



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

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THE
FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE:

AND

CABINET OF UNIVERSAL LITERATURE.

FOR APRIL 1796.

EMBELISHED WITH AN ENGRAVING OF THE
 SENIOR WARDEN'S JEWEL OF THE LODGE OF THE
 NINE MUSES.

CONTENTS.

	Page		Page
The Question, "Of what Use is Freemasonry to Mankind?" An- swered - - - - -	217	Anecdote of the late Sir P. Blake	255
Moonlight - - - - -	223	----- of Hassan, Captain Pacha	256
An Address to the Brethren of the St. John's Lodge - - - - -	225	----- of Dr. Bentley - - - - -	<i>ibid</i>
Extracts from the Memoirs of the Life and Writings of Edward Gibbon, Esq. - - - - -	228	----- of the Duke of Leinster	257
Sketches of the Manners and Cus- toms of the North-American In- dians - - - - -	233	Singular Instances of Pusillanimity in the Pope's Soldiers - - - - -	<i>ibid</i>
Characters of Chillingworth and Bayle - - - - -	237	Singular Instance of Generosity	258
Scene in the Alps - - - - -	239	Proceedings in the House of Lords	259
Miscellaneous Observations and Reflections made in a Tour through London, in Dec. 1784. By W. Hutton, of Birmingham, F. S. A. Sco. - - - - -	240	----- in the House of Commons	260
The Stage. By John Taylor, Esq. continued - - - - -	246	Review of New Publications	265
On the Return of Spring - - - - -	250	List of New Publications	270
An American Anecdote - - - - -	252	Poetry: including A Masonic Pro- logue. The Mason's Prayer. Elegy from the Spanish. To the Moon. Prologue to Vortigern. Epilogue to the same. - - - - -	271
The Vanity of Fame - - - - -	253	Public Amusements - - - - -	277
Anecdote of the Duke of Newcastle	255	Masonic Intelligence - - - - -	280
----- of the Duke of Marlborough	<i>ibid</i>	The London Gazettes - - - - -	281
		Important State Papers - - - - -	286
		MONTHLY CHRONICLE.	
		Foreign Intelligence - - - - -	288
		Home News - - - - -	289
		Lists of Promotions, Births, and Marriages - - - - -	293
		Obituary - - - - -	294
		Bankrupts - - - - -	296

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Cantabrigiensis in our next.

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THE
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FOR APRIL 1796.

THE QUESTION,

“OF WHAT USE IS FREE-MASONRY TO MANKIND?”

ANSWERED.

WE may evidently 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 uninterested 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? In candour, let us pity those men, who vainly pretend to censure or condemn what, through want of instruction, they cannot comprehend!

Let us 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 scarcely possible 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. Where 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 beside 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 temper, are avoided; and every face is clad with smiles, while the common good of all, the general design of the craft, is zealously pursued.

Is it not then evident that Masonry is of universal advantage to mankind? for sure, unless discord and harmony be the same, it must be so. Is it not likewise reconcileable to the best policy? for it prevents that heat of passion, and those 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 exclusive 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 not 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 exigencies, 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 exists no invidious distinctions. A king is reminded, that though 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 ache? 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 endearing term *brother*, among Masons, is not merely a name.

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 on 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 debauchery or 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, the religion which they confess, 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 and 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, or 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 our 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 amaze and delight the beautiful proportions which connect and grace this vast machine. By it we may discover how the planets move in their different orbs, 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.

If we are united, our society must flourish. Let us then promote the useful arts, and by that means mark our distinction and superi-

* Governor *Van Teylingen*, a past grand-steward, was expelled the society in 1772, for crimes of the most abominable kind. *Joseph Baylis*, expelled in 1775, for an attempt to commit the same kind of offence. *William Brand*, expelled in 1774, for injuring a girl of 14 years of age, the said girl being under his care as a scholar.

Several brethren have been expelled for lesser crimes; and many more have been expelled for acting, in a masonic character, contrary to the established laws of the society.

ority ; 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.

Free-masonry is undoubtedly an institution of the most beneficial and amiable nature, since its professed design is the extension and confirmation of mutual happiness, by the most perfect and effectual method,—the practice of every moral and social virtue. It is a salutary institution, wherein bad men, if they *chance* to be admitted, are most generally restrained in their moral retrogradation, or downhill progress, in vice ; while the good are taught, and excited, to aspire to higher degrees of virtue and perfection. A *good man* and a *good mason*, are synonymous terms ; since a *good man* must necessarily make a *good mason*, and a *good mason* can never be a *bad man* ; and, as the better men are, the more they love each other, so the more they love each other, they become more perfect masons.

Those who have the honour and happiness of being regular members of this most excellent society, are strictly bound to practise its duties and precepts, and to preserve its dignity.

Foremost in the rank of our duties stands our obligation to obey the laws of the Great Architect of the Universe, to conform to his will, to promote his honour, and to conduct ourselves as under the inspection of his all-seeing eye. For as in him we live, move, and have our being, partake of his goodness, and depend on his favours ; so whatever we think, speak, or do, ought all to be subservient, and capable of being referred to his glory.

