that nobleman.

Burke received 10,000*l.* from the Marquis of Rockingham, with which he purchased a villa near Beaconsfield, on the road through Uxbridge to Oxford.

He opposed the various measures of the Ministry for laying taxes on America, on the same principle that he had disapproved of

the Stamp-Act, that it was unconstitutional to levy money from a British subject, unless by his own consent, or that of his representative.

When Lord North moved the taking off all the duties, except that on tea, Burke predicted that the Americans would not be satisfied, as, though an alleviation in the exercise of taxation, it was a reservation of a principle they reprobated as unconstitutional and unjust. When the proceedings of a mob at Boston produced the famous *Boston Port-bill*, or act, for blocking up the harbour of that town, of which some of the inhabitants had been rioters, he exerted his powers to prevent its passing into law, maintaining that, there being no evidence that all the Bostonians were concerned in the guilt, the punishment of all was *unjust*; and that as it would affect our own trade, and increase the dissatisfaction of the colonies, it was *inexpedient*.

A motion made in the House for the repeal of the tea-duty, a few weeks after the Boston port-bill, drew forth the powers of Burke, in a speech more celebrated than any which he had yet spoken, and known by the title of *Burke's Speech on American Taxation*. He deduced the history of the American colonies, and the policy of this country respecting them, from their first settlement to the commencement of the present reign, and discussed the general principles of colonization. He shewed that there was in this reign a change of policy, which he contended to be injurious to both parties. He particularly distinguished himself in drawing the characters of the several Ministers who attended to American affairs, to shew the influence of these characters in producing the various measures. Taken in themselves, his portraits, perhaps, combine as much of particular truths and general philosophy, as any exhibition of characters in ancient or modern times. None can more fully mark their subjects, or more completely manifest the operation of certain intellectual and moral qualities and habits in the conduct of affairs.

During the whole of the American contest, Burke adhered to the principle which he had adopted at his political outset. He was now joined by Fox, whose great capacity received vast accessions of knowledge from the fulness of Burke. No Parliament had ever shewn greater talents than that which met after the commencement of the American war. The powers of Burke were stimulated by opponents of very great talents, and supporters equal to his opponents, and one of them superior to most men who ever appeared in the British or any other senate.

He made several motions for reconciliation with America, all grounded on the same broad principle of the incompatibility of taxation, without representation, with the Constitution of Britain; his arguments, from expediency, naturally vary according to the diversity of effects found to result from the contest. From the beginning of it, we find him becoming a more thorough party-man than before, and often censuring Ministers where there appeared no *reason*, nor any other *cause* than that they were Ministers, and his party in opposition. Besides the general tendency of mankind to adopt the views of those with whom they much associate, the particular charac-

ter of one of his political associates might have a considerable effect on the mind even of Burke. The engaging, amiable, and captivating manners of Mr. Fox make every one who is his intimate more thoroughly his, than were equal talents unaccompanied by such qualities. Great as the understanding of Burke was, it was often led by his heart. That gentleman had gained his warmest affection. His party-spirit certainly too often led him to attend less to what was really the fact, than what could be made a ground of reproach against the Minister. Enquiring into the conduct of naval and military officers, he seemed more anxious to put the questions that might criminate Ministers, than that might ascertain the real state of the case, as to the officers and parties concerned.

He joined with great zeal in supporting charges of incapacity and neglect of duty against Lord Sandwich. As no proof of official culpability was adduced against that Minister, and as, in fact, there was a very powerful fleet at sea at the time of the alledged incapacity or negligence, we must impute the attack against the First Lord of the Admiralty to partizanship, not to informed ratiocinative patriotism. When the Howes insisted on an enquiry into their conduct, he strenuously supported a motion to that effect. The interrogatories of Burke and the other members of Opposition regarded rather the general character of Howe than his special proceedings in America. When Ministers saw that the members of Opposition were rather partial in the questions they asked, they called in witnesses on the other side. The evidence of General Robertson and Mr. Galway was very circumstantial, and by no means coincided with the professed opinion of Fox and Burke. These gentlemen immediately moved to put an end to the enquiry, which they had been so anxious to institute. We cannot credit patriotism with an enquiry carried on, whilst it answered a party purpose; and abandoned, when it shewed a contrary tendency.

A riot having taken place in Edinburgh, in consequence of the repeal of some of the laws against popery, which it was apprehended would be extended to Scotland, and chapels and other buildings belonging to Roman Catholics being burned,* a petition from the sufferers was presented to the House of Commons by Burke, praying for a compensation for their losses. He, in supporting the petition, attacked the supineness of Government as the cause of the outrages. The Prime Minister was at this time indulging himself in a profound nap. 'I hope,' said Burke, 'Government is not dead, but asleep. Brother Lazarus,' said he, pointing to Lord North, 'is not dead, only *sleepeth!*' The laugh on this occasion was universal, and heartily joined in by the Minister himself, when sufficiently awake to conceive the joke.

He at one time absented himself from parliament on all American questions, and wrote his famous Letter to the Sheriffs of Bristol, justifying his conduct in that non-attendance, and entering on American

* The most zealous enemies to Antichrist were the weavers of the Calton-hill and the Leith sailors. These two classes of theologians began the manifestation of their religion by firebrands!

affairs in general. After his speech on American taxation, none of his orations entered so much at large into that subject. Besides exhibiting a most complete view of the dispute, and the proceedings of both parties, it contains a summary of his opinion respecting civil and political liberty. Whether it be all just reasoning or not, it must be allowed to be the production of a mind of the greatest force, expansion, and fulness. Whenever a great and general question occurred, the vast capacity of Burke manifested itself. Although he could shew wonderful talents on unimportant subjects, yet it was on momentous subjects that his powers were fully drawn forward.

A motion for freeing the trade of Ireland from certain restrictions, injurious to that country without benefitting this, placed Burke in a very delicate and embarrassing situation. He conceived it his duty as a senator to support the cause of Ireland, which he thought injured by the restraints in question. His constituents of Bristol apprehended that their interests would be affected, should the bills in favour of the Irish trade, supported by their representative, pass into laws; and intimated to him their opinion, expecting that the intimation might induce him to withdraw his support of the propositions. He was convinced the bills were both equitable and prudent for both countries. It came to be a question, whether he should follow the voice of his constituents, or the voice of his conscience. The stronger obligation prevailed. Losing, by this means, much of his popularity in Bristol, he, when a new election came on, declined the poll, in a very eloquent speech. In that speech, going over the proceedings of the parliament, he mentioned a law that had passed against imprisonment for small debts,* and he took occasion to deliver his sentiments on imprisonment for debt in general. He concurred with his friend Johnson, in being inimical to that mode of procedure. Both these great men, in their sentiments on that subject, seem to attend too exclusively to the debtor, without allowing equal attention to the creditor.

This speech concludes with the most beautiful and pathetic panegyric on the benevolent Howard.

The immense expence of the American war becoming a subject of general complaint, Burke proposed a plan for a Reform in the Expenditure of the Public Money. The speech with which he introduced bills to this effect was one of the most masterly he ever delivered. He here, as in all his orations on important subjects, shewed a happy combination of detail and generalization. He shewed views of finance that might have produced a treatise on the *nature and causes of the wealth of nations*, and at the same time a most minute acquaintance with the salaries of offices. His reform was confined to the civil list, no doubt the smallest of the great departments of public expenditure. It is probable he intended to apply his principles to the greater—the ordnance, the army, and navy.

He became so much a party-man, that he would not allow merit

* Under ten pounds.

to the Minister, even when his conduct was meritorious. When Lord North proposed a commercial system fully consonant to the wishes of the Irish, he, though he did not oppose it in the senate, did not speak in its favour. The Irish received Lord North's plan with the warmest gratitude and applause, and censured Burke and the other leading members of Opposition for giving only a silent acquiescence to the resolutions in favour of Ireland, instead of supporting them by the force of their eloquence. Burke wrote a letter to his friends in Ireland, in vindication of his own conduct, and that of the other gentlemen, who opposed the general measures of Administration. He represented the Minister's conduct as not the effect of choice, but of compulsion. This representation does not appear, from the history of the times, to be just. Groundlessly to assign bad motives to good actions is, in private life, uncaudid; in public, tends to lessen the respect due to Government. Lord North, no doubt, frequently deserved censure, but did not always. A constant, indiscriminate blame of the Minister could not be the result of cool, impartial judgment, as the Minister was not *always* blameable. His perpetual invectives against Administration, therefore, must be considered as a defect in the political conduct of Edmund Burke,

‘ Who, born for the universe, narrow'd his mind,
And to party gave up what was meant for mankind.’

His Reform-bill was negatived the first session that it was moved: the following year he again proposed it, and it was a second time thrown out.

The accumulation of taxes, and the destruction of our last hope in America, in the capture of the brave Cornwallis and his army, roused the alarm of the country gentlemen, by whose support the Minister had been so long able to withstand the eloquence of a Dunning, a Burke, and a Fox. These gentlemen succeeded at last in procuring a decisive majority against Lord North. He resigned, and the opposite party were appointed to the several offices of administration.

In reviewing the conduct of Burke, a careful examiner will perceive a very considerable difference between the speeches he made in supporting the motions of his own and of others, between the children of his adoption and of his generation:—those of his adoption resembled the party, those of his generation resembled himself. His speeches in attacking Sandwich, Palliser, Germaine, and North, were strongly tinctured with the partizanship of Opposition. His speeches on ‘ American Taxation,’ ‘ Reconciliation with America,’ and ‘ Public Oeconomy,’ were not the speeches of party, but of Edmund Burke. Besides his own exertions during the American war, he had a considerable share in forming the oratorical character of another extraordinary man.

From the commencement of Fox's political career till his dereliction of Lord North, we see in his eloquence vast capacity; but, hitherto, more capacity than fulness. We see energetic reasoning, but not that variety and abundance of profound observations and just

conclusions, which he afterwards exhibited. From his intercourse with Burke, he derived very great accession of knowledge. The power of rapid acquirement was successfully exerted, when there was within its daily reach such a multiplicity of the most valuable stores. It is evident that, from the commencement of his connection with Burke, Fox displayed much greater copiousness of matter, and much more enlargement of political principle, than he had formerly brought forward.

Now in Administration, Burke again proposed his Reform-bill, which, with some modifications, passed into a law.

[TO BE CONCLUDED IN OUR NEXT.]

HISTORY OF THE SCIENCES FOR 1797.

THEORY OF COMETS.

[CONTINUED FROM OUR LAST.]

VARIOUS conjectures have been formed concerning the tails of comets; though it is universally agreed that they depend on the sun, because they are always turned from him. Tycho and others thought that it was formed by the solar rays being transmitted through the nucleus of the comet, which they supposed to be transparent, and was there refracted, so as to form a beam of light behind the comet. This, however, cannot be the case, because such refracted light could not be seen by a spectator placed sideways to it, unless it fell on a substance sufficiently dense to cause a reflection. Descartes held that the tail was owing to the refraction of the head of the comet; but if so, then the planets and fixed stars would have tails also, for the rays pass from them through the same medium as the light from the comets. Sir Isaac Newton was of opinion, that this tail is a thin vapour sent forth by the head in consequence of its heat; that it ascends from the sun, as the smoke from the earth; that as the ascent of the smoke proceeds from the rarefaction of the air, in which it is entangled, causing that air to ascend, and carry the smoke up with it, so the sun's rays, acting on the coma or atmosphere of the comet, heat the same by rarefaction and refraction; that this heated atmosphere heats, and by heating rarifies, the æther that is involved therein; and that the specific gravity with which such æther tends to the sun, is so diminished by its rarefaction, that it will now ascend from him by its relative lightness, and carry with it the reflecting particles of which the tail is composed. Mairan was of a different opinion. He supposed the tails of the comets to be formed of the luminous matter of which the sun's atmosphere consists. This he supposes to extend as far as the orbit of the earth, and to furnish matter for the aurora borealis. M. de la Lande suggests a method of reconciling these two opinions, by supposing that part of the matter which forms the tails to arise from their own atmosphere, rarified by heat, and pushed forward by the force of the light

streaming from the sun; and that a comet passing through the solar atmosphere is involved therein, and carries away some of it.

But the many disc veries which, since the days of Newton and other famous astronomers, have been made in electricity, having brought us acquainted with an element unknown to former ages, and which shows a vast power through every part of the creation, it became natural to imagine that it must extend into those higher regions which are inaccessible to man. The similarity of the tails of comets to the aurora borealis, which is commonly looked on to be an electrical phenomenon, therefore, suggested an opinion that the tails of comets are streams of electrical matter.

The velocity of comets is sometimes inconceivably great. Mr. Brydone observed one at Palermo in July, 1770, which in 24 hours described an arch of the heavens upwards of 50 degrees in length; according to which he supposes that if it was as far distant as the sun, it must have moved at the rate of upwards of 60 millions of miles in a day.

The near approach of some comets to the sun subjects them to intense degrees of heat. Sir Isaac Newton calculated that the heat of the comet in 1680 must have been near two thousand times as great as that of red hot iron. Dr. Long, however, observes that 'the comet in question certainly acquired a prodigious heat; but I cannot think it came up to what the calculation makes it; the effect of the strongest burning glass that has ever been made use of was the vitrification of most bodies placed in its focus. What would be the effect of a still greater heat we can only conjecture; it would, perhaps, so disunite the parts as to make them fly off every way in atoms. This comet, according to Halley, in passing through its southern node, came within the length of the sun's semi-diameter of the orbit of the earth. Had the earth then been in the part of her orbit nearest to that node, their mutual gravitation must have caused a change in the plane of the orbit of the earth, and in the length of our year: he adds, that if so large a body, with so rapid a motion as that of this comet, were to strike against the earth, a thing by no means impossible, the shock might reduce this beautiful frame to its original chaos.'

Mr. Whiston attributed the universal deluge to the near approach of a comet. He thought that the earth passing through the atmosphere of the comet, attracted from it great part of the water of the flood; that the nearness of the comet raised a great tide in the subterraneous waters, so that the outer crust of the earth was changed from a spherical to an oval figure; that this could not be done without making fissures and cracks in it, through which the waters forced themselves, by the hollow of the earth being changed into a less capacious form; that with the water thus forced upon the surface of the earth, much slime or mud would arise, which, with the grosser part of the comet's atmosphere, would, after the subsiding of the water, partly into the fissures and partly into the lower parts of the earth, to form the sea, cover all over, to a considerable depth, the antediluvian earth.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

DESCRIPTION OF THE PEAK OF TENERIFFE.

FROM SIR GEORGE STAUNTON'S ACCOUNT OF LORD MACARTNEY'S EMBASSY TO CHINA.

[CONCLUDED FROM OUR LAST.]

UNDER all these circumstances, the difficulty of getting farther on to persons now exhausted, was found to be unsurmountable; and having done all that was possible for them, no alternative remained. They went back to the place where they left their cattle, whose faces were no sooner turned down the hill, than they scampered away at a rate as difficult to restrain, as it was before to push them forward.

The party presently got into the midst of very dense clouds, whose contents were discharged upon them in torrents of heavy rain, which fell without intermission during the remainder of the descent, for about three hours. Soon afterwards the weather cleared up, and the upper part of the Peak appeared covered with snow.

They scarcely had arrived at Orotava, when Dr. Gillan was obliged to take to his bed with a fever, occasioned by the fatigues he had undergone; but care and rest, in the hospitable house of Mr. Little, soon restored him. The other gentlemen lost the memory of their sufferings, in the morning, by partaking of a ball with some agreeable English and Spanish ladies, the same evening, in Orotava. The next day the travellers returned to Santa Cruz.

The excursion to the Peak, which was at this season so fatiguing in the attempt, and so impracticable in the execution, occasions much less difficulty or hardship in another. In a manuscript account of a visit to that place, by Mr. Johnstone, lately a merchant at Madeira, it is mentioned that, being at Teneriffe in the summer time, and having the opportunity of providing tents and other necessaries for such an undertaking, as well as leisure to go through it without hurry, little was suffered in accomplishing it. His party slept, the night before they attained the summit of the Peak, about the spot which terminated the labours of the succeeding travellers.

'There,' it is said, 'they encamped on ground covered with pumice-stone, a stream of lava on each side; in front, a barren plain; the island of Grand Canary bearing south-east, as if arising out of an immense field of ice, formed by the clouds below them. About four o'clock next morning, the 1st of August, the moon shining bright and the weather clear, they began to ascend a kind of path, along the first great frustrum, leading to the smaller and higher Sugar-Loaf. The passage was steep and disagreeable, being covered with pumice-stone, which gave way at every step. In about an hour they got to the Alta Vista, where it was necessary to climb over the lava, leaping from one large stone to another, till their arrival at the foot of the Sugar Loaf. It was now about half past five. The horizon, to the south-east, was very clear, and the rising sun a beautiful object. Here they rested, on a small flat, about five minutes; but did not allow themselves to cool, the air being so penetrating.

‘They then began to ascend the Sugar Loaf. This was by much the most fatiguing part, it being exceedingly steep, and wholly consisting of small pumice-stones, so that the foot at every step sinks and slides back. They were obliged to take breath repeatedly. It was little more than six o’clock when they got upon the summit of the Sugar-Loaf. At this time the clouds had gathered about a mile and a half perpendicular below. They were thick, and had a very striking effect, appearing like an immense extent of frozen sea, covered with immeasurable hillocks of snow, above which the islands of Grand Canary, Palma, Gomera, and Hierro, or Ferro, raised their heads. On the sun’s getting a little higher, the clouds dispersed, and opened to the view the coast around. The colours hoisted on the Peak were distinctly seen by gentlemen in Orotava, through their telescopes.

‘The prospect from the Peak is romantic and extensive: no other hill being of a height to interrupt the view, the coast is perceived all around, and a distinct idea of the island formed. The north-west coast appears to be well cultivated; but the south-east seems dreary and barren. Within the summit is an excavation, or cauldron, not less than eighty feet in depth, into which the gentlemen descended, and gathered some sulphur, with which the surface is mostly covered. In many parts the foot cannot rest upon the same spot above a minute, the heat quickly penetrating through the shoe. Smoke issues frequently from the earth. Just under the surface is a soft reddish clay, so hot that the hand introduced into it must instantly be withdrawn. In the cauldron the sulphureous odour is very offensive; but on the ridge it may be easily endured.

‘From this place they saw the town of Santa Cruz, and the shipping in the road, which is a distance, in a direct line, of about twenty-five miles. A second barometer was here received, to supply the place of another broken in the ascent; but it was found that some of the quick-silver had escaped; and, therefore, no dependance was to be placed on any observations by it. They continued two hours and a half upon the summit of the Peak, without feeling any inconvenience from heat or cold. Soon after sun-rise the thermometer, in the shade, was at fifty-one degrees. They descended the Sugar Loaf in a few minutes, running the whole way, which was found to be the best mode.

‘At the foot of the Peak there were several caverns in the midst of the lava, some filled with fine water, extremely cold, and frozen at the edges of the caverns. Others, in the winter, are filled with snow, over which the sun never shines; and thus snow continues in them throughout the year. Here they remained till night.

‘Mr. Johnstone, recollecting a difference of about six miles in the calculation of the latitude, as given by Captain Cook, and as it is laid down in the collection of requisite tables for the Nautical Ephemeris, was willing to ascertain the same; and taking an observation of a fixed star, found that the latitude was within a mile of what Captain Cook had asserted it to be. Some time before, Mr. Johnstone, when

on board ship in the offing of Orotava, took the angles, made by a line from the horizon to the summit of the Peak, at two different spots, and measuring the distance between them by the log, determined the perpendicular height of the Peak to be two thousand and twenty-three English fathoms, being nearly the same as Mons. de Borda's barometers, upon the Peak; and by the sea-side, the mountain's height came within two fathoms of the geometrical measurement. Mr. Johnstone computed likewise the distance of the Peak from the sea-port of Orotava to be ten thousand one hundred and eighty fathoms, or nearly eleven miles and a half, bearing south forty-eight degrees west. The variation of the compass was sixteen degrees to the westward of the pole.

ON THE

PECULIAR EXCELLENCIES OF HANDEL'S MUSIC.

[CONCLUDED FROM OUR LAST.]

THE operas of Handel are confessedly superior to all preceding and contemporary ones. His oratorios, though called by a well-known name, may be justly esteemed original, both in design and execution. These last being the pieces which are so frequently performed, I will with the utmost impartiality consider their merits and defects, and how far they deserve their continued approbation.

Any works of a fashionable composer, especially if exhibited by performers we are in the habit of applauding, will take a present hold on our attention, to the exclusion of works of superior merit not possessing the same advantages; but when they have had their day, they set, to rise no more. On the contrary, those compositions which depend on their own intrinsic merit, may make their way slowly, or perhaps, by being cut off from a possibility of taking the first step, may never get forward at all; yet, if once they are presented to the public, and their effect felt and understood, they are always heard with new pleasure, and claim an equal immortality with poetry and painting. Let us consider what are the essentials of good music, and how far Handel's compositions possess them.

The first essential (and without which all others are of no consequence) is what in popular music is called tune; in more refined, is denominated air; and in the superior class of composition, subject. Music having this property alone is entitled to a long existence, and possesses it. The next essential is harmony, the strongest ally by which air can be assisted, but which receives from air more consequence than it communicates. To these must be added expression, giving a grace to the former; and facility, which has the effect of immediate emanation, and seems to accomplish with ease what from its apparent difficulty should be rather sought for than found.

If words are to be connected with music, they ought like that to be light and airy for tune, passionate for air, and both passionate and sublime for subject; but in every case (except particular applications)

must appeal to the heart. The accent and emphasis must be expressed, and whatever effect the reading of the words is to produce, must be increased by the music.

There are but few examples of Handel's possessing tune in the popular sense. He seldom is without air in its most refined application, and most commonly has an exuberance of subject for greater purposes. His harmony is in general well chosen and full; his expression sometimes faulty, but frequently just; and his facility great, from so much practice, sinking now and then to carelessness.

In consequence of this general character, we find no songs of his in the style of Cary's tunes and the real English ballad. Most of his oratorio and opera songs have air in them, some very fine. His chorusses are as yet unrivalled, and those form the broad base on which his fame is built.

They possess subject and contrivance, frequently expression, and most commonly facility, altogether producing a superior effect to any other chorusses yet known to the public. Their great number and variety shew his invention, that strong criterion of genius. It will be found to hold true as a general remark, that where the words are most sublime, the composition has most subject and expression; and this ought to be considered by those who hold words of no consequence: if they have no other than exalting the fancy of the composer (which effect they certainly produce), we should, for the sake of music independently considered, make choice of works of imagination.

Besides the advantages of superior genius and knowledge, Handel possesses another, without which his genius and knowledge might have remained for ever unknown. He had an opportunity of presenting his works to the public, performed by the best band of the times, and of repeating his pieces until they were understood, and their superior merit felt. By these means they were impressed upon the mind, and at last became so congenial to our feelings, as almost to exclude the possibility of other music being performed.

Handel's music, then, having the great essentials of genius, skill, and facility, and being at first performed often enough to have its intention comprehended, and its merit felt and acknowledged, it necessarily keeps possession of the public favour, and its annual performance is expected with pleasure, and always considered as an entertainment of a superior kind.

After this unequivocal and heart-felt praise, I may venture to point out what appear to be defects in this great musician.

The first thing that an enlightened modern composer would notice, is an inattention to the fort of the different instruments, more particularly apparent in the parts for trumpets, &c. which in general lie awkward and unkindly. At the time we acknowledge this, we should remark, that in those days such niceties did not exist, for they are some of the *real improvements of modern music*. Handel's concertos and chorusses, without the least alteration of harmony or melody in the subject (as every real musician well knows) might be improved in this point, and produce a very superior effect. M.

THE COLLECTOR.

No. III.

ANECDOTE OF COMMODORE MOODIE.

COMMODORE James Moodie, of the family of Melsetter, when a boy, having run off from school, entered himself on board a man of war, where his good conduct gradually advanced him to the rank of Commodore, in the service of her Majesty Queen Anne. How well his services were received, and how much he was respected, may best appear from the following letter, written by Charles III. King of Spain, to her Majesty Queen Anne.

‘MADAME MA SOEUR,

‘Le Capitaine James Moodie, qui commande le vaisseau Lancaster, m’a rendu des services si considerables, que je dois presque uniquement reconnoitre de son zele, la conservation de ma ville de Denia, laquelle (depourvue de toutes sortes d’amunitions), n’auroit gueres tenu, contre un siege de cinque semaines, amoins que le dit Capitaine, n’en eut fourni quelque quantite sur la requisition que lui firent ceux, qui commandoient de ma part. Je ne doute point que votre Majeste voudra bien lui faire ressentir les effets de sa genereuse reconnoissance, tant a l’egard de dites services, que de ma pressante intercession; a laquelle je n’ajouterai que l’assurance du respect et attachement sincere avec laquelle. Je suis,

Madame, ma Soeur,

Votre tres affectionne frere,

Barcelona, ce 12mo. Nov. de 1707.

CHARLES.

The above translated may run thus:

‘MADAM MY SISTER,

‘CAPTAIN James Moodie, who commands the vessel Lancaster, has rendered me services so important, that I owe almost entirely to his zeal the preservation of my city of Denia, which, being destitute of all kinds of provision, could not have held out against a siege of five weeks, unless the said Captain had furnished a supply, at the request of those who commanded on my part. I doubt not but your Majesty will make him a handsome and generous return, both on account of the said services, and of this my pressing intercession: to which I shall only add, the assurance of that respect and sincere attachment with which I am,

Madam my Sister,

Your affectionate brother,

Barcelona, Nov. 12, 1707.

CHARLES.

The above gentleman, at the advanced age of between seventy and eighty years, was basely murdered in the streets of Kirkwall, in

the Orkney Islands, by the hand of a hired villain, and at the investigation of a rebel, Sir James Stewart.

ST. FILLAN'S BELL.

A SUPERSTITIOUS ANECDOTE.

THERE is a bell belonging to the chapel of St. Fillan, in the parish of Killin, and county of Perth, in North Britain, that was in high reputation among the votaries of that Saint in old times. Its seems to be of some mixed metal. It is about a foot high, and of an oblong form. It usually lay on a grave-stone in the church-yard. When mad people were brought to be dipped in the Saint's Pool, it was necessary to perform certain ceremonies, in which there was a mixture of druidism and popery. After remaining all night in the chapel, bound with ropes, the bell was set upon their head with great solemnity. It was the popular opinion, that, if stolen, it would extricate itself out of the thief's hands, and return home ringing all the way. For some years past this bell has been locked up, to prevent its being used to superstitious purposes.

It is but justice to the Highlanders to say, that the dipping of mad people in St. Fillan's Pool, and using the other ceremonies, was common to them with the Lowlanders. The origin of the bell is to be referred to in the most remote ages of the Celtic churches, whose ministers spoke a dialect of that language. Ara Trode, one of the most ancient Icelandic historians, tells us, in his 2d chapter, that when the Norwegians first planted a colony in Ireland, about the year 870, 'Eo tempore erat Islandia silvis concreta, in medio montium et litorum: tum erant hic viri Christiani; quos Norwegi Papas appellant: et illi peregre profecti sunt, ex eo quod nollent esse hic cum viris Ethnicis, et relinquebant post se nolas et baculos: ex illo poterat discerni quod essent viri Christiani.' *Nola* and *bajula* both signify hand-bells. See Du Cange. Giraldus Cambrensis, who visited Ireland about the end of the 12th century, speaks thus of these relicts of superstition: 'Hoc non praetereundum puto, quod campanas, bajulas baculosque sanctorum ex superiore parte recurvos, auro et argento aut aere confectos, tam Hiberniae et Scotiae quam et Givalliae populus et clerus in magna reverentia habere solet; ita ut juramenta supra haec, longe magis quam super evangelia, et praestare vereantur et perjurare. Ex vi enim quodam occulta, et iis quasi divinitus insita, nec non et vindicta (cujus praecipue sancti illi appetibiles esse videntur) plerumque puniuntur contemptores.' He elsewhere speaks of a bell in Ireland, endowed with the same loco motive powers as that of St. Fillan. Topog. Hiber. l. 3. c. 33. & l. 2. c. 23. For in the 18th century it is curious to meet with things which astonished Giraldus, the most credulous of mortals, in the 12th. St. Fillan is said to have died in 649. In the 10th year of his reign, Robert the Bruce granted the church of Killin, in Glendochart, to the abby of Inchaffray, on condition that one of the canons should officiate in the kirk of Strathfillan.

CARDS SPIRITUALIZED.

ONE Richard Middleton, a soldier, attending divine service with the rest of the regiment in a church at Glasgow, instead of pulling out a bible, like his brother soldiers, to find the parson's text, spread a pack of cards before him. This singular behaviour did not long pass unnoticed, both by the clergyman and serjeant of the company to which he belonged. The latter in particular commanded him to put up the cards; and on his refusal conducted him, after church, before the mayor, to whom he preferred a formal complaint of Richard's indecent behaviour during divine service. 'Well, soldier,' said the mayor, 'what excuse have you to offer for this strange, scandalous conduct? If you can assign any reason for it, 'tis well; but if you cannot, assure yourself that I will cause you to be severely punished.' 'Since your honour is so good,' replied Richard, 'as to permit me to speak for myself, an't please your worship, I have been eight days upon the march, with a bare allowance of six-pence a day, which your honour will surely allow is hardly sufficient to maintain a man in meat, drink, washing, and other necessaries; and consequently that he may want a bible, prayer-book, or any other good book.' On saying this, Richard drew out his pack of cards, and presenting one of the aces to the mayor, continued his address as follows:

'When I see an *ace*, may it please your honour, its reminds me that there is only one God; and when I look on a *two* or a *three*, the former puts me in mind of the Father and Son; the latter, of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. A *four* calls to my remembrance the *four Evangelists*, Mathew, Mark, Luke, and John; a *five*, the wise virgins who were ordered to trim their lamps, (there were *ten* indeed, but *five*, your worship may remember, were wise and five were foolish); a *six*, that in *six days* God created heaven and earth; a *seven*, that on the *seventh* day he rested from all that he had made; an *eight*, of the *eight* righteous persons preserved from the deluge, viz. Noah and his wife, with his three sons and their wives; a *nine*, of the lepers cleansed by our Saviour; there were *ten*, but one only returned to offer his tribute of thanks; and a *ten* of the *ten* commandments.'

Richard then took the *knave*, placed it beside him, and passed on to the *queen*, on which he observed as follows:

'This *queen* reminds me of the queen of Sheba, who came from the uttermost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; as her companion the *king* does of the great King of Heaven, and of King George the Third.' 'Well,' returned the mayor, 'you have given me a very good description of all the cards except the *knave*.' 'If your honour will not be angry with me,' returned Richard, 'I can give you the same satisfaction on that as any in the pack.' 'No,' said the mayor. 'Well,' resumed the soldier, 'the greatest *knave* I know is the serjeant who brought me before you.' 'I don't know,' replied the mayor, 'whether he is the greatest knave or no; but I am sure he is the greatest fool.'

The soldier then continued as follows: 'When I count the number

of dots in a pack of cards, there are three hundred and sixty-five ; so many days are there in a year. When I count how many cards are in a pack, I find fifty-two ; so many weeks are there in a year. When I reckon how many tricks are won by a pack, I find there are thirteen ; so many months are there in a year. So that this pack of cards is both bible, almanack, and prayer-book to me.'

The mayor called his servants, ordered them to entertain the soldier well, gave him a piece of money, and said he was the cleverest fellow he ever heard in his life.

A COPY OF AN ORIGINAL LETTER,

WRITTEN BY

MR. SOLOMON DA COSTA,

AND SENT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM, WITH A PRESENT OF NEAR 200 CURIOUS MANUSCRIPT VOLUMES IN THE HEBREW LANGUAGE, WHICH WERE ORIGINALLY INTENDED AS A PRESENT TO KING CHARLES II.

GO, I pray, see the presence of those in whom there is wisdom understanding, and knowledge ; behold they are the honourable personages appointed and made overseers of the great and noted treasury called by the name of the British Museum. The Lord preserve them ! Amen—

Saith the man Solomon, son to my lord and father, the ancient, honourable, devout, meek, and excellent Mr. Isaac Da Costa, surnamed Athias, of the city of Amsterdam, of the people scattered and dispersed among all nations ; of the captivity of Jerusalem, which is in Spain.

I have already dwelt fifty-four years in ease and rest, in quietness and in confidence, without fear, in this city of London, the crowning city ! that is full of people. great among the nations, and princess among the provinces ; a city great for wise and learned men ; the mother of sciences and arts ; there is not one science too difficult for them, either in medicine, or astronomy, or philosophy, or any art of skilful and cunning artists, the work of cunning workmen, such as have not been seen in all the earth, nor in any nation. And much more so now, that they have built a tower for them all, and a palace full of all good things, the wonders of nature, which God created and made ; and things of great value, both by reason of their being singular, there being no other like them, and by reason of the costliness of the work, it being done with the utmost comeliness and beauty, or by artists whose fame has gone forth through the world. There are they deposited, and there are they to be met with in thousands and tens of thousands, where they will be for ever for a sign and wonder ; and spacious rooms full of books, both modern and ancient, printed and manuscript, in innumerable languages ; the like was not seen in all the earth, since the foundation thereof, till now that the men of government expended abundance of money to purchase them, and to gather them within the great treasury, that it might be for the

THE FREEMASONS' REPOSITORY.

AN IMPARTIAL EXAMINATION

OF A BOOK, ENTITLED

'PROOFS OF A CONSPIRACY AGAINST ALL THE RELIGIONS
AND GOVERNMENTS OF EUROPE,

CARRIED ON IN THE SECRET MEETINGS OF FREEMASONS, ILLUMINATI, AND READING SO-
CETIES. BY JOHN ROBINSON, A. M. PROFESSOR OF NATURAL PHILOSOPHY IN THE
UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.'

BY J. WATKINS, LL. D.

Pudet hæc opprobia nobis
Et dici potuisse, et non potuisse refelli.

OVID.

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE EARL OF MOIRA,
ACTING GRAND-MASTER OF MASONS OF ENGLAND.

MY LORD,

O whom should a vindication of injured innocence look for appro-
bation but to the universal friend of mankind, to the constant pa-
tron of the unfortunate, to the uniform exemplar of benevolence? The
Institution which has been lately attacked with so much violence, on
the supposed evil tendency of its principles to the order and well-being
of society, need make no other defence than to name the EARL OF MOIRA
as its most brilliant ornament. The unremitting attachment shewn by
your Lordship to this Society, and the active concern which you have
taken in all things that relate to its interests, must be of more weight
than a thousand arguments in refutation of chimerical suspicions, or
wanton calumny. Yet not to have answered a large work, filled with
the heaviest accusations against the Masonic Institution, might have
led many to suppose that the cause was indefensible. On this account,
and on this only, has the following Examination been drawn up, and
with the profoundest respect is it now submitted to your Lordship's
consideration, by

My Lord,

Your Lordship's

Most obedient Servant,

JOHN WATKINS.

INTRODUCTION.

THE great change which the political system of Europe has lately experienced, and the mighty consequences which must proceed from it, cannot be viewed with indifference by any philosophic mind. Such an one will naturally be inquisitive into the minutest circumstances that have led to this astonishing event, and will gladly embrace every opportunity of informing himself upon the subject. Every anecdote related, every character described, every opinion broached, every custom instituted, will engage his curiosity. He will analyze those matters with the nicest scrutiny, which minds less active or observing will pass over with contempt. He knows that the minutest incidents and the most insignificant doctrines have, in former days, occasioned the rise and fall of mighty empires, have totally changed the political, and very extensively even the moral state of society. On looking into the stupendous events of ancient times, through the medium of history, he finds the causes and secret springs of great actions, which very penetrating men, who lived at the period when, and within the sphere where, they happened, endeavoured to trace in vain. From hence he is disposed to be careful in his observations on present scenes, and not to overlook even a casual atom that passes before him, while contemplating the convulsed state of society. That a philosophical Professor, therefore, in a respectable university, should be thus employed, or that he should thus conduct his enquiries, ought not by any means to excite our admiration. Let the subject of his observation be natural or moral, the minuteness of his examination will only be suited to the character of a philosopher. But then be it carefully remembered, that the *spirit* with which he conducts his enquiry is expected to be *philosophic* also. As we readily and cheerfully allow him to indulge the most inquisitive disposition, we, likewise, expect to see in him fair dealing, candour, and a rigid impartiality. If he deviates a whit from these, we shall allow him credit for nothing, and the philosopher becoming evidently a partizan, renders even his very motives suspicious, and consequently his reports and remarks will be received with the most cautious severity.

Whether the latter observations will apply to a book recently published by the Professor of Natural Philosophy of the University of Edinburgh, entitled 'Proofs of a Conspiracy against all the Religions and Governments of Europe, carried on in the Secret Meetings of Freemasons, Illuminati, and Reading Societies,' will be seen in the course of the following Examination, in which I shall go over, calmly and minutely, the ground which the learned Professor has taken, so far as the interests of the Masonic Body are interested in his relations and remarks.

SECTION I.

THE Professor sets out at once with informing his readers that he was roused to his search into the present subject by the casual perusal of a German work, entitled '*Religiös Begebenheiten.*' i. e. '*Religious Occurrences;*' in which there was an account of the various

schisms in the fraternity of Freemasons.' He then proceeds to inform us that 'this account interested him a good deal, because, in his early life, he had taken some part in the occupations (*shall I call them*) of Freemasonry; and having chiefly frequented the Lodges on the Continent, he had learned many doctrines, and seen many ceremonies, which have no place in the *simple system* of Freemasonry which obtains in this country. He also remarked (he says) that the whole was much more the object of reflection and thought than he could remember it to have been among his acquaintances at home. There he had seen a Mason-Lodge considered merely as a *pretext* for passing an hour or two in a *sort* of decent conviviality, not altogether void of some *rational occupation*. He had (indeed) sometimes heard of differences of doctrines, or of ceremonies, but in terms which marked them as mere frivolities. But, on the Continent, he found them matters of serious concern and debate.'

I have quoted these passages at length, from the consideration of their being entitled to a very particular notice, as affecting materially the credit of the subsequent parts of the work, indeed much more so than the author may have imagined. In the first place, then, it should be observed, that the Professor supports himself on the authority of an anonymous publication, and that a periodical one. The utmost care should certainly have been taken to have established the credit of this work, before he translated its *anecdotes*, and so arranged them as to render a society, now possessed of high reputation, an object of jealousy to all honest citizens. We are sensible that intelligence thus communicated, in our own country, would be slighted by every liberal mind; and we should be disposed to laugh at the credulity of a German who should, from the diurnal, or monthly journals, and the numerous flying pamphlets of this country, publish a bulky volume, full of strange reports respecting societies and individuals, and then gravely appeal to his *goodly* authorities for the truth of them. Of this, however, more hereafter. Let us, in the next place, attend a little to the Professor's declarations founded on his own experience. He very slipperily mentions the occupations of Masonry, attended with the doubtful question, whether it is proper for him to dignify them with that appellation. This is not exactly philosophic candour, and when compared with a remark, which follows in a few lines after, 'that the Masonic meetings were not altogether void of *rational occupation*,' it will be found an inconsistency.

First, Masonry is not an *occupation*, and afterwards it becomes a *rational* one! This is a slip at the threshold; we shall meet, however, with more important ones in the course of our observation.

Mr. ROBISON relates his Masonic progress on the Continent, the connections which he formed, the honours which were conferred on him, and the acquisitions he attained. What surprises one the most here is, the extraordinary anecdote respecting the Russian Mason, who entrusted him with a box of Masonic manuscripts at Petersburg. He styles this man a '*worthy brother*,' and yet immediately after informs us that he ran away the next day 'with the funds of an

establishment, of which her Imperial Majesty had made him the manager.'

When this conscientious trustee had taken his departure, and on such an occasion, who would not have had the curiosity to have opened the box and examined its contents? But our author had so little of this impatient disposition, at that time, that it was near ten years before he made himself acquainted with the treasures which had been confided to him. Then, however, the 'Masonic spirit was evaporated,' and cool philosophy had gained its seat, when all of a sudden the '*Religious Begebenheiten*' roused the dormant spirit, acted with an electric force upon his mind, and he is all alive on the subject of MASONRY, not, however, as its devotee, but as its determined foe.

According to the account given in the last mentioned work, 'Masonry, on the Continent, suffered the most exceptionable innovations and dissensions about the time that the order of Loyola was suppressed.' Now it appears that our author was well acquainted with the Lodges there, since that period. Whence is it then that his own observations have not confirmed the German accounts? Whence is it that he, who was so highly caressed by the Brethren at *Liege*, should have remained ignorant of these things which he takes for gospel on the authority of the '*Religious Begebenheiten*'?

He has represented himself as assiduous in his Masonic researches at that period, he endeavours to pass as a man of close observation, and certainly he is a philosopher; now we are naturally led from hence to wonder that he, who was on the spot, should not have remarked these innovations and dissensions which he now considers as of so alarming a nature. He professes himself to be greatly surprised at the information contained in the book which he met with; but surely this surprise is much to be wondered at in a man who had mingled so much with foreign Masons, and had taken such great pains to make himself acquainted with their peculiar sentiments, degrees, and usages. He confesses, indeed, that the consideration of them rather excited his contempt than his admiration, 'that all the splendour and elegance which he saw could not conceal a frivolity in every part.' In this, however, it seems he was mistaken; for, according to his present discoveries, there was much important substance in them, many seeds of serious mischief, which have since germinated and brought forth offensive weeds, which threaten to overrun all Europe, and choke the good plants. For the truth of this he is not indebted to his own patient observation and sagacious enquiry, exercised many years ago, but to a book written or compiled by somebody, and discovered by him in 1795. I will admit, for argument sake, that the book contains a faithful collection of facts, that all the reports in it are such as are to be believed, that many whimsical notions have been adopted by foreign Masons, that irreligion and licentiousness have characterized too many of them, and that new degrees, inconsistent with the original system of Freemasonry, have been formed; yet these irregularities will not warrant an *anatema* against the

sect itself, as though its radical principles lead to the injury of society. In the early part of the sixteenth century, the Anabaptists committed horrible crimes in Germany and the Low Countries; but who would have the uncharitableness to charge upon other sectaries, who reject infant baptism, the same evil principles? Many Quakers in our own country have been guilty of great extravagances and shocking blasphemies: yet, God forbid we should consider the sect itself as dangerous!

At the rise of the Methodists, and many years afterwards, these people were looked upon with a jealous eye by the zealous members of the establishment; and to prejudice the public mind against them, if not to kindle an absolute persecution, books were published, in which the most shameful doctrines and practices were charged to their account. Some of these assertions might be true enough, as relating to individuals; but time has shewn that the church and state have neither sustained, nor are likely to suffer, any injury from them.

Great caution, therefore, should be adopted in considering the character, conduct, and sentiments of any body of people. Our learned adversary, indeed, professes to make a distinction between the *Masonry* of England and that of the Continent. The first is homely, the other is refined. If he means that the English system is not inimical to religion and government, he should have said so in express terms. But the plain fact is, he wishes to have it understood that MASONRY is the central point from whence the most malignant principles flow through society; and, therefore, that it matters little whether it is, at first, homely or otherwise.

What is really extraordinary is a declaration made by the Professor (at page 11) that 'after fifty years experience, he had observed doctrines subversive of all our notions of morality gradually diffusing and mixing with all the different systems of Freemasonry; till at last an Association has been formed for the express purpose of rooting out all the Religious Establishments, and overturning all the Existing Governments of Europe.'

Now it is a question, which it will be proper for the Professor to answer, whether he has derived all this important information from his own experience, or from the aforementioned '*Religious Begebenheiten*,' and other German books? In one place he speaks as if this last was the case, and then we know what sort of credit is due to the declaration: but then soon afterwards he pronounces with such a determined air, and with so much confidence upon the subject, as implies that we are indebted solely to his own sagacity for the discovery.

As, however, he speaks with diffidence of his translations, on the ground of 'the scantiness of his knowledge of the German language, it should seem that he is accountable only for his intentions, and not for his assertions, these being only the reports of others. He has caught the spirit of horror which haunted the imagination of the philosophic Zimmermann, who literally fell a sacrifice to his dread of the '*Illuminati*.'*

* See his Life, written by his friend Dr. Tissot.

Out of patriotic zeal for the peace of his country Mr. Robison has, therefore, reported an account of this sect, from a work professedly carried on in Germany, to render it odious. The spirit of the Germans, on subjects which they apprehend to be connected with their religious or political establishments, is known to be sufficiently intolerant; and little moderation, therefore, can be expected in their party publications. They are furious in the extreme. Of this we have a striking instance in the philosopher lately mentioned. What can be more beautiful or philanthropic than his book on Solitude? and yet never was there a memorial of the Dominicans, or any other set of persecutors, more furious or more uncharitable than the one which he addressed to the Emperor Leopold against the *'Illuminati.'*

Professed adversaries must be heard with caution. The evidence of prejudiced men will be attended to with suspicion by an impartial jury; and when the moral, political, and religious character of a whole community is at stake, better testimony will be expected, before sentence of excision will be pronounced against them, than a German journal, or even the hearsay tales of a philosopher.

SECTION II.

THE Professor's conjectures on the state of Freemasonry in England, about the year 1648, are curious, and certainly deserve some particular attention. 'It is not improbable (he says) that the coverts of secrecy in those [i. e. the Masonic] assemblies had made them courted by the royalists, as occasions of meeting. Nay, the ritual of the Master's degree seems to have been formed, or perhaps twisted from its original institution, so as to give an opportunity of sounding the political principles of the candidate, and of the whole Brethren present. For it bears so easy an adaptation to the death of the King, to the overturning of the venerable constitution of the English Government of three orders by a mean democracy, and its re-establishment by the efforts of the loyalists, that this would start into every person's mind during the ceremonial, and could hardly fail to show, by the countenances and behaviour of the Brethren, how they were affected. I recommend this hint to the consideration of the Brethren.' P. 21.

If the Brethren can perceive any sort of analogy in this case, they must have much more ingenuity than I possess. Politics have, evidently, as little relation to the ritual of the Master's degree as to that of the first or to the simplest ceremonial in the Christian church. That the royalists of those days were Masons, appears clear enough from genuine records; but that they instituted that degree in allusion to the murder of the King, is a fanciful supposition, unworthy of a philosophical enquirer. We may as well conjecture, and even with more plausibility too, that it was formed by the Lancastrians after the assassination of Henry the sixth, who, we know, was a Mason and patron of the order. Secret meetings, at that period, of this kind were more likely than during the interregnum.

But our author proceeds in his suppositions, which he seems in-

clined to establish as axioms. He says, 'I have met with many particular facts, which convince me that this use had been made of the meetings of Masons, and that, at this time, the Jesuits interfered considerably, insinuating themselves into the Lodges, and contributing to encrease that religious mysticism that is to be observed in all the ceremonies of the order. This society is well known to have put on every shape, and to have made use of every mean that could promote the power and influence of the order. And we know, that at this time they were by no means without hopes of re-establishing the dominion of the Church of Rome in England. Their services were not scrupled at by the distressed royalists, even such as were Protestants, while they were highly prized by the Sovereign. We also know that Charles II. was made a Mason, and frequented the Lodges. It is *not unlikely*, that besides the amusement of the vacant hour, which was always agreeable to him, he had pleasure in the meeting with his loyal friends, and in the occupations of the Lodge, which recalled to his mind their attachment and services. His brother and successor, James II. was of a more serious and manly cast of mind, and had little pleasure in the frivolous ceremonies of Masonry. He did not frequent the Lodges. But, by this time, they were the resort of many persons who were not of the profession, or members of the trading corporation. This circumstance, in all probability, produced the denomination of *FREE and ACCEPTED MASONS*. A person who has the privilege of working at any incorporated trade, is said to be a *freeman* of that trade. Others were *accepted* as Brethren, and admitted to a kind of honorary freedom, as is the case in many other trades and incorporations, without having (as far as we can learn for certain) a legal title to earn a livelihood by the exercise of it.' P. 23.

The assertion, that the 'Jesuits interfered considerably with the Lodges,' wants proof; and I here challenge the Professor to produce his authorities. Nothing can be more *improbable* than that this bigoted, however subtle body, should have countenanced an institution which took within its pale of charitable communion all the varying tribes of mankind. Besides, if they did interfere, it must have been to propagate their particular tenets; and how this could be done, when the primary constitutions of the order forbade all religious and political discussions, I am at a loss to apprehend. If their influence was considerable, they would not only have procured the repeal of this law, but have foisted in doctrines and ceremonies peculiarly favourable to the Romish communion. That such innovations never took place, proves that jesuitical craft either never tampered with the institution, or tampered with it in vain. But I add, moreover, that it is an indisputed fact, that the Jesuits plotted and countenanced the death of Charles I. The historians of the period are agreed on this point, and the Roman Catholics have never controverted it. Such men, therefore, would not have belonged to a society, the most distinguishing ceremony of which was a commemoration of the monarch to whose murder they had been accessory.

Our learned Professor, however, destroys his own assertion, by relating the contempt with which Masonry was treated by James II. That monarch's attachment to the Jesuits, and zeal for the Church of Rome, would have led him to embrace an institution modelled by those emissaries, and so well calculated to establish the great object which ruled his mind. But say that he knew not its principles; yet surely his spiritual directors, who were so deeply in the secret, would gladly have made him acquainted with its importance to his designs. If *Jesuitism* and *Freemasonry* had so near a relation, however frivolous the offspring might be in itself, that sapient monarch would have cherished the bantling for the sake of its nurse.

What are we to think then of such conjectures as these, with which a grave philosopher introduces a flaming memorial against a society composed of men of all persuasions, ranks, and professions? And what sort of credit can be considered as due to the subsequent declarations, either by him or the anonymous journalists, whose reports he has taken such uncommon pains to translate and embellish?

If our author has betrayed a want of judgment in his conjectures on the state of Masonry at that period, he is also censurable for the want of candour. He observes, that 'it was not till some years after this, that the Lodges made open profession of the cultivation of general benevolence, and that the grand aim of the fraternity was to enforce the exercise of all the social virtues. It is not unlikely that this was an after thought.' P. 23.

This narrow-minded conjecture deserves to be treated with silent contempt. But that it is totally unfounded in truth, may be proved from a response in a Masonic catechism, discovered by Mr. Locke in the Bodleian Library, and is at least as old as the reign of King Henry VI. It is asked, 'Doth Maconnes love eider odher myghtylye as beeth sayde?' To which this beautiful reply is made: 'Yea verelyche, and yt may not odherwise be: for gude menne and treu, kennyng eider odher to be soche, doeth always love the more as they be more gude.'

This manuscript refutes all Mr. Robison's conjectures, and the sentiments of Mr. Locke on the subject are as philosophical as those of the other are illiberal.

That great philosopher, in his letter to the Earl of Pembroke, accompanying the MS. mentions his intencion of becoming member of a society which had attracted his curiosity and admiration. I have no doubt but that he put his intencion in execution, and found himself no way disappointed.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

ON
THE MASONIC CHARACTER.

ESSAY VI.

Satis est, mi Tiberi, si hoc habemus ne quis nobis male facere possit. SUTTON. IN AUG.

‘Let them say what they please, Tiberius; it is revenge enough for us, that we are out of the reach of their malice.’

IT has hitherto been my endeavour to evince the *truth* and *simplicity* of the genuine principles of FREEMASONRY, and it shall now be my object to demonstrate the practical and extensive benevolence which a just impression of those principles will necessarily produce.

Numerous volumes have been written on the subject of *moral duty*, and the daily incidents of life have given occasion to regret that the dictates of pure reason have not more *conspicuously* influenced the conduct of mankind. Many attempts have been made to supply this deficiency; but the labours of the most ingenious and benevolent projectors have chiefly served to demonstrate the vain and inefficacious pomp of *theory*. The most successful method of communicating knowledge will, therefore, be, to consult the various degrees of temperament to which the human mind is subject, and to inculcate the lessons of wisdom in those forms, and upon those occasions, which are peculiarly adapted to produce the *energy* of PRACTICE.

These considerations did not escape the sagacity of the Spartan legislator, who, we are informed, made the following declaration, when he promulgated the particular law by which his institutes were *forbidden to be copied*: ‘That whatever was of peculiar force and efficacy towards rendering a city *happy* and *virtuous*, ought to be impressed by *habitual culture* on the *habits* and *manners* of men, in order to make the characters indeible; and that GOOD-WILL and EXAMPLE were more powerful than any other mode of constraint to which men could be subjected; for by means of them every one became not only a law unto himself, but truly assisted his country, and became a *living* law unto others.’

The most *uncandid* opponents of the Masonic system cannot but acknowledge the high degree in which its *simple* and *genuine* institutions have promoted this important object. That system which concentrates the desultory effusions of *moral sympathy*, that the warmth of its influence may be more generally and equally distributed, gives a valuable direction to the intellect of man; and it must be obvious, that the *principles of brotherhood* which invest ‘the love of our neighbour’ with the attractions of science, can be injurious to the prosperity of no state in which they are propagated. Though the good tendency of the associations formed under its auspices has been occasionally liable to suspicion, from the misconduct of individuals, such misconduct will ever give pain to those who are virtuously disposed, and excite their activity to remove the general imputations it may cause.

In these endeavours the true professors of Masonry may frequently be successful; but against the pretended assumptions of their forms and doctrines by whole societies of men, for views and purposes different from those of real Masonry, they have no protection, and cannot therefore be justly considered responsible for any mischievous consequences of such impositions. In asserting the *fact* of such consequences, it may, however, be *charitably presumed*, that the pen of the accuser would be prompted by the impulse of clear and strong conviction: for, there may be a period in the history and temper of society, in which such accusations cannot escape the *suspicion*, at least, of being indiscriminate and erroneous.

In the political explosions which have recently agitated the continent, respectable classes of men have been violently and unjustly deprived of the comfort and privileges attached to their professions and their rank. The feeling of resentment for injury is natural, but during its prevalence the mind certainly is not *best* adapted to collect the evidence *necessary* to influence its judgment. It is not, therefore, surprising, that in the eagerness of such privileged orders to identify the source of their persecutions, Masonry should be suspected of mysterious hostility, or that some *Pandora's Box* should be discovered, abounding with the ingredients of all those moral and political evils which have of late deformed the civilization and disturbed the tranquility of Europe.

The best way for the true Mason to refute such charges, whether made anonymously, or supported by a *description of proof* unworthy of more ostensible sanction, is to shew, by his peaceable and moral demeanour, that while his tenets teach him to feel in their full force the principles of general benevolence, they also qualify him to be a support and ornament to the particular society in which he lives.

Thus illustrated by the calm and virtuous firmness of its professors, the probability that *genuine Masonry* will survive the imitations of imposture and the attacks of misrepresentation, is not without an illustrious example.

It is no reproach to the truth of Christianity, that false professors and false doctrines have abused the sanction of its name. Such impostures were predicted by the highest authority; and while they have faded away, the permanency of that sublime and rational system has been the strongest proof of its origin and its excellence.

Every person, therefore, Mr. Editor, who is really such, should consult the purity of his own intentions, and employ his best judgment to determine whether the Masonic institutions are calculated to give them a more extensive and efficient operation. If he be persuaded of these points, the same goodness of heart and soundness of judgment will induce him to persevere, and to disregard the misconception or artifice which may attempt to disunite him from his rational purposes, or labour to expose him to the suspicion of his fellow subjects, by the use of the too hackneyed political expedient,

—Hinc spargere voces
In vulgum ambiguis—

A VINDICATION OF MASONRY.

[CONCLUDED FROM OUR LAST.]

IF we raise our ideas higher, we shall find that this innate principle of friendship arises in proportion as the objects seem to advance nearer to the degree of rational. There can be no better way of judging of the superiority of one part of the animal creation above the other, than by observing what degrees of kindness and seeming good nature they enjoy. However, I shall here pause, and refer the discussion of this philosophical disquisition to some more refined genius, of superior parts and abilities.

To confine my subject to the rational species: let us think and meditate on these benevolent dispositions and good temper of soul which indulgent nature has so kindly bestowed upon us. As human nature rises in the scale of things, so do the social affections likewise arise. Do we not feel in our breasts a strong propensity to friendship? Enjoy we not a pleasure when it is firm and cemented, and feel we not a pain when it deadens or declines? What sweetens life but friendship? What diverts care but friendship? What alleviates pain, or makes sorrow smile, but friendship? sacred, holy friendship!

The progress of friendship is not confined to the narrow circle of private connections, but is universal, and extends to every branch of the human race. Though its influence is unbounded, yet it exerts itself more or less vehemently as the objects it favours are nearer or more remote. Hence springs true patriotism, which fires the soul with the most generous flame, creates the best and most disinterested virtue, and inspires that public spirit and heroic ardour, which enables us to support a good cause, and risk our lives in its defence.

This commendable virtue crowns the lover of his country with unfading laurels, gives a lustre to all his actions, and consecrates his name to latest ages. The warrior's glory may consist in murder, and the rude ravage of the desolating sword; but the blood of thousands will not stain the hands of his country's friend. His virtues are open, and of the noblest kind. Conscious integrity supports him against the arm of power; and should he bleed by tyrant hands, he gloriously dies a martyr in the cause of liberty, and leaves to posterity an everlasting monument of the greatness of his soul. Should I name the first *Brutus*, the self-devoted *Decii*, or the self-condemned but unconquerable *Cato*?

Friendship not only appears divine when employed in preserving the liberties of our country, but shines with equal splendour in the more tranquil hours of life. Before it rises into the noble flame of patriotism, aiming destruction at the heads of tyrants, thundering for liberty, and courting dangers in a good cause, we shall see it calm and moderate, burning with an even glow, improving the soft hours of peace, and heightening the relish for virtue. Hence it is that

contracts are formed, societies are instituted, and the vacant hours of life are cheerfully employed in agreeable company and social conversation.

It is thus we may trace, from reason and the nature of things, the wise ends and designs of the sacred institution of Masonry; which not only cultivates and improves a real and undisguised friendship among men, but teaches them the more important duties of society. Vain then is each idle surmise against this sacred art, which our enemies may either meanly cherish in their own bosoms, or ignorantly promulgate to the uninstructed world. By decrying Masonry, they derogate from human nature itself, and from that good order and wise constitution of things, which the almighty Author of the world has framed for the government of mankind, and has established as the basis of the moral system; which, by a secret, but attractive force, disposes the human heart to every social virtue. Can friendship or social delights be the object of reproach? Can that wisdom which hoary Time has sanctified, be the object of ridicule? How mean, how contemptible must these men appear, who vainly pretend to censure or condemn what they cannot comprehend! The generous heart will pity ignorance so aspiring and insolent.

I shall now proceed, and consider in what shape Masonry is of universal utility to mankind, how it is reconcilable to the best policy, why it deserves the general esteem, and why all men are bound to promote it.

Abstracting from the pure pleasures which arise from a friendship so wisely constituted, and which it is scarce possible that any circumstance or occurrence can erase, let us consider, that Masonry is a science confined to no particular country, but diffused over the whole terrestrial globe. Wherever arts flourish, there it flourishes too. Add to this, that by secret and inviolable signs, carefully preserved among ourselves throughout the world, Masonry becomes an universal language. By this means many advantages are gained; men of all religions and of all nations are united. The distant Chinese, the wild Arab, or the American savage, will embrace a brother Briton; and he will know that, besides the common ties of humanity, there is still a stronger obligation to engage him to kind and friendly actions. The spirit of the fulminating priest will be tamed; and a moral brother, though of a different persuasion, engage his esteem. Thus all those disputes, which embitter life and sour the tempers of men, are avoided; and every face is clad in smiles, while the common good of all, the generous design of the Craft, is zealously pursued.

Is it not then evident that Masonry is an universal advantage to mankind? for sure, unless discord and harmony be the same, it must be so. Is it not likewise reconcilable to the best policy? for it prevents the heat of passion, and these partial animosities, which different interests too often create. Masonry teaches us to be faithful to our king, and true to our country; to avoid turbulent measures, and to submit with reverence to the decisions of legislative power. It is surely

then no mean advantage, no trifling acquisition, to any community or state, to have under its power and jurisdiction a body of men who are loyal subjects, patrons of science, and friends to mankind.

Does not Masonry, therefore, of itself command the highest regard? Does it not claim the greatest esteem? Does it not merit the most extensive patronage? Without doubt. If all that is good and amiable, if all that is useful to mankind or society, be deserving a wise man's attention, Masonry claims it in the highest degree. What beautiful ideas does it inspire! How does it open and enlarge the mind! And how abundant a source of satisfaction does it afford! Does it not recommend universal benevolence, and every virtue which can endear one man to another? And is it not particularly adapted to give the mind the most disinterested, the most generous notions?

An uniformity of opinion, not only useful in exigences but pleasing in familiar life, universally prevails among Masons, strengthens all the ties of their friendship, and equally promotes love and esteem. Masons are brethren, and amongst brothers there exist no invidious distinctions. A king is reminded, that although a crown adorns his head, and a sceptre his hand, yet the blood in his veins is derived from the common parent of mankind, and is no better than that of the meanest of his subjects. Men in inferior stations are taught to love their superiors, when they see them divested of their grandeur, and condescending to trace the paths of wisdom, and follow virtue, assisted by those of a rank beneath them. Virtue is true nobility, and wisdom is the channel by which it is directed and conveyed. Wisdom and virtue, therefore, are the great characteristics of Masons.

Masonry inculcates universal love and benevolence, and disposes the heart to particular acts of goodness. A Mason, possessed of this amiable, this god-like disposition, is shocked at misery under every form or appearance. His pity is not only excited, but he is prompted, as far as is consistent with the rules of prudence, to alleviate the pain of the sufferer, and cheerfully to contribute to his relief. For this end our funds are raised, and our charities established on the firmest foundation. When a brother is in distress, what heart does not ach? When he is hungry, do we not convey him food? Do we not clothe him when he is naked? Do we not fly to his relief when he is in trouble? Thus we evince the propriety of the title we assume, and demonstrate to the world that the term Brother among Masons is not merely nominal.

If these acts are not sufficient to recommend so great and generous a plan, such a wise and good society, happy in themselves, and equally happy in the possession of every social virtue, nothing which is truly good can prevail. The man who resists arguments drawn from such topics, must be callous to every noble principle, and lost to all sense of honour.

Nevertheless, though the fairest and the best ideas may be thus imprinted in the mind, there are brethren who, careless of their own reputation, disregard the instructive lessons of our noble science, and

by yielding to vice and intemperance, not only disgrace themselves; but reflect dishonour upon Masonry in general. It is this unfortunate circumstance which has given rise to those severe and unjust reflections, which the prejudiced part of mankind have so liberally bestowed upon us. But let these apostate brethren know, and let it be proclaimed to the world at large, that they are unworthy of their trust, and that, whatever name or designation they assume, they are in reality no Masons. It is as possible for a mouse to move a mountain, or a man to calm the boisterous ocean, as it is for a principled Mason to commit a dishonourable action. Masonry consists in virtuous improvement, in cheerful and innocent pastime, and not in lewd debauchery or unguarded excess.

But though unhappy brethren thus transgress, no wise man will draw any argument from thence against the society, or urge it as an objection against the institution. If the wicked lives of men were admitted as an argument against the religion which they profess, Christianity itself, with all its divine beauties, would be exposed to censure. Let us therefore endeavour strenuously to support the dignity of our characters; and by reforming the abuses which have crept in among us, display Masonry in its primitive lustre, and convince mankind that the source from which it flows is truly divine.

It is this conduct which can alone retrieve the ancient glory of the Craft. Our generous and good actions must distinguish our title to the privileges of Masonry, and the regularity of our behaviour display their influence and utility. Thus the world will admire our sanctity of manners, and effectually reconcile our uniform conduct with the incomparable tenets we profess to admire.

As our order is founded upon harmony, and subsists by regularity and proportion; so our passions ought to be properly restrained, and be ever subservient to the dictates of right reason. As the delicate pleasures of friendship harmonize our minds, and exclude rancour, malice, and ill-nature; so we ought to live like brethren bound by the same tie, always cultivating fraternal affection, and reconciling ourselves to the practice of those duties, which are the basis on which the structure we erect must be supported. By improving our minds in the principles of morality and virtue, we enlarge our understandings, and more effectually answer the great ends of our existence. Such as violate our laws, or infringe on good order, we mark with a peculiar odium; and if our mild endeavours to reform their lives should not answer the good purposes intended, we expel them our assemblies, as unfit members of society.

This is the practice which should universally prevail among Masons. Our outward conduct being directed by our inward principles, we should be equally careful to avoid censure and reproach. Useful knowledge ought to be the great object of our desire; for the ways of wisdom are beautiful, and lead to pleasure. We ought to search into nature, as the advantages accruing from so agreeable a study will amply compensate our unwearied assiduity. Knowledge must be attained by degrees, and is not every where to be found.

Wisdom seeks the secret shade, the lonely cell designed for contemplation; there enthroned she sits, delivering her sacred oracles: there let us seek her, and pursue the real bliss; for though the passage be difficult, the farther we trace it, the easier it will become.

Geometry, that extensive art, we should particularly study, as the first and noblest of sciences. By geometry we may curiously trace nature, through her various windings, to her most concealed recesses. By it we may discover the power, the wisdom, and the goodness of the grand Artificer of the universe, and view with amazing delight the beautiful proportions which connect and grace this vast machine. By it we may discover how the planets move in their different orbits, and mathematically demonstrate their various revolutions. By it we may rationally account for the return of seasons, and the mixed variety of scenes which they display to the discerning eye. Numberless worlds are around us, all framed by the same divine Artist, which roll through the vast expanse, and are all conducted by the same unerring laws of nature. How must we then improve! With what grand ideas must such knowledge fill our minds! And how worthy is it of the attention of all rational beings, especially of those who profess themselves promoters of our grand institution!

It was a survey of nature, and the observation of its beautiful proportions, that first determined man to imitate the divine plan, and to study symmetry and order. This gave rise to societies, and birth to every useful art. The architect began to design, and the plans which he laid down, improved by experience and time, produced some of those excellent works which will be the admiration of future ages. I might here trace the history of the Craft, and shew that, ever since order began, or harmony displayed her charms, our order had a being; but this is so well known, that a tedious discussion of incontrovertible facts might rather cloud the understanding, than open to our view a prospect which ignorance and barbarism can only veil.

If we are united, our society must flourish; let us then promote the useful arts, and by that means mark our distinction and superiority; let us cultivate the social virtues, and improve in all that is good and amiable; let the Genius of Masonry preside, and under her sovereign sway let us endeavour to act with becoming dignity.

Now, is Masonry so good, so valuable a science? Does it tend to instruct the mind, and tame each unruly passion? Does it expel rancour, hatred, and envy? Does it reconcile men of all religions and of all nations? Is it an universal cement, binding its followers to charity, good-will, and secret friendship? Is it calculated to promote the truest freedom? Does it teach men to lead quiet lives? In short, are its precepts a complete system of moral virtue? Then, HAIL, thou glorious Craft, bright transcript of all that is amiable!—HAIL, thou blest moral science, which so beautifully exemplifies virtue!—Welcome, ye delightful mansions, where all enjoy the pleasures of a serene and tranquil life!—Welcome, ye blest retreats, where smiling Friendship ever blooms, and from her throne dispenses pleasure with unbounded liberality!—Welcome, sacred habitations, where peace and innocence for ever dwell!

M.

REVIEW

OF

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

An authentic Account of an Embassy from the King of Great Britain to the Emperor of China Taken chiefly from the Papers of his Excellency the Earl of Macartney, K. B. His Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Emperor of China, &c. By Sir George Staunton, Bart. L. L. D. F. R. S. &c. 2 vols. 4to. with Engravings, besides a folio Volume of Plates. 4l. 4s. in boards. Nicol.

[CONTINUED FROM OUR LAST.]

WE resume our extracts from this interesting and splendid work with pleasure.

Concerning the supposed upas, or poison-tree of Java, of which the account by Foersch attracted little notice, at least in England, till it was admitted in a note to Dr. Darwin's celebrated poem of the Botanic Garden, inquiries were made by Dr. Gillan, and others belonging to the embassy. Foersch had certainly been a surgeon for some time in Java, and had travelled into some parts of the interior of the country; but his relation of a tree so venomous as to be destructive, by its exhalations, at some miles distance, is compared there to the fictions of Baron Munchausen, or as a bold attempt to impose upon the credulity of persons at a distance. Yet, as it was thought a discredit to the country to be suspected of producing a vegetable of so venomous a quality, a Dutch dissertation has been written in refutation of the story. It appears from thence, that information was requested, on the part of the Dutch government of Batavia, from the Javanese prince, in whose territories this dreadful vegetable was asserted to be growing; and that the prince, in his answer, denied any knowledge of such a production. Rumphius, indeed, a respectable author in natural history, of the last century, mentions a tree growing at Macassar, to which he gives the name of toxicaria; and relates, that not only the red resin contained a deadly poison, but that the drops falling from the leaves upon the men employed in collecting this resin from the trunk, produced, unless they took particular care in covering their bodies, swellings and much illness; and that the exhalations from the tree were fatal to some small birds attempting to perch upon its branches. But many of the particulars of this account, however far removed from that of Foersch, are given not upon the author's own observation, and may have been exaggerated. It is a common opinion at Batavia, that there exists in that country a vegetable poison, which, rubbed on the daggers of the Javanese, renders the slightest wounds incurable; though some European practitioners have of late asserted, that they had cured persons stabbed by those weapons, but not without having taken the precaution of keeping the wound long open, and procuring a suppuration. One of the keepers of the medical garden at Batavia assured Dr. Gillan that a tree distilling a poisonous juice was in that collection; but that its qualities were kept secret from most people in the settlement, lest the knowledge of them should find its way to the slaves, who might be tempted to make an ill use of it.

We are informed that Batavia is in a declining state, which appears from the numbers of untenanted houses that are in it, and 'the Company's vessels lying useless in the road, for want of cargoes to fill, or men to navigate them.'

'The Ambassador embarked on the 17th of March, in order to be ready to enter into the Straits of Banká as soon as the monsoon, or periodical current of the wind, blowing in these seas for about six months with a northerly, and six with a southerly direction, should be favourable for vessels bound to China from the southward.'

After putting to sea, the necessity of a tender appeared so strong, that the 'Ambassador sent back to Batavia to purchase such a one as the service required; to which, as a mark of respect to Admiral the Duke of Clarence, he gave his Royal Highness's name.'

Soon after the squadron's arrival at North Island 'the long lost Jackall came into sight.'—She had been obliged to stop some days at Madeira, where she arrived a few days after the Lion had left it. She pursued the latter to St. Jago, which she reached, likewise, some days too late. From thence to North Island she did not come once to anchor. Her provisions were damaged by salt water; and her crew was reduced to a very scanty pittance when she joined the Lion.'

The following instance of considerable civilization in the Malays of the island of Sumatra, is curious. 'Sir Erasmus Gower, previous to his departure for Batavia, caused a board to be nailed to a post, erected on the Sumatra beach, on which board were written directions for the Jackall, in case she should call there in his absence. On his return, he perceived that the board had been taken down; and the nails, which, it seems, were valuable to the Malays, carried away. And here a mere savage would have rested satisfied with the gratification of his own wants, and little solicitous about the objects for which the board had been placed there by strangers; but the Malay, willing to reconcile that object with his own, took care, after removing the nails, to replace the board with wooden pegs; and it was found in this condition, inverted indeed, through ignorance of the language written on it.'

Here one of the people belonging to the Lion was murdered, but the Malays on the coast 'alleged that the fact was committed, not by any of the inhabitants thereabouts, but by pirates, who sometimes stopped there for water.'

These pirates are Malays also, but chiefly from the more eastern islands, who sail in boats, armed with 4 or 6 guns each, or more, and going together in numerous fleets, had of late taken several vessels, some belonging to the Dutch; and some to the English settlements in India, called country ships, as not trading out of Asia. Many of these had been obliged to be at the expence of hiring marines, or armed men, to be kept on board for their better protection against these pirates, whose vessels, being of a smaller size, and drawing little water, can use their oars in calms, and when they meet a superior force, often take shelter in the deep recesses in the south-east extremity of Sumatra; the whole of which is little more than a forest of mangroves, growing out of a salt morass.'

The ships proceeded to the bay of Bantam, the trade of which was formerly very great, but since the building of Batavia by the Dutch, and the removal of the English to Hindostan and China, 'Bantam has been reduced to a poor remnant of its former opulence and importance, and the power of its sovereign has declined with it.'

This monarch 'resides in a palace, built in the European style, within a fort garrisoned by a detachment from Batavia, of which the commander takes his orders, not from the king of Bantam, but from a Dutch chief

or governor, who lives in another fort adjoining the town, and nearer to the sea side.

His Bantamese Majesty is allowed, however, to maintain a body of native troops, and has several small armed vessels, by means of which he maintains authority over some part of the south of Sumatra. His subjects are obliged to sell to him all the pepper they raise in either island, at a low price, which he is under contract with the Dutch to deliver to them at a small advance, and much under the marketable value of that commodity. The present King joins the spiritual to the temporal power, and is high-priest of the religion of Mahomet; with which he mingles, indeed, some of the rites and superstitions of the aboriginal inhabitants of Java, adoring, for instance, the great banyan, or Indian fig-tree, which is likewise held sacred in Hindostan, and under which religious rites might be conveniently performed; in like manner as all affairs of state are actually transacted by the Bantamese, under some shadowing tree, by moon-light. Upon application to his Majesty, through the Dutch chief, he immediately dispatched two of his armed vessels to Sumatra, with orders to search for the perpetrators of the murder lately committed there; and some time after the ships had left this neighbourhood, intelligence was received that one of the guilty persons was discovered, and executed.

On the 17th of May the squadron anchored in a spacious bay in the island of Pulo Condore, on which the English had a settlement till the beginning of the present century. Here a party went on shore, and were received by the inhabitants with great hospitality, who promised to furnish a necessary supply of provisions for the ships; but on landing the next day, the people were surprised to find all the houses abandoned.

At this time the crews were much afflicted with disorders, and therefore, fresh provisions were greatly needed. On the 26th of May the ships anchored in Turon bay, on the coast of Cochin-China. The appearance of the squadron at first created great alarm, but when its destination was known, the most respectful attention was paid to it.

A singular instance of agility in some Cochin-Chinese young men is thus related. 'Seven or eight of them, standing in a circle, were engaged in a game of shuttle-cock. They had in their hands no battledores. They did not employ the hand or arms, any way, in striking it. But, after taking a short race, and springing from the floor, they met the descending shuttle-cock with the sole of the foot, and drove it up again, with force, high into the air. It was, thus, kept up a considerable time; the players seldom missing their stroke, or failing to give it the direction they intended. The shuttle-cock was made of a piece of dried skin, rolled round, and bound with strings. Into this skin were inserted three long feathers, spreading out at top, but so near to each other, when they were stuck into the skin, as to pass through the holes, little more than a quarter of an inch square, which are always made in the centre of Cochin-Chinese copper coins. Two or three of these served as a weight at the bottom of the shuttle-cock, and their sound gave notice to the players, when it was approaching to them.'

Among objects of natural curiosity, accident led to the observation of some swarms of uncommon insects, busily employed upon small branches of a shrub, then neither in fruit or flower, but in its general habit bearing somewhat the appearance of a privet. These insects, each not much exceeding the size of the domestic fly, were of a curious structure, having pectinated appendages rising in a curve, bending towards the head, not unlike the form of the tail feathers of the common fowl, but in the opposite direction. Every part of the insect was in colour of a perfect white, or at least completely covered with a white powder. The particular stem

frequented by those insects was entirely whitened by a substance or powder of that colour, strewed upon it by them. The substance or powder was supposed to form the white wax of the east. This substance is asserted, on the spot, to have the property, by a particular manipulation, of giving, in certain proportions, with vegetable oil, such solidity to the composition as to render the whole equally capable of being moulded into candles.

The fact is ascertained, indeed, in some degree, by the simple experiment of dissolving one part of this wax in three parts of olive oil made hot. The whole, when cold, will coagulate into a mass, approaching to the firmness of bees-wax.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

The Life of William, late Earl of Mansfield. By John Holliday, of Lincoln's Inn, Esq. F.R.S. and Barrister at Law. 4to. Price 1l. 1s. Elmsly and Brenner.

THIS work is valuable, as presenting a pretty copious account of a great and venerable character. The Author very candidly allows 'that his views are confined to a delineation of the noble Earl's character in his judicial capacity and in private life;' but notwithstanding the assistance of doctors Turton and Combe, Messrs. Wheeler, Seward, &c. and the papers of the late Mr. Booth, it will be found, that the information, even in this point of view, is less minute and satisfactory than could have been wished. This, however, must not be considered as implying any degree of censure on his biographer, who exhibits much patience and industry on the occasion, for the deficiency, of which we complain, from the very nature of things, has, perhaps, become unavoidable.

William Murray, Earl of Mansfield, was a younger son, and the eleventh child of David Viscount Stormont. He was born at Perth, on the second of March, 1705. When only three years of age, he was removed to London, and admitted as a King's scholar at Westminster, in 1719, whence he repaired to Oxford. The following is a copy of the entry made in the records of Christ Church :

' Trin. Term 1723, June 18

Ed. Xti. Gul. Murray 18.

David f. Civ. Bath.

C. Som. V. Com. fil.

T. Wenman, C. A.'

There is a very material error respecting the birth place of the student, Bath being substituted for Perth. This circumstance having been mentioned to Lord M. by Sir W. Blackstone, he replied, 'that possibly the broad pronunciation of the person, who gave in the description, was the origin of the mistake.'

'When he was a Westminster scholar, Lady Kinnoul, in one of the vacations, invited him to her home, where observing him with a pen in his hand, and seemingly thoughtful, she asked him if he was writing his theme, and what in plain English the theme was? The school boy's smart answer rather surprized her Ladyship, "What is that to you?"

'She replied, "how can you be so rude? I asked you very civilly a plain question, and did not expect from a school-boy such a pert answer."

'The reply was, "indeed, my lady, I can only answer once more, "What is that to you?" In reality the theme was—*Quid ad te—pertinet?*"

During his residence at Westminster he gave many proofs of uncommon abilities, particularly in his *declamations*, which were sure prognostics of his future eloquence; and at the election in May 2, 1723, he had the honour of standing first on the list of the gentlemen sent to Oxford. About four years

afterwards, he was admitted to the degree of B.A. and on the death of George I. Mr. Murray's Latin verses, as one of the members of the university, were rewarded with the first prize.

His oration in praise of Demosthenes was another early presage of his rising fame, but a fragment only has been preserved. This composition has been greatly praised by Lord Monboddo, in his treatise on the 'Origin and Progress of Language.

In April, 1724 Mr. Murray was admitted a student of Lincoln's Inn. On the 24th of June, 1730, he took the degree of M.A. and left the university soon afterwards, and determined to travel into foreign parts, before he sat down to the serious prosecution of his legal studies, to which his genius, and his slender fortune as a younger son, forcibly prompted him. He travelled through France, and in Italy, at an age fitted for improvement and useful observation; not between 19 and 21, a period which his great patron Lord Hardwicke, in one of the numbers of the *Spectator*, under the modest signature of Philip Homebred, shews to be too early an age for our British youths to travel to any advantage. At Rome Mr. Murray was probably inspired and animated with the love of *Ciceronean eloquence*; at Rome he was prompted to make Cicero his great example and his theme. At Tusculum, and in his perambulations over classical ground, why might he not be emulous to lay the foundation of that superstructure of bright fame, which he soon raised after he became a member of Lincoln's Inn?

About the year 1730, he addressed two letters to the young Duke of Portland, pointing out the proper objects of his studies. They have been inserted by his biographer, and do honour to his talents.

The following passage contains information that cannot fail to prove interesting to the student.

'To give a new cast to Mr. Murray's extent of thought, and to evince that, however pleasing and bewitching the flowery fields of literature were to his well stored mind, he wisely determined not to be bewildered therein, and early discovered a great veneration for the advice of Horace,

Omne tulit punctum qui miscuit utile dulci.

'He was called to the bar in Mich. term 1730. In his career in the pursuit of legal knowledge his assiduity soon co-operated with his shining abilities. Two supporters like these, in perfect unison, not only exempted him from all pecuniary embarrassments, which slender fortune in some, and juvenile indiscretion in others, too frequently occasion, but also conciliated the esteem, the friendship, and patronage of the great oracles of the law, who adorned that period, amongst whom Lord Talbot and Lord Chancellor Hardwicke were looked up to as the foster-fathers of the science.

'Instead of submitting to the usual drudgery, as some are pleased to deem it, of labouring in the chambers of a special pleader, Mr. Murray's motto seems to have been 'aut Cicero aut nullus.' Early in his legal career he studied the graces of elocution, under one of the greatest masters of the age wherein he lived. Doctor Johnson, in his *Life of Pope*, says, 'his voice when he was young was so pleasing, that Pope was called in fondness the little *nightingale*.' Under this melodious and great master Mr. Murray practised *elocution*, and may truly be said to have brought the modulation of an harmonious voice to the highest degree of perfection. One day he was surprised by a gentleman of Lincoln's Inn, who could take the liberty of entering his rooms without the ceremonious introduction of a servant, in the singular act of practising the graces of a speaker at a glass, while Pope sat by in character of a friendly preceptor. Mr. Murray on this occasion paid him the handsome compliment of *tu es mihi Mæcenas!*

Notwithstanding the gaiety of Mr. Murray, we find him always mindful of his professional fame and emoluments. In 1732 he was associated with

the Attorney and Solicitor-General, Talbot and Hardwicke, in an appeal cause before the House of Peers; and in 1737 he was retained as the junior counsel for the defendant, in the trial between Theophilus Cibber and Mr. Sloper. On this occasion the senior counsel happening to be seized with a fit in court, Mr. Murray, with only one hour's preparation, made a very eloquent defence, which added greatly to his reputation. Indeed, his conduct that day may be fairly said to have made his fortune, for he himself was ever after accustomed to observe, "business *now* poured in upon me on all sides; and from a few hundred pounds a year, I fortunately found myself, in every subsequent year, in possession of thousands."

In 1738 he married Lady Elizabeth Finch, one of the six daughters of Daniel Earl of Winchelsea; and this union added considerable fortune, and family connections, to his other advantages. In the same year, out of fifteen or sixteen appeals heard and determined in the House of Lords, Mr. Murray was employed in no less than eleven.

After ten years practice at the Chancery bar, he was appointed Solicitor-General in 1742. In 1746, he distinguished himself on the trial of the *rebel lords*.

In 1751, he was accused of being a rank jacobite; his biographer and Junius, both of whom record and animadvert on the event, draw very different conclusions from the evidence.

This circumstance, however, did not hurt his preferment, for in 1754 he succeeded Sir Dudley Rider, as his Majesty's Attorney-General, and on the death of that great lawyer, in 1756, he was nominated Chief Justice of the King's Bench.

Before he had been six months in office, he was appointed Chancellor of the Exchequer, *pro tempore*, and is here said to have brought about a coalition between Mr. Fox, afterwards Lord Holland, and Mr. Pitt, afterwards Earl of Chatham. The good of the state was the ostensible pretext for a junction of councils and interests, and proved perhaps beneficial only to the contracting parties.

After this political, we are favoured with an humorous anecdote.

'One of the Right Reverend Bench having very charitably established an almshouse, at his own expence, for twenty-five poor women, Mr. Murray, in his juvenile days, was applied to for an inscription to be placed over the portal of the house; upon which he took up his pencil, and immediately wrote the following:

" Under this roof
The Lord Bishop of _____
Keeps
No less than twenty-five women."

We are next presented with a historical series of all the celebrated decisions of Lord Mansfield while he presided in the King's Bench. This forms the principal merit of the work before us.

It does justice to his Lordship's discernment, that he was adverse to the prosecution of Mr. Wilkes: 'I am decidedly against the prosecution,' said he to some of his friends, 'his consequence will die away if you let him alone; but by public notice of him, you will increase his consequence; the very thing he covets, and has in full view.'

It must be allowed, on the other hand, that, in his *judicial* capacity he was not wholly exempt from the imputation of mingling politics with his law, particularly in cases of libels; he also incurred much blame on the trial of Lord Grosvenor with the late Duke of Cumberland.

In the cases of the Quakers, Presbyterians, and Roman Catholics, he displayed great liberality; he also merited the praise of being a steady patron, a warm friend, and a very excellent master.

The following reply to Dr. Turton, towards the latter part of his life, respecting the French revolution, was in some measure prophetical :

‘ My dear Turton, how can any two reasonable men think differently on the subject. A nation which, for more than twelve centuries, has made a conspicuous figure in the annals of *Europe* ; a nation, where the polite arts first flourished in the northern hemisphere, and found an asylum against the barbarous incursions of the Goths and Vandals ; a nation, whose philosophers and men of science cherished and improved civilization, and grafted on the feudal system *the best of all systems*, their laws respecting the descents and various modifications of territorial property—to think that a nation like this should not, in the course of so many centuries, have learned something worth preserving ; should not have hit upon some little *code of laws*, or a few principles sufficient to form one. Ideots! who, instead of retaining what was valuable, sound and energetic, in their constitution, have at once sunk into barbarity, lost sight of first principles, and brought forward a farrago of laws fit for Botany Bay! It is enough to fill the mind with astonishment and abhorrence! A constitution like this may survive that of *an old man*, but nothing less than a miracle can protect, and transmit it down to posterity!’

The History of the Campaign of 1796, in Germany and Italy. 8vo. 6s. Boards. Cadell and Davies.

THE Author of this work seems to be exceedingly well-informed on this interesting subject. He does not indeed excel in the theory of tactics ; nor does he sufficiently analyze the causes of victory in every instance ; but he details his accounts with great plainness and fidelity, from authentic and original sources of information.

There is no fact less decided and settled between the partizans of the regal coalition and those of the republic than the relative strength of the opposed armies. If we listen to the British officers who are returned from the continent, we should think that the French had never won a victory without a very great superiority in point of numbers. If we trust to the official vaunts of contractors, ministers, and commissaries, the numbers furnished for the field have ever, before the battle, rivalled the enemy's squadrons. Untried forces over-rate themselves, in order to intimidate ; and conquering foes undervalue themselves, in order to enhance their glory : so that various causes concur to mislead the most impartial and cautious arithmetician. Our author thus estimates :

‘ With respect to the strength of the opposed armies, it is obvious, that in order to be enabled to appreciate them with absolute precision and certainty, it would be necessary that the Author should have been commander in chief, or at least an officer of the staff of both armies. His enquiries, however, on this point have been numerous and extensive, and he has addressed himself for the purpose to those persons, whom their local position, and their military situation, equally placed within reach of very good information on the subject. The communication which he has received from them enables him to form a near estimate of the numbers of the French and Imperial armies, at the opening of this campaign. He thinks himself authorised to state that at this time, the two French armies, commanded by Generals Jourdan and Moreau, amounted to more than 160,000 men ; and that the Imperial forces commanded by his Royal Highness the Archduke Charles, including the Saxons and other contingents of the empire, were nearly 150,000 men.’

After having described the disorderly retreat of General Jourdan, the following reflections occur,—which we believe to be very just :

Thus ended the retreat of General Jourdan, a retreat of more than one hundred leagues, in which he lost near one half of his army, and was driven in twenty five days from the frontiers of Bohemia to the walls of Dusseldorf.

This retreat formed a strong contrast with that of General Wartensleben, who disputed every foot of ground with scarcely 25,000, against 50,000 men; who never suffered any considerable part of his army to be either cut off or endangered; and who employed near two months in retiring from the Sieg to the Naab.

A comparison drawn between these two retreats, seems to confirm the opinion, that if the French are endowed with the qualities which lead to victory, they are not, in the same degree, possessed of those which are requisite to support a defeat; and that the latter qualifications are eminently possessed by the Austrians. This campaign of Jourdan's proved, that if the valour of the soldiers, and the boldness of their Generals, are sufficient to render an army victorious, the only hope of safety, in case of a defeat, must be placed in the passive obedience of the troops, in the regular subordination of the officers, in the ability of the Generals, and in the solid organization of all its parts. It was to the want of all these circumstances that Jourdan owed the rapid abandonment of his conquests, and the destruction of his army. Two great defeats would not have occasioned a loss equal to that which he sustained by the want of discipline among his soldiers, by the spirit of independence among his Generals, and of disobedience among his subaltern officers. The great irregularity in the distribution of provisions, and the extreme disorder which reigned in the interior government of his army, were more fatal to him than the sword of the Austrians. They produced disobedience and discouragement among the soldiery, caused a considerable desertion, and obliged the different corps to follow their own discretion, in directing their retreat to whatever places could provide them the subsistence which they were then so much in want of. A total disunion in the motions and the positions of the whole army was the consequence which rendered it impossible to oppose a victorious, active, and well regulated force. The excessive contributions, extortions, and outrages exercised upon the inhabitants of the conquered countries, excited in them the most violent animosity, which shewed itself evidently, from the very beginning of the French disasters. The disorder of their retreat, the plunder and violence by which it was marked, gave the Franconian Peasants, at the same time, new causes of resentment, and a favourable opportunity of revenging themselves. The bad military and political conduct of the French occasioned the loss, not only of their conquests, but likewise of the partizans they had in Germany. When conquerors, they were detested; when conquered, they were despised.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Lorenzino di Medici, and other Poems. 12mo. 3s. Cadell and Davies.

THE story is that of the assassination of Alexander III. Duke of Florence, by his minister and kinsman, Lorenzino di Medici, for which the author himself refers his readers to Robertson's Charles V. and Roscoe's Life of Lorenzo. The most prominent character is that of Margaret of Austria, an high spirited Princess, who, in fact, was the wife of Alexander, and betrothed, after his death, to Octavio Farnese. The author dedicates the publication to Mr. Roscoe, and in a short advertisement, apologizes for the liberty he has taken with history. Eight sonnets subjoined, prove the author to be as enthusiastic a votary to constant love, as to the Muses, and must have pleaded strongly for him where he wished to have them approved.

Though the composition of this elegantly printed drama will not place its author among the first poets of this kind, or even the second, there is nothing in the production that is grossly faulty.

POETRY.

A DESCRIPTION OF THE CELL OF POVERTY,

FROM THE LATIN.

BEFORE the simple infant world of old
Had seen the lustre of bright gems and gold,
The nymph PAUPERIA first came down to
dwell,

Content and happy in a humble cell.
Her looks were pale, thin, meagre, and severe,
Uncouth her dress, and rustic was her air.
Her food was mean, tho' wholesome, often
scant, [with want,
Much pinch'd she was, but not oppress'd
On milk she liv'd, on herbs, and mellow
fruit,

Each wholesome lentil, and each juicy root:
Or honey dropping from the hollow oak,
She drank the stream untainted from the
rock.

How soon from Styx her brother MAMMON
sprung, [diamonds hung,
Round whom bright glit'ring gems and
With plates of gold around his neck and
waist, [haste.

The nymph abash'd, retir'd and fled in
Unhappy now, indeed! he seiz'd her fruits,
Her milk and honey, leaving nought but
roots. [dwell,

While in rich pastures Mammon's children
All in a fright her sister takes a cell
On a cold mountain's rugged, barren brow,
Where only moss and some few sorrels
grow.

With famine here and cold she pines away,
Congeal'd by night, and thaw'd with tears
by day:

Nor does the cruel Mammon comfort yield,
One drop of milk or honey from his field.

As once I mus'd too near the distant cell,
Conceal'd below, I slept, and in I fell;
She seiz'd me straight, as comfort in her
woe,

For all my tears she would not let me go.
Here I have liv'd this third revolving moon,
The air infectious touch'd my vitals soon, ---
My eyes are sunk, my body spent within,
Without I'm nothing but a wrinkl'd skin,
My spirits fade, I faint, I sink, I die,
And darkness flies around my clouded eye;
Age too, and sickness both, my vitals kill,
All I can do is scribble with a quill.

Why did I thus to muse and sophist bow?
From this dark cell will they relieve me
now?

Will they assist to buy one single quill,
That I may muse and scribble at my will?
No: here I lie, half buried in distress,
No friend to grant me comfort or redress.
I look for Death's pale---chilling hand,---
and God,
To bear me hence into some bless'd abode.

While thus I wail'd my fate in cold de-
spair,
One of the Nine thus whisper'd in my ear:
'Let Hope, my friend! sustain thy droop-
ing mind, [kind,
Tho' Fortune now is cross she may prove
For after storm there still ensues a calm,
And after war comes the triumphant palm.
Bear up against the gale: the learned train
Be still thy care, nor will it be in vain.
By chance, or by supreme decree you fell,
And by the same you may escape the cell.

AN ELEGY

TO THE MEMORY OF

CHATTERTON, THE POET.

BY E. S. J. AUTHOR OF WILLIAM AND ELLEN.

WHAT! is he gone! gone to his cold, cold
grave! --- [bed!

Yes, he is gone! gone to his cold death-
O list! I hear the surly tempest rave,
And sing remorseless round his lowly head,

Where he is laid,
In his death-bed,
All under the willow tree!

The welkin scowls, sad emblem of thy fate!
For haggard was thy dreary view of life;
Despondency thy weary nightly mate,
And O! she was both mortal, fell, and rife---
But thou art dead!

Gone to thy death-bed,
All under the willow tree!

What's yonder grows upon thy grave so
sweet? [soul,

Sweet emblem of thy anxious, trembling
Those violets nod in sorrow at thy feet,
And shiver at the angry tempest's scowl.

But he is dead!
Gone to his death-bed,
All under the willow tree!

Such was his mind! sweet Sympathy, to thee
O! let me drop one piteous mournful tear!
Sink in his grave, and tell thou cam'st from
me---

For none was shed upon his timeless bier.
And thou art dead!
Gone to thy death-bed,
All under the willow-tree!

Ah me! how dull, how lifeless, cold, and dead,
 With sullen step I take my homeward
 To throw me down upon my cheerless bed,
 And dream of thee, sweet youth, till dawn
 of day!

For thou art dead!
 Gone to thy death-bed,
 All under the willow tree.

ON A SWALLOW'S NEST,

WHICH FELL FROM THE AUTHOR'S WINDOW.

WRITTEN BY THE SAME.

Ah, cruel fate! to wreak thy rage,
 Could'st thou spare a mither's age?
 A poor auld swallow cry'd.
 Fou mony a weary day it took
 To big my nestie i' that nook,
 Thou'st dung it a' abraid:
 Yet weep not sae deep not,
 We've a' our ills allot it;
 In grief then be brief then,
 And think nae mair about it.
 Waes me! how oft the lot of man
 To work and toil wi' labour'd hand,
 While Hope sits smiling blisses;
 Till Fate unseen, like flash o' pouter
 Comes glenting o'er ahint his shouter,
 Dings a' the wark to pieces.
 Like thee, then, we be then,
 Subject to Fortune's crosses:
 Yet strive we to thrive we,
 And pocket up our losses.
 But oh! she saw her helpless weans
 Lie shiv'ring on the cauld bleak stanes,
 Shrink frae the bitter blast;
 Her chitt'ring wings wi' sorrow drocpit,
 As o'er her bairns the mither stoopit,
 And tears ran trickling fast.
 Nor wings now, nor sings now,
 About the barn-door skimming;
 But lifeless and strifeless,
 She welcomes death a' coming.
 I took ae wee thing cauld as ice,
 The wee thing look'd me in the face,
 I found its heart still beating;
 Its silly weam frae feathers bare,
 Cou'd ill abide the biting air---
 I cou'd na keep frae greeting.
 The wreck a' the feck a',
 Lay on the stanes together;
 All hopeless and helpless
 Beside the mournfu' mither.
 Yet mony a mither, weel as thee,
 Maun hae her poor bit bairnies die,
 Without a mutter'd dirge;
 And cauld as clay, she kens na where,
 Are huddl'd frae the chilly air,
 Perhaps beneath the surge!
 A tear then, and cheer then,
 We a' maun follow soon;
 Nor late then the fate then
 Of mither and of son.
 Come, let us drv our griefs away,
 We'll live and laugh some other day,
 Where fortune cannot hit us;
 Talk of the thray art ills and huffs
 The sport of Pride, the scorn and cuffs
 Which blackguard fate threw at us;

Nor tear now, b t cheer now,
 Thy children are no more!
 Ye'll meet them, and greet them,
 On Heav'n's happy shore.

A FREEMASON'S SONG.

GREAT Jupiter took it one day in his head
 To send forth a messenger, as it is said,
 To search every place, and to strictly en-
 quire
 Where the Goddess Fidelity chose to retire.
 Nimble Mercury, straight as a messenger
 drest,
 A punctual obedience to orders express;
 And promis'd great Jove he would certainly
 find [kind,
 Where she was, if with deities, or with man-
 Then down flew the God to fam'd Cythera's
 grove [of Love;
 In hopes of some news from the young God
 Who at first could not tell how to make a
 reply, [to lie.
 But at last told the truth, tho' accusom'd
 I'm ignorant, faith, says the little arch
 urchin, [in;
 What place for Fidelity you must go search
 But am vastly surpris'd you shou'd think
 here to find her, [mind her.
 When you know that my mother and I never
 This answer not suiting at all to his taste,
 A way then to Hymen does Mercury haste;
 But what ignorance here did he shew of
 mankind,
 To imagine Fidelity there he should find.
 Again disappointed, he made no long stay,
 But with all expedition continu'd his way:
 Yet thought that perhaps it might answer
 his ends,
 If enquiry he made of the Goddess of Friends,
 But vain were his hopes in his search here
 likewise, [her eyes:
 For his hostess thus answer'd with tears in
 'Alas! honest friend, this goddess so dear,
 For whom you enquire, is seldom seen
 here.
 In one only place you can find her on earth,
 So hasten away to the sons of true mirth,
 To a Lodge of Freemasons immediate re-
 pair, [with her there.
 And no manner of doubt but you'll meet
 Derry Down.

LUCKLESS JEAN.

WHEN War's shrill trumpet ca'd to arms,
 And Britain bade fair Freedom yield,
 Young Colin, won by locus alarms,
 Fle'd far to seek the tented field:
 My heart was laith to bid adieu,
 And aft the tears stole frae my een!
 Three times he cry'd, 'Sweet lass, be true,'
 Syne tore himself frae luckless Jean.
 Blithe Spring awakes the tuneful groves,
 And gowans deck the meadows gay;
 While Jean, unpitied, lonely roves,
 And thinks of him that's far away!

And Nature's smile cou'd pleasure gie,
 When Colin woo'd me on the green;
 Ilk season brout his ew' joys to me,
 But pleasure's fled frae luckless Jean.
 Nae mair the blithsome lilt I hear
 Of yokners singing at the plough!
 A' round me seems a desert drear,
 Where waving plenty meets my view:
 Where'er I steal along the burn,
 Where aft sae merry I hae been,
 Ilk mavis seems wi' me to mourn,
 Ilk liltwhite pities luckless Jean!
 How lang will poor deluded man
 Against his brither dra' his sword!
 To shield a base oppressive clan,
 The tifted knave and pamper'd lord:
 Come, meek-ey'd Peace! thy olive wave,
 Lag time a wand'r'er hast thou been:
 Thy smiles frae death may thousands save,
 And bring her love to luckless Jean!

THE JOLLY BEGGAR.

A SONG.

WRITTEN BY E. S. J.

THERE was a jolly beggar, and he did laugh
 and sing, [meal-puke string;
 Ae night he cam a begging, and tous'd his
 It was cauld, and it was war, the gudewife
 bad him ben:

But ere at morn she heard the horn,
 She ru'd fou sair that she let the jolly beg-
 gar in.

The jolly beggar leugh, and the jolly beg-
 gar sang [gar wad na gang;
 And when late it cam at night the beg-
 gar But the jolly beggar leugh, and crack'd and
 tel't his tale;

The gudewife scauld, for she was bauld,
 But he swore he wad na gang, without a
 soup o'cale.

The jolly beggar gripped her round about
 the waist. [half sae kiss't;
 And O! never in her hale life was she
 For the gudeman he was gane far frae his
 vogle dame---

The jolly beggar leugh, the jolly beggar
 sang, [man wad come hame.

And the gudewife little thought: her gude-
 For she ga'e him a blanket, and sought a
 pickle straw, [by the wa;
 Aside the fire she laid him fou warmly
 Our gudeman winna come hame, and I'll
 awa to bed.

The heather blaz'd, her heart was pleas'd,
 And the jolly beggar blink'd, and saw
 her charms display'd.

The fire caught the straw-bed when he was
 half asleep, [did creep,
 And in ayont the gudewife the beggar he
 She never spak a word, but silent lay aside
 him,

When at the door she heard a stour,
 And the jolly beggar she kent na where to
 hide him.

For the gudeman sent the door to the wa'
 wi' a jee,
 I wat the jolly beggar he was na' fou o' glee.
 He gript him by the collar, and pou'd him
 out o' bed,

Nor wrang'd him, but bang'd him---
 But O! the jolly beggar prov'd to be the
 Laird.

'Keep the rent, had your tongue, your wife
 I never touca'd her.'

'Ye lie, proud Laird, ye lie---I'm sure ye
 hae debauch'd her.'

Up then sprang the liel wife, and she at
 her gudeman's hair,
 She tugg'd it, and rugg'd it,
 Till he swore both loud and lang he'd
 never say sae mair.

Now the jolly beggar flang the duddies o'er
 his back, [them in a crack.

But when he got near his house he chang'd
 The gudeman he crept to bed, and lay aside
 his wife,

He sav'd his rent, and was content---
 Sae was the jolly beggar, as I will lay my
 my life.

ELEGIAC STANZAS,

WRITTEN ON THE FOURTH OF MAY, 1797:

BY DR. PERFECT.

WHILE the winds whistle through the robes
 of May,
 And rapid showers deform the vernal scene;
 While Sol withholds his animating ray,
 Behind yon sombrous cloud conceal'd his
 mien---

Say, shall the Muse to melancholy yield,
 Her bard to sadness sink a willing prey,
 The recent wounds of fell disease unheal'd,
 Be lost to all that's cheerful, blithe, and
 gay?

Winter, be thine a momentary reign,
 Young Spring forbids thy long extended
 stay,

Thy rude intrusion eyes with warm disdain,
 And spreads her pinions o'er affrighted
 May.

Come, lovely Spring, resume thy flow'ry
 space [joys; and

With all thy varied train of gifts; and
 Far from thy presence chilling Boreas
 chase, [noys.

Whose visage premature thy peace an-
 She comes, in purple dress--her fears sub-
 side,

Fair Nature meets her with a genial smile;
 Zephyrus hails his fascinating bride,
 And flings her fragrance o'er the blady
 soil;

While Hope, supporter of the human breast,
 Sheds gentle radiance o'er the gloomy
 mead; [press'd,

Teaching the heart, desponding and op-
 The port of health and happiness to find.

LINES ON THE
ANNIVERSARY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
ACCESSION TO THE THRONE.

BY A PRIVATE IN THE COLDESTREAM GUARDS.

THE bright Dispenser of the solar-ray,
Revolving, brings again the happy day
When o'er Britannia's fertile wide domain
Great GEORGE began his mild auspicious
reign: [scend,

And lo! the Aonian maids well pleas'd de-
To hail their royal patron and their friend,
Their sons inspire, to sing the monarch's
And paint his virtues in poetic lays. [praise,

But yet shall I presumptuous dare to sing
The glories of our great paternal king?
In numbers rough shall I attempt a theme
Which well the Laureat's abler pen may
claim!

Yes! loyalty the grateful songs inspires,
Which now shall serve the place of brighter
fires.

In simple couplets therefore I'll prolong
The fertile subject of my votive song;
Whilst Retrospection casts a glance behind,
And recollective Fancy calls to mind
The time when first he fill'd Britannia's
throne, [own,

Since when, the Virtues claim it as their
*Twas then bright CHARLOTTE prov'd his
happy choice,

A joyful people with united voice,
The royal nuptials hailing with delight,
Whilst Hymen's torch still burn'd serene-
ly bright, [sprung

From which auspicious union since has
A num'rous progeny, whose deeds have
rung [gent scroll

In Fame's high courts; on whose reful-
They burn their names, as worthies to en-
roll. [most place,

There YORK's bright name commands a fore-
Whose glorious deeds still her annals grace;
For still as glory prompts, or ardour fires,
Oremulation to great deeds inspires,

The Royal Brethren furnish theme for story,
At once the nation's ornament and glory.

Each lovely PRINCESS too, maternal care
And bright example form as good as fair;

For each domestic virtue's all their own,
A brighter pattern setting from the throne.

Thrice happy pair! of ev'ry good possess,
Thrice happy people! with such Sovereign
blest.

Who, like a father, much as king appears,
Still may he seem for many future years!

While Faction dares no longer make a stand,
But Peace and Plenty bless the happy land!

May in our Councils union still preside!
Triumphant still our stately Navy ride!

Again declar'd, by Fate's renew'd decree,
The undisputed Mistress of the Sea!

For Neptune, (who the briny waves com-
mands),

Resigns his trident into DUNCAN's hands!
Which late did JERVIS and brave NELSON
wield, [yield,

And dauntless forc'd our haughty foes to,

Still may such heroes in the land abound,
And in our armies and our fleets be found.
While Anarchy, appall'd with fear and dread,
No more attempts to raise her hydra head.
But all with firmest loyalty inspir'd,
In Britain's cause with emulation fir'd,
Still make the lofty dome and cottage ring,
With 'Rule Britannia,' and 'God save
the King.'

[The following romanic Lines, (the con-
tinuation of which will be given in our
next) have been lately placed in one of
the most romanic scenes in Sir Richard
Hall's Park, at Hawkstone; and are said
to have been written by himself. They
attract the eye in passing a Natural Ca-
vern in the Rock, now called *Reynard's
Banqueting House*, where a large quantity
of half-eaten Poultry of all sorts was
found a few years ago.]

AN ELEGY

ON THE

DEATH OF A HUNTED HARE.

LET the tender heart draw nigh,
Drop the tear and heave the sigh,
Souls unfeeling ne'er can know
Purest joys that spring from woe.
Welcome, stranger, to the shrine,
Mingle all thy griefs with mine.
Little persecuted thing,
Fain would I my tribute bring---
Tribute of a feeling heart,
All I have or can impart.
Muse of Sadness, lovely maid,
Deign to lend thy mourning aid;
Tune the melancholy lyre,
Every plaintive string inspire.
Raging winds that sweep the ground,
Cease, O cease, your boist'rous sound.
Gentle zephyrs only blow;
Nought be heard but notes of woe.
Let the sympathizing breeze
Softly linger o'er the trees.
Vallies cease to laugh and sing;
Fairy Sprites your odours bring.
Virgin Nymphs, in solemn train,
Drop your flow'rets o'er the slain;
Plant the weeping willow near,
Water'd by the crystal tear:
Let the snow-drop's drooping head
Gently kiss the harmless dead.
Shepherds, cast your crooks away;
Sportive laubkins, cease to play;
Stop, ye rills, that wash the vale,
Stop, and hear the mournful tale.
Warbling songsters, haste away,
Pluck the sad sepulchral bay;
Let no murder's stain be seen,
Hide each spot with leaves of green.
Cooing bird, the deed relate,
Echo to thy faithful mate---
Soothing strains of grief and love
Best become the turtle dove---
Join Creation's voice, and say,
Lo the friendless Hare of GAY!

REPORT
OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BRITISH PARLIAMENT.

THE FIRST SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

DURING the month of April the House was chiefly engaged in the hearing of Appeals, and in passing, without debate, the various Bills already discussed by the Commons. Our Register shall, therefore, recommence with

Wednesday, May 3. Lord Grenville had it in command from his Majesty to deliver a message to that House, the purport of which was, 'That his Majesty had consented to the proposal for a marriage with the Princess Royal to the Hereditary Prince of Wirtemberg, which he thought proper to communicate to that House, not doubting but that an alliance with a protestant prince of that rank and station, and who was nearly related to his own family, being also in a direct descent from the Princess Sophia, would give satisfaction to all his faithful subjects; and having so repeatedly experienced their attachment to himself and family during the whole of his reign, he relied upon their concurrence in such measures as were necessary to bring this marriage to a conclusion.'

The message being read, Lord Grenville moved an address, thanking his Majesty for the gracious communication, and assuring him of the ready concurrence of the House to any measure tending to promote the happiness of his family. Agreed to *nem. con.*

There was another subject to which the Duke of Bedford wished to draw the attention of the House---the recent transactions in the fleet. If, however, his Majesty's Ministers meant to bring it forward, he should not interfere.

Earl Spencer rose merely to say, that he had not received any commands from his Majesty upon the subject, nor had he any reason to believe that he ever should.

The Duke of Clarence paid many compliments to the last Noble Lord; considered the making conditions with seamen as injurious to discipline, and thought that the question could not be safely discussed.

The Duke of Bedford said he should, however, move, without making any comment, for the production of certain papers, which, strange as it might appear, would shew that, for the first time in our annals, his Majesty's Ministers had held an official correspondence with the seamen of the fleet.

Lord Howe said that the first he heard of this unfortunate business was during his indisposition in February last, when several petitions were sent to him, as from the seamen, all of one tenor, and though written in different hands, dated by the same. As they were not signed, he wrote to an officer in Portsmouth to know if any discontent existed in the fleet. The answer was---none. The day after he came to town he mentioned the circumstance to a member of the Admiralty Board, and sent the petitions to the First Lord. An attack on his professional character he must have borne but from the one he had received, he could only be rescued by their Lordships.

Thursday 4. The order of the day being read for taking into consideration his Majesty's message relative to the loan of one million and a half to Ireland, and the guarantee of one million six hundred thousand pounds already advanced, and two millions to be advanced to his Imperial Majesty,

Lord Grenville said, he was convinced every one of their Lordships was perfectly aware of the necessity of advancing the sum mentioned in the Message for the defence of Ireland; and he could have no doubt but it would appear clear to the House, that it was of the utmost importance to keep the Emperor as an Ally, in order the more easily to secure a general and permanent peace. In this view, therefore, he moved an Address of Thanks to his Majesty's Message, which was carried *nemine dissente*.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THURSDAY, April 6, 1797. (CONTINUED).

MR. Barham seconded the Motion of Mr. Ellis in favour of the Slave Trade. Mr. Wilberforce replied at some length against it, conjuring the House not to retract the solemn obligation which they contracted in 1792. He was followed by Mr. Pitt, Mr. W. Smith, Lord Carysfort, Mr. Fox, Mr. H. Browne, Mr. Ryder. It was supported by Mr. Dundas, Lord Hawkesbury, Mr. Windham. The Motion was carried, by a division of 93 against 63---Majority 36.

Friday 7. The House in a Committee on the Bank Bill, Mr. Fox proposed a clause to enable the Governors to pay in cash any demands upon them, first giving three days notice to the Speaker of the House of Commons, and also at the Royal Exchange. This Mr. Pitt agreed to, only confining it to the period subsequent to the 26th of February.

Monday, 10. Mr. Pollen said he had hitherto voted with the Minister, in the prosecution of the war; but the situation of affairs had assumed a melancholy change. Having commenced the war in concert with several of the most respectable nations in Europe, we were deserted by almost all our former friends, and had now to contend against some who were at one time our allies. Instead of carrying our arms to the enemy's door, we were in daily terror of an hostile invasion. Instead of calculating upon ruining the finances of our adversary, and exhausting their resources, our whole attention was confined to the restoration of our own credit, and the salvation of our independence. He was convinced that the people of France were as earnest in their wishes for Peace as the people of Great Britain, but were restrained in demanding it by a too prevalent opinion that the ambition of this country would oppose every reasonable overture for peace. It was to confute this opinion, that he should move that an humble Address be presented to his Majesty, representing to his Majesty, that, upon mature deliberation, his faithful Commons are of opinion, that his gracious and benign endeavours to promote the restoration of the general tranquility of Europe have failed of their effect, either from misconception on the part of the French Government, or from the terms proposed having been ill-explained to the people of that country: his faithful Commons, therefore, beseech his Majesty to adopt such measures as may tend in the most speedy and effectual manner to remove these misconceptions, and to vindicate the sincerity of his desire for the re-establishment of Peace in the eyes of Europe and of the world.

Sir John Macpherson seconded the motion.

Mr. Pitt considered the Address as calculated to express a despondency on the part of this country, and consequently to raise the spirits of our enemies; that it was indefinite, not embracing any object or conclusion whatever; and unnecessary, as it was manifest his Majesty's Ministers needed not any stimulus to make them earnest in their endeavours for the establishment of a Peace consistent with the interest of the kingdom. Mr. Pitt observed, that he had a few nights ago intimated to the House, that offers for a separate Peace had been lately made to his Majesty, our good and faithful Ally; that his Imperial Majesty had immediately acquainted this Government with the nature and extent of those offers; and had accompanied that information with the strongest assurances, that nothing should induce him to make Peace except in concert with this Govern-

ment. In consequence of this information, his Majesty's Ministers had immediately determined to seize the present occasion, to try if any fresh Negotiation could honourably and fairly be opened towards the attainment of Peace; and, said Mr. Pitt, I am happy in being able to inform the House, 'that his Majesty, impressed with a most ardent and anxious desire to procure, if possible, an honourable and permanent Peace, has actually appointed a person in confidence to proceed immediately to Vienna, with full authority then and there to enter upon a Negotiation for Peace, if such a measure can be fairly and honourably brought about, in concurrence and conjunction with our Allies.'

Colonel Porter said a few words in support of the motion, which Mr. Pollen persisting to press to a decision,

Mr. Addington entered into a review of the situation of England and her Allies with relation to France in 1792, and stated the several grounds of the war, such as they have repeatedly been maintained to be by the Administration. He contended that no person was so deeply interested in the continuance of Peace as the Minister. The several great and noble plans he was pursuing for the welfare and aggrandisement of the country depended greatly on that circumstance; among those were the reduction of the naval and military establishments, and of the National Debt. But he was compelled to yield to higher motives. He considered the consequences of the war, and observed, that something had at all events been gained by it. A method of preserving internal tranquility in an easy manner had been discovered, as well as the best and most expeditious means of manning the Navy; neither of which could have been called out but by the exigency of the times. Mr. Addington concluded by moving the order of the day.

The motion being read, and the question put on the order of the day,

Mr. Fox, in a most argumentative speech, supported the motion. He contended that if the Minister was sincere in his desire of Peace, the decision of that House in favour of the measure would greatly facilitate his negotiations, by removing the suspicions his conduct had hitherto produced in the minds of the French Directory.

On a division the order of the day was carried, after which the House adjourned till Thursday se'ennight.

Monday, 24. The Bill prohibiting the issue of small Notes was committed, and a clause moved by Mr. Bird, extending the duration of the former Acts from the 1st of May to the 8th of July, was adopted; after which the report was received, and the Bill ordered to be read a third time.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer called the attention of the Committee to three principal branches of supply---an addition to the sums voted for the Navy---charges upon the Consolidated Fund not already alluded to, and services already paid for in advance. To the 7,600,000l. already voted for the Navy, he had formerly supposed that an addition of two millions and a half would be necessary; but it was now found that double that sum would be wanted, making the expence of the Navy for the year 12,600,000l.

The sum of five millions was then granted for the Navy; the sum of 1,110,000l. to discharge Exchequer Bills; and the sum of 2,177,000l. to make good charges on the Consolidated Fund. Sundry other sums for the maintenance of convicts, the support of emigrants, &c. making in all about 200,000l. were also voted. Adjourned.

Tuesday, 25. The House resolved itself into a Committee on the Navigation Act, and resolved, 'That it is expedient to grant to certain foreign ships, under his Majesty's protection, in consequence of capitulations, the privileges of prize ships, under certain regulations and restrictions: also to allow aliens, in certain foreign colonies surrendered to his Majesty, to exercise the occupations of merchants and factors.

'That provision should be made for registering ships built in the Company's Settlements in the East Indies, so as to entitle the same to the privileges of British-built ships.'

BUDGET.

Wednesday, 26. The Chancellor of the Exchequer said, that it was with great regret he found himself under the necessity of laying a large additional burden upon the people. It was necessary, however, under the present severe pressure to convince the enemy and the world that neither our spirits nor our resources failed us.

For the sake of brevity we shall not follow Mr. Pitt through his statements of the sums wanted for the service of the year; but shall confine ourselves to the following recapitulation.

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| Navy | l. 12,661,000 | Deficiency of land and malt | l. 350,000 |
| Army | 6,600,000 | Bank advanced, 1795 | 1,054,000 |
| Extraordinaries, 1796 | 3,387,000 | Ditto, 1796 | 1,350,000 |
| Treasury bills and warrants | 2,088,000 | Ditto on land and malt | 900,000 |
| Extraordinaries, 1797 | 4,000,000 | Ditto on exchequer bills | 1,110,000 |
| Ordnance | 1,623,000 | Deficiency on the the conso- | |
| Barracks, | 737,000 | lidated fund | 2,177,000 |
| Miscellaneous services, | 929,000 | Vote of credit for 1797, | 2,500,000 |
| Grenada merchants | 600,000 | | |
| Loan to the Emperor | 500,000 | | l. 42,766,000 |
| To the commissioners for pay- | | | |
| ing the national debt | 200,000 | | |

Mr. Pitt observed, that this formidable sum total included the repayment of nearly all the advances of the Bank to Government, with all the expences of the present year, *as far as they could be estimated.*

The Chancellor of the Exchequer then stated the Ways and Means to meet this large expenditure, viz.

The Land and Malt 2,750,000l. Surplus of Grants, 420,000l. Loyalty Loan, 18,000,000l. Lottery, 200,000l. Exchequer Bills, 3,000,000l. and the growing produce of the Consolidated Fund, which he should take at two millions. These sums, with the present Loan of 16,500,000l. would make more than the forty-two millions stated in the supply.

Of the eighteen millions to be borrowed, one million and a half was for the sister kingdom, of which the interest was to be provided by the Irish Parliament. Another million and a half was to be lent to the Emperor, to enable him to repay the advances made by this kingdom, with a further Loan of two millions, if sanctioned by Parliament, to assist our faithful Ally in his present struggle of extremity. He should also propose a distinct vote of 200,000l. to pay the half yearly dividend on the Imperial Loan, which would be spent in this country, and prevent the necessity of sending so much money from Vienna.

Mr. Pitt next discussed the conditions of the present Loan, and to repay the interest of which Loan 1,234,000l. remained to be raised by taxes, as follows:

An increased duty on Stamps, from which he meant to except law proceedings, probates of wills under 300l. legacies and policies of insurance. This tax he took at 320,000l.

A progressive duty on Deeds transferring Property. The principle of this tax was already recognized in the Auction Tax, by which four millions annually were transferred. The property transferred by private bargains was so much more considerable, that though the duty which he should propose was no more than four-pence on every hundred pounds, he should take the produce of the tax at 170,000l.

Stamped Copies of Deeds. By making every copy of a Deed produced in evidence liable to the same duty as the original, he expected to raise 40,000l.

Probates of Wills. Respecting these, he had some regulations which he expected to produce a like sum of 40,000l. per annum, still excepting those under 300l.

Tax on Newspapers. By laying three-halfpence on each of those fashionable vehicles of intelligence, which, he trusted, would not affect the authors and editors, he hoped for a produce of 114,000l.

And from an increase of duty on Advertisements in proportion to their length, leaving the short ones to pay 3s. as at present, he expected 20,000l.

Attornies Certificates, which he considered rather as an advantageous regulation calculated to prevent fraud, than an additional impost, he rated at 15,000*l*.

On Wrought Plate, the small duty he had to propose would produce about 30,000*l*.

Besides these duties, collect d at the Stamp-Office at little additional expence, he had to propose a tax on Land Carriage. It was his intention to propose that all the tolls on the high road should be doubled, and that just as much should be received for the public, as was now taken by the proprietors or farmers of the tolls. This tax he calculated at 450,000*l*.

RECAPITULATION.

| STAMPS. | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------|------------------------|--------------|
| Consolidated duties | L. 320,000 | Advertisements | L. 20,000 |
| Progressive duty | - 170,000 | Attornies certificates | 15,000 |
| Duty on skins (amount not mentioned) | | Wrought plate | 30,000 |
| Stamp'd copies of deeds | 40,000 | | |
| Probates of wills | 40,000 | The total stated | 834,000 |
| Newspapers | 114,000 | Tax on land carriage | 450,000 |
| | | | <hr/> |
| | | Total | L. 1,284,000 |

Mr. Fox contended that the real amount of the taxes it was incumbent on him to lay before the House amounted to 1,887,000*l*. The National expenditure, by the taxes proposed, would amount to twenty-five annual millions, the sum at which the Hon. Gentleman had formerly estimated the whole rental of the kingdom. Of seven millions and a half of taxes already imposed, only three millions had as yet been felt by the people.

Thursday 28. Mr. Pitt said, that, in such a mass of complicated matter, it was very possible he might have been guilty of an omission. He then referred to his list of taxes; and, on reading it over, it appeared that he had wholly passed over two of the most important. The first was a tax on Bills of Exchange, imposing an addition of *one third* to the present duties. The amount of this the Minister estimated at 40,000*l*. The second was a tax on Policies of Insurance, the particulars of which he did not state. The produce he calculated at 35,000*l*. For this omission of taxes to the amount of 75,000*l*, the Minister made an apology to the House.

The resolutions of the Committee of Ways and Means were then read a first time. On the question that they be read a second time,

Mr. Fox remarked, that the Minister had not yet provided the whole of the interest for the expences of the war. There was a deficiency of 248,000*l*. the wine-tax alone falling 158,000*l*. short of the estimate; nor was any interest provided for three millions and a half of Navy Bills that had been passed over in silence. The same fallacy appeared in the Navy Estimate, which was lower than last year, although 10,000 additional seamen were voted. It was the same with the Army Estimates; and he made no doubt but these fanciful calculations would fall five or six millions short of the real expence.

Mr. Pitt asserted, that when allowances were made for the stoppage of the distilleries, and other accidental drawbacks, the deficiency would not exceed 140,000*l*. As to the Army and Navy, the calculations were entirely founded on the present nature of the war. Reductions had taken place, particularly in the Ordnance, and in St. Domingo the system of warfare was narrowed.

After a few words from Mr. Fox and Mr. Smith, to which Mr. Pitt made no reply, the question was then put, 'that the resolution be read a second time,' and carried.

The Opposition Members then rose, and left the House in a body.

Saturday 29. Mr. Pitt presented to the House a Message from his Majesty, of which the following is a copy:

His Majesty recommends it to the House of Commons to consider of enabling his Majesty to make remittances from time to time, to be applied to his service in Ireland, in such a manner as shall be approved of by the Parliament of that kingdom, to an amount not exceeding 1,500,000*l*. on provision being made by the Parliament of Ireland for discharging the interest and charges of a Loan to that

amount. And his Majesty further recommends to the House to consider of guaranteeing a Loan, on account of his Ally, the Emperor, to be applied in making good the advances to the amount of 1,600,000l. which have already been made to his Imperial Majesty, and to defray the charge of such further advances as his Majesty may, from time to time, direct to be made in the course of the present year, to an amount not exceeding 2,000,000l. His Majesty trusts, that he shall experience the ready concurrence of his faithful Commons, at this important conjuncture, in a measure calculated to enable the Emperor the more effectually to continue his exertions for the support of the common cause, and for the attainment of general Peace, on secure and equitable terms. And his Majesty relies on the zeal and affection of his faithful Commons to provide for enabling his Majesty to defray such other extraordinary expences as may be necessary for the public service, and to take such measures as the exigency of affairs may require.

On the Message being read by the Speaker, Mr. Pitt moved, that it be taken into consideration on Monday. Ordered.

Monday, May 1. The House in a Committee of Supply,

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said, that out of the three points mentioned in his Majesty's Speech, he should only trouble the Committee with the two first. As to the Irish Loan, so small, he believed, was the difference of opinion, that he should not follow up his motion with any observations. With respect to the Emperor's he did not hope for the same unanimity. He said, that of the three millions and a half, which he should propose to grant by way of Loan to the Emperor, the sum of 1,620,000l. had been already remitted, so that the resolution which he had now to move was for the further sum of 1,880,000l.

Mr. W. Smith said, that it ought to be considered, whether further remittances might not prompt the Emperor so to continue the war, as ultimately to make a more disadvantageous peace.

Mr. Fox said, that in the Emperor's proclamation to his subjects no mention of his Allies was to be found. As the House, therefore, did not know on what ground they were to vote such a loan, he would move the Chairman to report progress, &c.

A conversation ensued, in which Sir James Pulteney, General Tarleton, and Messrs. Wilberforce, Grey, Curven, and Wilberforce Bird, took a share, when the House became clamorous for a division, which accordingly took place on Mr. Fox's motion. The numbers were, Ayes 50.---Noes 193.

The Committee then voted 1,880,000l. for advances by way of Loan to the Emperor; likewise provision for guaranteeing 3,500,000l. to be raised on account of the Emperor; also, 1,500,000l. for his Majesty's service in Ireland, on provision being made by that Parliament for defraying the interest and charges thereof.---To be reported.

The House, in a Committee of Ways and Means, voted, 'That Exchequer Bills made out after the 1st of May, 1797, may be paid for the subscription of 18,000,000l. and 5l. per cent be allowed to persons paying in their subscriptions before the instalments become due.---To be reported.---Adjourned.

Wednesday 3. Mr. Pitt brought down a message from the King, only differing from that to the Lords in the last sentence, which expressed that his Majesty doubted not but the House would enable him to settle a portion upon his eldest daughter, suitable to the dignity of his crown.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer then moved an address, which was nearly an echo of the message, and which was agreed to *nem. con.*

Friday 5. The House, in a Committee of Supply, Mr. Pitt moved, that the sum of 80,000l. be granted to his Majesty, to enable him to settle a portion upon the Princess Royal, on her marriage with the Prince of Wirtemberg.

Mr. Curven did not rise to oppose the motion, but to say, that he should have been better pleased to have found this sum provided out of the King's private resources. In times, like the present, when the burthens of the people were extremely heavy, such an use of the King's private stores would have been very grateful to his subjects. Mr. Curven was, however, very ready to concur in any expression of affection to the Royal Family.

The resolution was then carried.

In the Committee to which the report on the subject of General Inclosures was referred,

Sir John Sinclair said, that, as the purpose of that report might be better answered by dividing the Bill which had been prepared on the subject, he would now move, that the Chairman be directed to move for leave to bring in two bills; the first for enabling the whole of the owners of common lands, when they shall be unanimous, to inclose them, notwithstanding some legal disabilities; the second, to enable any owners of such lands to inclose the several parts which may belong to themselves.

The Solicitor General was glad that the Hon. Gentleman had divided his bills, because he had no objection to the first of them; nor did he mean to oppose the bringing in of the second, though he should have some objection to it.

Monday 8. The House in a Committee of Supply, Mr. Pitt said, that he was well aware, that when proposing to increase the public burthens, he should be expected to say something of the causes that led to the augmentation. In the present instance, however, prudence and policy would prevent his entering into any discussion; and he entreated the House rather to trust to their silent judgment, than to agitate a subject, of which the slightest misrepresentation might give cause to the most alarming effects.

He then proceeded to state, that the increase of pay to the different classes of men would amount to 351,000*l.* and the increased eighth in the expence of victualling to 115,000*l.* making 466,000*l.* for one year. It should, however, be observed, that the estimate of victualling was founded upon an old rate, when provisions were much cheaper than at present. What the actual sum wanted would be, he could not say, but he would take the total sum for nine months, beginning in April, at 372,000*l.* He therefore moved, 'that a sum not exceeding 372,000*l.* be granted to his Majesty, to enable him to defray the expence of the increased pay of the Seamen and Marines, and the full allowance of provisions.'

Mr. Fox said, that he should consider it as a dereliction of his duty, if he gave the silent vote that was called for. It was not from discussion, but from silence, that the present mischief had proceeded. If, when it was first known that the seamen and marines were dissatisfied, the House had been made the confidants of Ministers, and the business had been properly discussed, the events of Easter would not have taken place. Or if immediately after Easter the question had been openly agitated, we should not now be reduced to such a situation. But the scandalous delay of a fortnight, which Ministers had interposed, and for which he hoped they would be made to answer, seemed to have been purposely meant to give room for misrepresentation.

During the rest of the debate, Messrs. Pitt, Fox, and Sheridan were the only speakers. The former justified the delay and declined discussion, and the two latter reprobated the affected secrecy and tardy measures of Ministers. The resolution then passed.

Tuesday 9. Mr. Whitbread gave notice, that unless the Minister should properly explain his conduct in the Mutiny, he should move for a vote of censure on him, for not having come down to Parliament immediately after the recess with an estimate of the expence attending the increased allowance to seamen.

Mr. Pitt said, he should reserve his appeal to the justice of the House till the motion should be made. He observed, however, that as early as the 25th of April, the business was referred to a Committee of the Privy Council; and that immediately after the recess he had stated that a communication from the Sovereign to Parliament, inviting it to make good the additional allowances, might be speedily expected. When he opened the budget, he had also expressly stated, that the increased allowance to seamen was not included in the vote for Naval Services. This made it evident, that the Executive Government meant to bring the matter before Parliament as soon as the customary forms would admit. But had they supposed any misconception could arise from official delay, they would certainly have proceeded with greater promptitude. On any future occasion, he should be happy to submit his conduct to the House; but, at present, it was his duty to recommend that a Bill founded on the resolutions already adopted, should immediately pass.

Mr. Fox asserted, that the effects of the mischievous delay in question might easily have been foreseen; and that the Lords of the Admiralty had exhibited their incapacity, by meanly chaffering with the seamen, and bidding a little

higher, and a little higher. Their bargain, however, was concluded on the 23d of April; and yet it was not till the 3d of May that the Order of Council made its appearance, nor till the 8th, that the estimates were laid before the House. Would the House stand quietly by, and see the Nation ruined by such gross neglect and incapacity? How should the Sailors understand the Minister's meaning, when it was often misunderstood even by that House?

Wednesday 10. Mr. Whitbread shewed the tardiness with which Ministers had proceeded to apply for the sanction of Parliament to the claims of the seamen. Though the concession was made to them on the 23d of April, the final Order of Council was not passed till the 3d of May. For this delay the Minister found an excuse by referring to forms; but such an excuse was gross and contemptible from a man, who, when any abridgment of national liberty was in question, trod under foot all the forms of the House, and all the restrictions of the constitution. After several other observations equally severe, and after expressing a hope, that the cause of our present calamity would some day or other be minutely investigated, and Ministers, if found guilty, be brought to condign punishment, Mr. Whitbread concluded by moving, 'That the Right Honourable William Pitt, in having so long delayed to present to this House an estimate of the expenses to be incurred by the proposed increase of the pay of seamen, and by ordering them a full allowance of provisions, had been guilty of gross neglect of duty, and deserved the censure of the House.' He afterwards amended his motion by inserting his Majesty's Ministers' in the room of 'William Pitt.'

Mr. Pitt said, that he did not shrink from a share of the blame. The true question was, whether Ministers had reason to think extraordinary haste necessary. He then shewed the way in which they had forwarded the business through its successive stages; asserted, that among many causes of the late calamities, were gross misrepresentations, some of them stating that the seamen's claims had been rejected; and expressed his confidence that no wilful remissness at least would be imputed to the Members of Administration, since it was evident that their interest and their duty were, in the present case, too closely connected to admit of negligence.

Mr. Fox, Mr. Curwen, Mr. Martin, and Lord George Cavendish, spoke for the motion; Sir W. Geary, Mr. Rose, jun. Mr. York, and Mr. Dundas, against it. After which the House divided---For Mr. Whitbread's Motion, Ayes 63--Against it, Noes 237.

Monday 15. Mr. Wilberforce said, that if he could but bring the House to a sense of their duty towards God and man, he should accomplish his purpose. It had been granted, that the slave trade was contrary to humanity and justice, and yet was its abolition resisted. Alluding to the critical state of public affairs, he said, that all who believed in a moral Providence must see that our perverseness in a horrid trade, only consistent with practical atheism, had provoked the divine vengeance, which appeared to have given us up to the effect of our own perverse principles. He concluded, by moving for leave to bring in a Bill for abolishing the Slave Trade, at a time to be limited; and that the House should then form itself into a Committee, to take that motion into consideration. The motion was opposed by Mr. Ellis, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Sewel, and Col. Gascoigne. It was supported by Messrs. Pitt, Smith, Hobhouse, and Martin. After which the House divided. Ayes 74---Noes 82.

Tuesday 16. Mr. Grey declared, that though in point of form his motion was chiefly directed against the Chancellor of the Exchequer, he nevertheless held all his Majesty's Ministers to be equally amenable for the mischiefs that had happened. They were the result of a most calamitous system, which had been pursued with unvarying malevolence through the whole of the present reign; which had lost us America, led us into a war with France, and would probably occasion the loss of Ireland also. He then proceeded to move a series of resolutions, founded upon the report of the Secret Committee. The three principle ones imported, that notwithstanding the remonstrances of the Bank against the demands made by Government, those demands had been persevered in and repeated; that similar remonstrances had been made with no better effect against loans, or other advances to the Emperor; and that the Chancellor of the Exchequer had therein been guilty of a high crime and misdemeanour, and deserved the censure of the House.

[TO BE REGULARLY CONTINUED.]

 MONTHLY CHRONICLE.

INTELLIGENCE

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTES.

PARLIAMENT-STREET, JULY 13, 1797.

LEUTENANT-Colonel Simcoe, commanding the British Forces in the Island of St. Domingo, states, in a letter to the Right Hon. Henry Dundas, dated Port-au-Prince, May 8, that having provided for the defence of Port-au-Prince and the adjoining posts, he marched the army against Grenier, to prevent a junction of the enemy's forces under Touissaint. His subsequent operations he relates as follows:

Colonel Dessources was then placed at the head of 2000 troops, and such pre-arrangements were made as provided for the protection of L'Arcshaye, and were calculated to mislead the enemy. On the 16th, he marched early in the morning from Port-au-Prince to Tourmier. The enemy, as was their custom, placed some troops in ambuscade, who were soon dispersed, and the King's forces arrived at Tourmier with little loss. The enemy had occupied two posts on the crest of the mountain L'Hospitre, on each side of Tourmier, and nearly at two miles distance from it, at the habitations of Boutillier and St. Laurent. It was necessary to dislodge them from these positions. Colonel De Peyster was therefore detached to Boutillier, from which, with his usual gallantry and good conduct, he drove the enemy. The post of St. Laurent was more obstinately defended, and, by the unfortunate loss of Major Pouchet, who was killed in leading on the Jeremie troops, they were thrown into confusion; nor was the post taken till a greater force, with cannon, appeared against it. The delay occasioned by the defence of St. Laurent induced Col. Dessources to postpone the attack of the battery till the next day. The defence of the Cul de Sac was entrusted to the Baron Montalembert, who made a considerable detachment to the pass where the road from Leogane by Grenier enters the plain. The detachment was skilfully conducted by Major O'Gorman. It attracted the notice of considerable bodies of the enemy, and on its return to the Croix des Bouquets in the evening, was attacked on all sides by small parties, who were repulsed.

Touissaint entered the plain in the course of the day, and marched to the side of the Croix des Bouquets, actuated, as it is said, by some vague report of that important post being to be abandoned on his first appearance. His cavalry fell in with the advanced posts of the Baron Montalembert's cavalry, under the command of Capt. Comte Manoux. That officer, collecting his troops, immediately charged the enemy with great vivacity, when they fled, and withdrew, with the utmost expedition, to the mountain.

In the mean time Capt. Couchet, of his Majesty's ship *Bergavenny*, with some armed vessels, proceeded off Leogane, which place has been effectually blockaded since my arrival at Port-au-Prince, and made various demonstrations to draw the enemy's attention to that side.

On the morning of the 17th Col. Dessources, having made his dispositions, marched in two columns, the left directly to Grenier, under the direction of Col. Depeyster, in which was the British detachment commanded by Major Clay. The right column, under the direction of Colonel Vicomte D'Alzune, descended from St. Laurent. Upon the division of the left arriving in the bottom, which separated the post of Grenier from the enemy's battery, it turned to the right, and joined the column that had marched from St. Laurent. The fog and haze in the bottom prevented the enemy from seeing this movement. It was also concealed by the judicious manner in which Capt. Spicer of the Royal Artillery threw shells from the height of Fournier from a howitzer and carronade, directing them against the various ambuscades and defences which the enemy had thrown up to protect their battery from any attack in its front or on its right. On the junction of his

division into one column, Col. Dessources proceeded through a most difficult and almost inaccessible country, to turn the left of the enemy's battery, and the works which supported it, having left troops on the heights of St. Laurent, to secure his retreat, and Major Clay to protect him from any attack that might be made by the road from Leogane. As the Colonel approached the flank of the battery, and that of the breast-work which defended it, he successively broke his troops into divisions, which kept the enemy's force in check and suspense, until another division, under the command of Lieut.-Col. Dessources, had, to their great surprise, possessed themselves of the heights, considerably beyond them, when, after an ineffectual resistance, they fled on all sides, and left Col. Dessources in possession of the battery, the work of several months, and of the gun which they had, in the preceding night, withdrawn from it, for the defence of their breast-work. This critical enterprize was effected with but little loss.

'As the troops were assembling to proceed to other objects, which I thought of importance for the king's service, I was informed by Brigadier-general Churchill of the attack that had been made at Irois, where, though the enemy had been fortunately repulsed in the assault upon that post, they still continued to invest it, and to threaten its siege.

'No time was lost in dispatching the Hon. Colonel Maitland, with a sufficient force, to the assistance of that officer. On his arrival, Brigadier-general Churchill informed him of the repulse of the enemy.'

Return of killed and wounded.

In driving the enemy from their ambuscade, above Post Guerin, (Jean Kina's entrenched camp, under the command of Major Clay, of the 40th Regiment, one rank and file, killed; one officer, one Serjeant, one rank and file wounded.

On the attack of posts St. Laurent and Boutillier, two officers, one Serjeant, four rank and file, killed; four Officers, nine rank and file wounded.

At the attack of the enemy's battery, breast-works, and places of arms, near Post Grenier, one rank and file, killed; one officer, one serjeant, 12 rank and file wounded.

Names and rank of officers killed and wounded.

Capt. Haly, of the 3d Irish Brigade wounded; Major Pouchet, of the Jeremie troops, killed; Lieut. De la Rue, of Dessources, killed; Ensign Eviere, of Prince of Wales's chasseurs, wounded; Lieutenants Babin and Campanne, of Jean Kina's corps, wounded; and Ensigns Le Pine and L'Artigonave, of ditto, wounded.

ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, AUGUST 1, 1797.

The following dispatches have been received at this office by Evan Nepean, Esq.

SIR,

Ville de Paris, off Cadiz, July 5.

'I desire you will acquaint the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that the *Terpsichore*, with the *Thunder Bomb*, having a detachment of artillery on board, and the *Urchin* gun-boat, from Gibraltar, joined on the 2d instant, and the night following Rear Admiral Nelson, having made his dispositions, the bomb, covered by the gun-boats, launches and barges of the fleet, was placed near the Tower of San Sebastian, and fired some shells into the town, when an attempt was made by the gun-boats and launches of the enemy to carry her. The Rear-Admiral, who is always present in the most arduous enterprizes, with the assistance of some other barges, boarded and carried two of the enemy's gun-boats; and a large launch of one of their ships of war, with the Commandant of the Flotilla. In this short conflict 18 or 20 Spaniards were killed, the Commandant and several wounded; he and 25 made prisoners; the rest swam ashore.

J. JARVIS.'

Return of the killed and wounded on the night of the 3d of July, 1797.

Theseus, 5 wounded; Irresistible, 1 wounded; Sea-horse, 1 wounded; Ville de Paris, 5 wounded; Prince George, 1 killed, 2 wounded; Diadem, 1 wounded; Barfeur, 1 wounded; Egmont, 1 wounded; Total, 1 killed; 20 wounded.

Officers wounded.--Sea-horse, Captain Freemantle, slightly; Ville de Paris, Lieut. Wm. Selby, ditto; Diadem, Lieut. W. J. Rowe, ditto; Prince George, Lieut. Gregory Grant, ditto; ditto, Mr. Touley, Midshipman, ditto; Barfleur, Mr. Hugh Pearson, Master's Mate; Theseus, John Sikes, Admiral's Coxswain.

SIR,

Theseus, July 4th 1797.

'in obedience to your orders, the Thunderer Bomb was placed, by the good management of Lieutenant Gourly, her present Commander, assisted by Mr. Jackson, Master of the Ville de Paris, who volunteered his able services, within 2500 yards of the walls of Cadiz, and the shells were thrown from her with much precision, under the direction of Lieutenant Baynes of the Royal Artillery; but unfortunately it was soon found that the large mortar was materially injured from its former services. I therefore judged it proper to order her to return under the protection of the Goliath, Terpsichore, and Fox, who were kept under sail for that purpose, and for whose active services I feel much obliged.

'The Spaniards having sent out a great number of mortar gun-boats and armed launches, I directed a vigorous attack to be made on them, which was done with such gallantry, that they were drove and pursued close to the walls of Cadiz, and must have suffered considerable loss; and I have the pleasure to inform you, that two mortar-boats and an armed launch remained in our possession.

'I feel myself indebted for the successful termination of this contest to the gallantry of every officer and man, and particularly to Captains Freemantle and Miller, the former of whom accompanied me in my barge; and to my Coxswain, John Sykes, who, in defending my person, is most severely wounded, as was Captain Freemantle slightly, in the attack. I must also beg to be permitted to express my admiration of Don Miguel Tyrason, the commander of the gun-boats, in his barge: he laid my boat alongside, and his resistance was such as to honour a brave Officer, eighteen or twenty-six men being killed, and himself and all the rest wounded. Not having a correct list of the killed and wounded, I can only state that I believe six are killed, and 220 wounded.

HORATIO NELSON.'

SHIPS OF WAR CAPTURED FROM THE ENEMY.

The Adolphe French lugger privateer, of 12 guns and 36 men, was captured by the Nautilus and Sea-gull sloops; another French lugger privateer, of 10 guns and 36 men, by the Dolphin revenue cutter, Capt. Richard John, off Brest; La Bayonnaise, French privateer, of six guns and 36 men, off Dominica, by the Cyane sloop; the Stulver, Dutch privateer, of 10 guns and 48 men, off the Schaw, on the 1st of June, by the Astrea, Capt. Davies; the Piteous Virgin Maria, Spanish privateer, of 10 carriage guns, 8 swivels, and 42 men, by the Viper cutter, Lieut. Pengelley, commander near Gibraltar, after a smart action of two hours, during which time she endeavoured to set the Viper on fire, by throwing on board several casks filled with powder and sulphur; the Nostra Senora del Rosario, Spanish privateer of 20 guns and 100 men, by his Majesty's ships Romulus and Mahonessa, part of Lord St. Vincent's fleet, off Cadiz; the Flying-Fish, French lug-sail privateer, of two guns and 24 men, off Shoreham, on the 4th inst. by the Lively Revenue cutter, Capt. Dubois Smith; El Principe de Paz, Spanish brig, of 20 guns and 100 men, by the Boston, Capt. Morris, off Vigo, on the 4th inst. after a short action, in which Mr. Mainwaring, a midshipman, was killed; El Enfanté, another Spanish brig, two days afterwards, by Capt. Morris; the Osé, French privateer, of 20 guns and 120 men, by the Phæton, on the 12th inst. off Brest; the Brutal, Dutch lugger privateer, of six guns and 32 men, and the Syren, French cutter privateer, of six guns and 27 men, by the Nautilus sloop and the Fox cutter, on the 12th of June, off Flackey, in Norway.

The Earl of St. Vincent, in a letter to Mr. Nepean, dated off Cadiz, on the 16th of June, writes as follows:--'I desire you will acquaint the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that Lieutenant Hardy, in the French republican corvette La Mutine, cut out of the bay of Santa Cruz, by the boats of his Majesty's ships Lively and La Minerve, has this moment joined. The gallantry of this action, recited in the public and private letters of the Captains Hallowell and Cockburn, has prompted me to take the Mutine into his Majesty's service, and to appoint Lieutenant Hardy to the command of her. A measure so necessary to

encourage a continuance of daring enterprize, I am confident will merit the approbation of your Lordships.'

The enterprize is thus related by Captain Hallowell:---' I have the honour to inform you, that on standing into the bay of Santa Cruz, in the island of Teneriffe, on the afternoon of the 28th, in company with La Minerve, I discovered an armed brig lying in the road, which, on our nearer approach, hoisted French colours. Captain Cockburn agreeing with myself in opinion that she might be taken from her anchors, I ordered all the boats of the two ships, with a lieutenant in each, to bring her out. Lieutenant Hardy, of La Minerve, being the senior officer, the command fell on him. At about half past two in the afternoon, he made a most resolute attack, in which he was gallantly supported by Lieutenants Bland, Hopkins, and Bushby, and Lieutenant Bulkeley, of the marines, in the Lively's boat, and Lieutenants Gage and Maling, in La Minerve's boats, and under a smart fire of musquetry from the brig, boarded and carried her almost immediately. This gave an alarm to the town, and a heavy fire of artillery and musquetry was opened from every part of the garrison, and from a large ship lying in the road, immediately, which continued without intermission for near an hour, during which time they were very much exposed in getting the brig under weigh, and towing her out, there being little wind.'

This vessel is named La Mutine, carrying twelve six pounders, two thirty-six pounder carronades, and 135 men. The following is a list of the wounded:---
Belonging to the Lively---Mr. Ralph Standish, master's mate; William Allen, quarter-master; Peter Lawrence and Glenville Newberry, seamen.

Belonging to the Minerve---Lieutenant Hardy; Mr. J. Coulson, gunner; Mr. Eager and Mr. Carpenter, midshipmen; Matthew Vessey, gunner's mate; David Lewis, second master's mate, and Robert Sloper, coxswain. Anthony Hull, a seaman, dangerously. James Dunlay, corporal; John Milton and Samuel Clerk, privates of the 11th regiment.

PROVIDENTIAL DELIVERANCE.

To the number of providential escapes from imminent peril, when the last ray of hope has apparently been extinguished, may be added the surprizing deliverance of Captain Noddings, late of the Providence, of Whitby, having been left by the crew, with only one man and the Captain on board. When the rest of the crew got on board the Milnes, of Hull, in their haste, they left their comrade inadvertently behind them, asleep, having been quite exhausted by fatigue. The Captain had positively refused to quit the ship. The sea running very high, they durst not return again to fetch their remaining companion, but were obliged, reluctantly, to abandon him and the Captain to apparent destruction. After experiencing incredible hardships, their distress was at length discovered by a French fishing-boat, which, as the gale still continued, and the sea was very turbulent, durst not venture on board, but, however, approached so near as to be able to throw a rope on board the Providence, which they were fortunate enough to catch. Captain Noddings insisted on the seaman going first. He was accordingly dragged through the sea, and was got on board the fishing boat, without receiving any hurt. The rope was again thrown for Captain Noddings, who, unfortunately, not having made the rope sufficiently secure, as they were lifting him on board it split and he sunk to the bottom. Not coming up again, his companion begged them to put down a hook, which was instantly done, and having luckily caught hold of his clothes, he was happily rescued from the waves. No signs of life however appearing when he was got on board, the Frenchmen were going to heave him again into the sea, but the poor fellow begged earnestly that they would use some endeavours for his recovery. After some fruitless attempts had been made, and no symptoms of returning life appearing, they were again preparing to throw him overboard, but the supplications of the faithful Seaman prevailed on the fishermen to suffer the body to remain on the cover of a chest till the morning, and that if then no signs of life appeared, he declared he would consent to his being committed to the deep. It is very surprizing, that in the morning's symptoms of returning animation were perceived, and by careful attention, Captain Noddings was perfectly recovered, and is now safely arrived at Hull.

COMMOTIONS IN IRELAND.

[CONTINUED FROM OUR LAST.]

DUBLIN, MAY 4, 1797.

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May 8. Accounts were received in town of a skirmish having taken place between the Devonshire fencibles and the Kerry militia, in Londonderry.

Several persons have been apprehended in the neighbourhood of Dublin, on treasonable charges. The Lord Mayor has issued a Proclamation to prevent large assemblies at funerals.

There are four howitzers planted in the Lower Castle-yard; and the Coach-house in Little Ship-street has been converted into a guard-house. The sentinels are doubled, and strong iron pallisadoed-gates have been erected on all the outer gateways.

Great dissensions prevail in the south of Ireland, in consequence of the rigour with which the tithes are exacted.

10. Mr. Pelham, in the House of Commons, brought up the report of the secret committee appointed to consider of the papers seized in Belfast, and to report their opinion thereon. This report, which consists of 69 folio pages, was read at full length by the clerk: we must content ourselves with giving a general summary of its contents.

The committee began by stating, that they considered it to be a proper discharge of their duty to examine into the principles and motives of the society of united Irishmen at its first formation; they assert, that in consequence of this examination, they find that the society, under the pretext of promoting a Parliamentary Reform, and what they called Emancipation of the Catholics, harboured a design to disunite this country from Great Britain, to overthrow the present constitution, and establish in its stead a Republican form of Government. The committee rest this opinion, in a great measure, on a letter written by Theobald Wolfe Tone, a very active member of that society, to his friends in Belfast; in which there appears a number of expressions which seem to indicate that Mr. Tone considered the British connection as the bane of Irish prosperity.

Another ground of this opinion of the committee is the declaration published by the society of united Irishmen in Dublin, in the year 1791, when Mr. Rowan and Dr. Drenan were chairman and secretary, in which the prominent principle is, that none but the people can speak the will of the people. The committee then proceeded to the papers. They state the manner in which these papers had been seized in the house of a John Alexander, at Belfast, by Captain Barber and Mr. Fox; they recite in what rooms, and in what company they had been found; and infer that they were the papers of two committees of united Irishmen. By one it appears that the society is organized in a very perfect manner; the lowest constituent part is the Baronial committee, or the committee of the members who live in one Barony. When this committee becomes numerous, it is split into two committees. When a certain number of these committees are formed in a county, they elect a county committee; when a certain number of county committees are formed they elect a provincial committee; and again, when two or more of these committees are created, they elect members who form the highest number of the society, a national committee.

They are, among other things, impowered to raise money in certain proportions, and to distribute it in certain ways, such as providing arms and ammunition; supplying the members who suffer for the cause with necessaries, and with the means of defence; providing for the families of those who may fall in any way for the common service; and they are enabled to regulate the election of military officers. There is a particular provision which fixes the

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manner in which the tribunal shall be chosen, who, when a Revolution, begins, shall decide on the property and even the lives of accused individuals; and there is another provision, which declares what description of suspected persons shall not be suffered to enter the ranks when the conflict shall begin. The other papers are minutes of the proceedings of sub-committees of united Irishmen, and reports on a variety of subjects. They contain, in the first place, accurate returns of the numbers of men who have at different periods become members of the body; also returns of the sums subscribed by each respective place, and the purposes for which the money has been expended. The returns of guns, bayonets, swords, pikes, cannon, powder, ball cartridges, and of bullets, are all reported with equal accuracy, and always accompany the returns of men and money. The society has risen to a number truly formidable---not less at this moment than 100,000 men! the amount of their arms appears to be very considerable; and they reckon among their ordnance eight peices of cannon and one mortar.

In their money accounts are found accurate statements of their expenditure for assisting prisoners and purchasing arms; and in one return, it is remarkable, that the officer who remits it, says, 'this money has been paid somewhat before the usual time, because it is expected our friends will soon arrive at Bantry,' or words to that effect; and several instances occur in the papers of allusions to the expected arrival of these friends.

The report being read, Mr. Pelham moved, that a copy of it be sent to the House of Lords, and that it be printed.

Both these motions were agreed to.

11. Military waggons, chests, boxes, wheel-barrows, intrenching tools, with several articles necessary for laying out encampments, are still getting ready with the utmost expedition in the Ordnance-yard, and as soon as a proper quantity are finished, they will be immediately dispatched to different parts of the kingdom. In short, the most indefatigable efforts are exerted to put this country in such a formidable state of defence, that it may bid defiance to the attempts or machinations of internal or external enemies.

12. A few days ago, four carts loaded with arms, which had been seized in the neighbourhood of Belfast, were brought in under an escort of the 22d light dragoons, and lodged at their artillery barracks.

Two regiments, consisting of one thousand men, have arrived in the north from Scotland. The number of troops on their passage, or within a few days arrived from England and Scotland, amount to upwards of 8000.

13. On Wednesday night the houses of Mr. Connolly, Messrs, Drake, Moore, Hart, Gorey, Barth, Halfpenny, all within two miles of Trim, were broke into by a party of Defenders, who carried off all the arms contained therein.

15. Lord Castlereagh, after a speech of much violence against the united Irishmen, moved, that the Commons should agree with the Lords in the Address to his Majesty, founded on the preceding report relative to the papers seized at Belfast. Mr. Grattan opposed coercive measures.

Mr. Smith moved an amendment, to request 'that his Majesty would use conciliatory measures to remove every pretext of discontent from the well-disposed, as well as measures of coercion for the prevention and punishment of conspiracy and treason---urging the necessity of correcting abuses, as well as adopting strong laws to repress disaffection.'

A warm debate ensued.

Mr. Fletcher asserted that he feared the people would be led to look on the report of the committee as fabricated rather to justify the past measures of government than to state facts! and that if coercive measures were to be pursued, the whole country must be coerced; for the spirit of insurrection had pervaded every part of it!

These observations produced much contention.

Mr. M. Beresford ordered the clerk to take down the words.

Mr. J. C. Beresford thought himself called on to defend the secret committee.

Mr. Toler moved an abstract resolution, declaring that the imputation conveyed in those words (of Mr. Fletcher) was an unfounded calumny on the report. He was at length, however, persuaded to withdraw his motion. The

House then divided on Mr. Smith's amendment, which was lost without a division.

The grand business of the night was now introduced by Mr. W. Ponsonby, who, in a short prefatory speech, proposed his motion on the subject of Reform. Before he moved any of the resolutions specifically, he read them all to the House---They are in substance as follow:---

Resolved, that it is indispensably necessary to a fundamental Reform of the Representation, that all disabilities on account of religion be for ever abolished, and that Catholics shall be admitted into the legislature, and all the great offices of state, in the same extent, &c. as Protestants now are.

That it is the indispensable right of the people of Ireland to be fully and fairly represented in parliament.

That, in order that the people may be fully enabled to exercise that right, the privilege of returning members for Cities, Boroughs, &c. in the present form, shall cease---that each county be divided into districts, consisting of 5000 houses each---each district to return two members to parliament.

That all persons possessing freehold property to the amount of 40s. per annum, all possessed of leasehold interests of the annual value of -----, all who have resided for a certain number of years in any great city or town following a trade, and all who shall be free of any city, by birth, marriage or servitude, shall vote for members of parliament.

That seats in parliament shall endure for----- number of years (The blanks were left to be filled up by the direction of the House.)

The first of these resolutions Mr. Ponsonby moved.

Mr. Pelham spoke against it, principally on the old argument of this not being the time, and concluded by moving the question of adjournment.

The general sentiment among those who opposed the motion appeared to be, that no concession should be made to conciliate; but that, if the present coercive measures did not restore tranquility, the last appeal should be made to Force---in which they seemed conscious of decisive superiority.

The motion of Mr. Ponsonby was lost by a majority of 117 to 30.

The members went armed to the above debate, and 18 rounds of ball and cartridges were served to the troops, both horse and foot!

16. Early on Sunday morning last, about two o'clock, a number of armed men, amounting to several hundreds, made an hostile appearance against the inhabitants at Forkhill, near Dundalk. They were opposed by the City of Dublin militia, quartered in that part, and the yeomanry cavalry, commanded by Capt. Fortescue. Finding it was not easy to bring them to a close engagement, from the situation they had taken, the yeomanry and militia made a feint attack upon these people, and afterwards a retreat, which drew the latter after them, and having brought them to a spot from which they could not so readily escape, the cavalry wheeled about, only about 24 in number, (the Dublin militia opening right and left to let them pass), fell upon them with great fury, killed about 25, and took several prisoners.

Ministers have already sent over instructions to the Lord Lieutenant to announce to the military in this country an intention of increasing their pay.

18. On Tuesday last four privates of the Monaghan militia were shot, in pursuance of the sentence of a Court-Martial. These men had engaged to desert from their officers upon a signal, and were actually appointed officers, and had received commissions to act in rebel corps.

19. Three men of the Wexford regiment of militia have been tried at Cork for acts of mutiny and disloyalty; one of them has been sentenced to be shot, another to receive 1000, and the third 600 lashes.

20. Letters received from Philipstown state, that on Wednesday night an attempt was made by a numerous body of united Irishmen to surprise the barracks. The garrison, consisting of a party of the 4th dragoon guards, flew to arms, and without waiting to dress themselves, rushed upon the assailants, two of whom they killed, took four of the ringleaders, and put the remainder to flight, many of whom were severely wounded.

'General orders from Adjutant-General's Office, 20th May, 1797. In obedience to an order of the Lord Lieutenant and Council, it is the Commander in Chief's command, that the military do act, without waiting for directions from the civil magistrate, in dispersing any tumultuous assemblies, or persons threatening the peace of the realm, and the safety of the lives and properties of his Majesty's loyal subjects whatsoever.'

On the 23d there was a great disturbance at Belfast: information having been received that arms were hid in a house belonging to a glazier in town, every military officer there, accompanied by a strong party of the Monaghan militia, went at mid-day and searched the house, where they found 1 mortar, 1 swivel, a quantity of shot, slugs, and cartridges, a box full of flints, and several pikes. Besides this, they also found a number of coats for soldiers, on the buttons of which is a harp, and round it these words, 'Belfast National Guards.' On the box which contained the flints was painted a Crown reversed, with the tree of liberty on each side. The soldiers took the furniture into the street, and burnt it; they then walked in procession through the streets, carrying the coats with them. The owner has absconded.

On the 23d John McClure was apprehended on a charge of high treason.

26. On the 25th inst. Colonel Barber, and Mr. Fox, Town Major of Belfast, caught a smith and his assistant forging pikes. On threatening them with immediate death, they produced 16 they had secreted in an adjoining house, newly forged. The troops were so much incensed at seeing these instruments of destruction, that they levelled the forge to the ground. The pikes were hung round the villains, who were brought prisoners to town. More of these weapons have been since discovered.

Another blacksmith, James Adams, from Island Magee, was brought into Belfast, by a detachment of the artillery. Some pikes were stuck through his hat, and others hung round him.

31. On Monday, several ladies were rudely assaulted by the soldiery in Castle-street. No female, with any thing green about her dress, was suffered to pass. Ribbands, bonnets, and handkerchiefs of that colour were wantonly torn from their persons, with the greatest rudeness and the foulest language.

June 1. Sixteen persons, charged with being united Irishmen were yesterday taken up, and committed to Newgate. Four men, of the names of Reiley and Kelly, were also committed to Newgate as defenders.

On Monday last, a party of soldiers repaired to Clonard Bridge, in the county of Meath, to apprehend two defenders. They took up one, set fire to his habitation, and left him in the care of two of the party, while they were in pursuit of the other. The captive dreading the consequences, made an effort to escape; but was instantly shot by the sentinels. We are informed, that his body was afterwards hung up *in terrorem* by the road side.

8. Yesterday the whole garrison marched out to witness the punishment of two men of the Kildare militia, condemned to be shot for breaches of the articles of war, and of their allegiance. About two o'clock the sentence was executed by eight of their own regiment. The troops were afterwards marched by the dead bodies.

12. In several parts of the north, the great quantity of arms which has been recovered has so dispirited the malcontents, that all opposition has ceased.

At Londonderry, last week four persons, viz. Pat. Gramsey, Oliver Blackburn, Robert Kilpatrick, and James Craig, were sent on board the tender now lying in the River, for making pike heads.

17. Accounts were yesterday received in town from Kinnegad, in the county of Westmeath, which state, that on Thursday morning a party of the military having received information that arms were concealed in the house of a Mr. Dod, a person eminent as a distiller at Multifarnam, in that neighbourhood, proceeded thither, and upon their arrival were fired upon from the windows; the soldiery thereupon broke in, killed one man, and having seized twenty-one stand of concealed arms, reduced the house to ashes.

OBITUARY.

LATELY, at his seat at Montreal, near Seven Oaks, Kent, in his 81st year, the Right Hon. Jeffery Lord Amherst, of Holmesdale, K.B. privy-counsellor to his Majesty, gov. of Guernsey, a field-marshal in the army, and colonel of the 2d regt. of life-guards and of the 60th (or Royal American) regiment of foot. He is succeeded in titles and estates by his nephew, William Pitt Amherst.---His Lordship was born Jan. 29, 1717; received his first commission in the army in 1731; was aid-du-camp to Gen. Ligonier in 1741, and, in that character, was present at the battles of Dettingen, Fontenoy, and Rocoux. He was afterwards made aid-du-camp to the Duke of Cumberland, and, as such, was at the battles of Laffeldt and Hastenbeck; and continued with his Royal Highness till 1756, when he was appointed colonel of the 15th regiment of foot. In 1758 he received orders to return to England, being appointed for the American service, and sailed from Portsmouth, on March 16, as major-general commanding the troops for the siege of Louisbourg, &c.; in which, by the extraordinary exertions of Gen. Wolfe, he succeeded. On the 30th of September in the same year he was appointed commander in chief of all the forces in America, in the room of Gen. Abercrombie; and at the same time was appointed colonel of another regiment (being the 60th) as of right. He was also made governor of Virginia; and was one of the oldest knights of the Bath (the third on the list), being one of the first presented with a red ribbon by his present Majesty, very soon after he came to the throne, in 1761. He continued in the command in America to the latter end of 1763, when he returned to England. Sept. 21, 1768, he was dismissed from all his employments, in consequence of a personal dispute with the King; but, by the mere effect of public discussion in the news-papers, he surmounted all difficulties, and, in the November following, was admitted to court, and received with redoubled honours.

The first office conferred on him after his restoration to royal favour happened on the 7th of the same month, in consequence of the death of Gen. Burton, when Gen. Amherst was appointed colonel of his (the 3d) regt. of foot; and Gen. Gage, on Gen. Amherst's coming home, was appointed commander in chief in America, and, as such, colonel of the 60th regiment, which he held during Gen. Amherst's suspension. Gen. Gage, however, although he was suffered to hold his command in America, was superseded in his command of the 60th regiment of foot, to make way for Amherst's re-appointment; although the holding this regiment was before considered as a matter of right, attached to the American command. In addition to these appointments, was conferred on Amherst that of first officer of the staff; which gave him authority over all the armies on the British establishment. In 1771 he was made governor of Guernsey; and, the year after, was appointed lieutenant-general of the ordnance, which he held till the appointment of Gen. Howe to that office: but, in lieu of this, upon the death of Lord Harrington, Gen. Amherst was appointed colonel of the 2d troop of grenadier-guards; and, on the death of Lord Cadogan, to the 2d troop of horse-guards; and, when that corps was reduced, to the 2d regiment of horse-guards. In 1776 he was created Baron Amherst, of Holmesdale, in the county of Kent. In 1778 he had the command of the army in England; in 1779 was made colonel of the second troop of horse grenadier-guards; in 1782 received the gold stick from the King, when, on the change of the Administration, the command of the army, and the lieutenant-generalship of the ordnance, were put into other hands. In 1787, he received another patent of peerage, as Baron Amherst, of Montreal, with remainder to his nephew, William Pitt Amherst. These accumulations of royal favour appear to have arisen from the taking of Montreal (which was easily reduced after

Wolfe had taken Quebec). On the staff being re-established, which obliged the brave Gen. Conway (the oldest officer then in the service, and who, by right, was entitled to the command,) to act under him, he was, Jan. 22, 1793, again appointed to the command of the army in Great Britain.

Besides Gen. Conway, the following were Amherst's seniors; the Duke of Gloucester, Sir George Howard, the Duke of Argyle, the Hon. John Fitzwilliam, and Sir Charles Montagu. On the 10th of February, 1795, the command of the army being given to the Duke of York, an offer of earldom, and the rank of field-marshal, were made to Lord Amherst, who then declined accepting them; but, on the 30th of July, 1796, accepted the rank of field-marshal. His Lordship had not, from bad health, been able to attend his duty as gold-stick in waiting on the King for more than two years past.

The name of Sir Jeffery Amherst was as much dreaded by the enemies of Great Britain as it was revered by his countrymen. The honour of the nation, whose battles he fought, seemed to be the predominant principle throughout his military career. He was a firm disciplinarian, but he was the soldier's friend; a man of strict economy, always sober, and ready, at all times, to hear and redress the complaints of the army in general. No ostentation of heroism marked any of his actions; but the whole of his conduct evinced the firm simplicity of a brave mind, animated by the consciousness of what was due to himself and to his country. As commander in chief, it has been said that he was induced, by the sweets of office, to retain his situation longer than his strength permitted the active execution of its duties; but, as his Sovereign saw no reason for his resignation, and as his country could not be dissatisfied that the post was held by one who had hazarded his life in her defence, and added to her triumphs, such complaints must be considered as the mean offspring of envy and malevolence. That he occasionally employed the patronage of his situation in promoting his friends, is not to be mentioned with reproach. It is the allowed privilege of most public situations; and it may be fairly asserted, that he took every

opportunity of giving due advancement to distinguished talents, and always endeavoured to support the dignity of the service. He has at length submitted to an enemy whom none can resist; and the laurels he reaped will for ever flourish round his tomb. Lord Amherst married, first, Jane, daughter of Tho. Dalyson, Esq. of Manton, co. Lincoln; who dying Jan. 7, 1765, he married, secondly, March 26, 1767, Elizabeth, grand-daughter of Lucius-Henry, fifth Lord Viscount Falkland, of the kingdom of Scotland.

The family of Amherst is supposed to be descended from Hamo, a Saxon baron, who was sheriff of the county of Kent in the reign of King William the Conqueror. Hamo, his descendant, was bishop of Rochester; and Hamo, in the reign of Edward the Third, wrote himself Hamo de Hurst. The genealogy has been regularly traced from the reign of Richard the Second. His Lordship's remains were interred in the family-vault in Seven Oaks church. The funeral service was performed by the Rev. Mr. Curteis, the rector. The coffin was covered with black velvet, and on the plate was inscribed his name, age, and title. The ceremony was attended with little parade.

At his apartments in York-street, St. James's-square, in his 55th year, the Right Hon. Harvey Redmond Morris, Lord Viscount Mountmorres. He put an end to his existence by shooting himself through the head. By the direction of the bullet, it appeared that he had put the pistol into his mouth; he had another in his pocket, loaded; and, by every account, it is obvious that he had made preparations for this violent act; he had paid the few bills that he owed, and had conversed in a way that gave his acquaintance reason to believe that he had for several days deliberated upon the suicide he accomplished. He had some apprehension that his mind was likely to be deranged, and consulted with Dr. Turton, the day before, on the subject, asking him if he would recommend Dr. Willis. Dr. T. concurred in the propriety of sending for that gentleman. In consequence, Lord M. wrote to Dr. W. desiring him to attend him the following morning, at ten o'clock, and Dr. T. by agreement, was to wait on him an hour after. It appeared that his Lordship did not go to bed the

whole night. At six in the morning his apothecary's man brought him a medicine which he had sent for. Dr. W. arrived punctually at ten; Lord M. saw him from the window, and, at the very moment, as if the appearance of Dr. W. was the signal, the unfortunate Nobleman dispatched himself. His father was the first nobleman of the family; created a baron in 1756, and advanced to the dignity of a viscount in 1763. His Lordship was a liberal and active supporter of the fund for relieving authors in distress; and was a good-natured, intelligent man, fond of talking, but more from the prevalence of strong animal spirits than vanity. It is certain that for several years he had many strange habits which seemed tending to insanity. He had, by a course of prudence amounting almost to parsimony, created, in fact, a very easy fortune; for, from a very small, encumbered estate, he is said to leave a clear 5000*l.* a-year. The coroner's inquest, on the clearest proofs, brought in their verdict Lunacy. His Lordship's remains were conveyed to St. James's chapel in Tottenham-court-road, and there decently interred. There is reason to suppose that he died without making a will, nothing of the sort having been discovered among his papers.

Lately, at his palace at Chichester, the Right Rev. Sir William Ashburnham, bart. D. D. the venerable bishop of that see, and recor of Gestling, in Sussex. His Lordship was the father of the English bench, and the only bishop not appointed by his present Majesty. He was grandson of Sir Denny A. of Bromham, Sussex, the first baronet of the family, son of Charles his second son by his second wife, and nephew of Sir William, who died 1755. He was born 17..; admitted at Bene't-college, Cambridge, 1728, where he took the degrees of B. A. 1732, M. A. by mandate 1733, and D. D. 1749; was elected fellow 1732; presented to the rectories of Garnston and Cromwell, co. Nottingham, which he exchanged for Bexhill, Sussex, which he held with the deanry of Chichester, to which he was promoted in November, 1741. He was also, 1737, chaplain of Chelsea-hospital, and chaplain in ordinary to the King; residentiary of St. Paul's, 1753, but never took possession; and became bishop

of Chichester 1754, on the translation of Bp. Mawson to Ely, with licence to hold his livings *in commendam* for three years. He preached before the House of Commons, Nov. 5, 1745, from Matt. vii. 15; at the special assize held at Chichester for the trial of the smugglers, Jan. 1748, Job xxix. 14 ---16; before the House of Lords, May 29, 1751, 1 Sam. xii. 24; before the Society for propagating the Gospel, 1760, Rom. i. 16; before the Governors of the London-hospital, 1764, Ps. ciii. 7. He married Margaret, daughter of Thomas Pelham, of Lewes, Esq. by whom he had a son, William, admitted at Bene't-college, 17.., M. P. for Hastings, and deputy-keeper of the great wardrobe; and two daughters, who lived with him unmarried till his death. Sir Denny A. married a daughter of John A. grandfather of the first Lord A. His remains were deposited in the family-vault at Battle, Sussex. The very numerous attendants on the funeral were, on their return home, next day, thwarted by some untoward circumstances. A few miles from Battle, the coach and hearse horses were so affrighted by the tempest, and a fire-ball that fell near them, that it was judged prudent to return with them to the above place; and, on their entering Brighton, the day after, an assistant to Mr. Weller, the undertaker, had his thigh broken, through the obstruction of a waggon, at the bottom of North-street.

Lately, at Cambridge, after a long illness, in his 63d year, the Rev. Richard Farmer, D. D. F. R. and A. S. S. master of Emanuel-college, principal librarian of the public library in that university, some time prebendary of Canterbury, which he resigned on becoming one of the canons-residentiary of St. Paul, London, chancellor of the diocese of Litchfield and Coventry, and prebendary of Worcester. He was born at Leicester in 1735; was admitted to the degrees of B. A. 1757, M. A. 1760, B. D. 1767, and D. D. 1775; elected master of Emanuel college, on the death of the Rev. Dr. Richardson, March, 1775; in the same year, principal librarian, on the death of the Rev. Dr. Barnardiston, master of Bene't-college. He served the office of vice-chancellor in the years 1775 and 1787; and was much respected for his liberality to the poor, and the

various plans suggested by him for the improvement of the town of Cambridge. He was well known in the literary world for his 'Essay on the Learning of Shakspeare, addressed to Joseph Cradock, Esq. 1776,' which has been four times printed, viz. 1766, 1767, 1789, and (in Mr. Steeven's complete edition of the great Dramatic Bard) 1793. Two letters of Dr. Johnson to Dr. Farmer are preserved in Boswell's Life; the one, in 1770, requesting (for Mr. Steevens and himself) such information concerning Shakspeare as Dr. F. was 'more able to give than any other man;' the other, in 1780, soliciting information concerning 'Ambrose Philips, Broome, and Gray, who were all of Cambridge; and of whose lives he was to give such accounts as he could gather.' In 1765 he announced his intention of publishing the 'History and Antiquities of the Town of Leicester;' but, in his letter to Mr. Cradock on a more favourite subject, laments that 'he had been persuaded into that employment.'

['Though I have as much,' he says, 'of the *natalis solum* about me as any man whatsoever, yet, I own, the *primrose path* is still more pleasing than the *Possé* or the *Walling-street*:'

'Age cannot wither it, nor custom stale
Its infinite variety.'

And, when I am fairly rid of the dust of topographical antiquity, which hath continued much longer about me than I expected, you may very probably be troubled again with the ever-fruitful subject of Shakspeare and his Commentators.']

After having printed only four pages of his History, he relinquished it, returned the subscriptions, and presented his Leicester MSS. and plates to Mr. Nichols.

Dr. Farmer's knowledge was various, extensive, and recondite; and it is to be regretted that he never concentrated and exerted all the great powers of his mind on some great and important subject; in quickness of apprehension, and acuteness of discrimination, he had few equals; without the smallest propensity to avarice, he possessed a large income; and without the mean submission of dependence, he rose to a high station; ever liberal in patronizing learned men, and forward in promoting learned publications; his ambition, if he had any, was without inso-

lence, his munificence without ostentation, his wit without acrimony, and his learning without pedantry. There is a large and very fine portrait of him by J. Jones; and a small one in Mr. Malone's edition of Shakspeare.

At his house in Derby, aged 63, Joseph Wright, Esq. long esteemed throughout Europe as a chaste and elegant painter. He was a pupil of Hudson, who instructed three of the most eminent painters of the age, viz. Sir Joshua Reynolds, Mr. Wright, and Mr. Mortimer. Mr. W's early historical pictures may be considered as the first valuable productions of the English school; because, at the time his Gladiator, Orrery, Air-pump, Hermit, and Blacksmith's Forge, were painted, nothing, of any consequence, had been produced in the historical line. His attention was afterwards directed, for some years, to portrait painting, in which he would have excelled, had he chosen to pursue it. At a mature age he visited Italy. His fine drawings after Michael Angelo, and the enthusiasm with which he always spoke of the sublime original, evinced the estimation in which he held them; and they may be considered such as have never yet been exhibited to the public. During his abode in Italy he had an opportunity of seeing a very memorable eruption of Vesuvius, which rekindled his inclination for painting extraordinary effects of light; and his different pictures of this sublime event stand decidedly *chef d'œuvre* in that line of painting. A large landscape (his last work) now at Derby, being a view of Ullswater, may be considered his best, and deservedly ranked with the most valuable productions of Wilson, or even Claude himself. In the historical line, the Dead Soldier would alone establish his fame, if his Edwin, his Destruction of the Floating-batteries off Gibraltar, the two pictures of Hero and Leander, the Lady in Comus, the Indian Widow, and other historical subjects, had not already ascertained his excellence. His pictures have been so much in request that there is scarcely an instance of their ever having come into the hands of dealers. It is with pleasure we record that the world has not been unmindful of his extraordinary talents; and also, that, as a man, he enjoyed the friendship and esteem of all who had the happiness of his acquaintance.