This primary and fundamental duty of obedience to the Supreme Being, from whence, as from their fountain, all other duties, with respect to ourselves and our neighbours, flow, is evidently taught by reason, confirmed by revelation, and enforced by *Free-masonry*. Subordinate and consequent to this our grand obligation, is the important and indispensable duty of brotherly love, which delights in, and ought always to demonstrate itself in real acts of genuine beneficence.

Free-masonry has not only united its worthy members and genuine sons in the most indissoluble bands of confidence, concord, and amity ; it has even caused Christianity to shine forth with renewed lustre, and introduced its spirit, which the royal craft has strongly imbibed, into every nation and religious persuasion wherein it has gained admittance ; and it produces the most benevolent and charitable set of men, in proportion to its number, of any society whatever throughout the terrestrial globe. Thus inestimable is Free-masonry, for its manifold and most useful qualities. It supereminently excels all other arts by the bright rays of truth which it sheds on the minds of its faithful votaries, illuminating their understandings with the beams of a more resplendent light than is to be derived from the assemblage of all other arts whatsoever ; of which the newly-initiated brother begins to participate, when he is girded with the emblem of innocence, more ancient than the tower of *Babel*, more honourable than the imperial dignity. As it excels all other arts in its vast and admirable extent, so it far surpasses them in its pleasing

and effectual modes of communicating its instructions. But of this the enlightened brother alone can form a judgment, or make the comparison. We, who have happily made the experiment, are convinced of its transcendent excellence in this particular. The unenlightened by Masonry can only form vague and uncertain conjectures of the utility of the royal craft, or of the modes of initiation into its various degrees; or of the subsequent, different, delightful, and beneficial instructions respectively communicated.

As it is highly becoming every member of this society to preserve the dignity of our noble institution, we conceive one of the best methods of doing it is, by acting as worthy *Free-masons* ourselves; and by admitting among us only those, who in all probability will demean themselves as worthy members. These two methods seem to us naturally connected together. For if we are in reality worthy *Free-masons* ourselves, we shall have a strong aversion to the admission of any person, who would reflect the least disgrace upon our respectable fraternity; and consequently, in the most effectual manner, we shall preserve its dignity. Whereas if we become unworthy members ourselves, it will of course be a matter of indifference to us whom we admit; and thus we shall entail upon it double disgrace.

As we ought to be irreproachable in our own demeanor, so we ought to be certified, that our candidates for *Free-masonry* have the requisite qualifications, which indispensably ought to be, a good reputation, an honest method of living, sound morals, and a competent understanding.

No member that has the honour of the society, or even his own, sincerely at heart, will presume to nominate any who are not possessed of these valuable qualities. In that case, it would be incumbent upon every worthy brother to give a negative, and to reprobate so indecorous a nomination.

It is to be supposed, at least among ourselves, that, as enlightened *Free-masons*, we have more just, sublime, and comprehensive ideas, with respect to virtue, decorum, and the dignity of human nature, than the generality of mankind. It is to be apprehended, that we grant admission to none but men of principle, of virtue, honour, and integrity; lest the *royal craft*, instead of being an object of deserved veneration, fall into disesteem, and become a subject of ridicule. It is therefore to be expected, that not the wealth, the station, or the power of any man, shall procure from us his admission into our respective lodges; but his propriety of conduct, his uprightness, his goodness. Such indeed as answer this description will be an honour to our sublime craft, and are best qualified to reap from it every desirable advantage. And although it is a maxim with us to solicit none to enter into our society, yet we shall be always exceedingly glad to enroll such worthy persons in the honourable list of our numerous members. Those are egregiously deceived, and may they ever be disappointed in their application for admittance as *Free-masons*, who consider us in the light of a Bacchanalian society, or under any similar ignoble idea. Our association indeed admits of all be-

coming cheerfulness, festivity, and gaiety of temper, at suitable seasons and intervals; but, indeed, our assemblies are principally convened for the most beneficial and exalted purposes: for purifying the heart, correcting the manners, and enlightening the understanding. Thus the useful and the agreeable are by us happily united; instruction and pleasure are blended together. Order, decorum, concord, and complacency, are constant attendants upon our lodges.

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 not 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!

S.

MOON-LIGHT.

- ‘ And oft I think, fair planet of the night,
- ‘ That in thy orb the wretched may have rest,’

CRIED MITTO, as he was walking one evening, and gazing on the placid countenance of the moon, in her utmost splendour.— Thus he continued—

“ Retired from company, wearied with the insipid trifling, the noisy jars, and the confused bustle, of the inhabitants of this terra-queous and wretched settlement, I address myself to thee, and would fain hold converse with some modest intelligent of thine unknown regions.

“ I would ask him, if he be afflicted with the cries of age in penury, and of childhood in distress, soliciting the morsel from the hand of insatiate avarice?—If, in any corner of his abode, the sons of anguish, in tenements of wretchedness, let fall the tear, unnoticed and unknown? If his fellow inhabitants ever die? If he ever stood motionless, and petrified with horror, by the dying bed of his wicked neighbour? If he ever saw the parting anguish of the tearful parent and her lispng offspring, ‘weeping o’er all the bitterness of death?’—If he were ever an unhappy witness to a parent’s tears over an abandon’d child; to a wretched profligate’s cursing the grey hairs of his venerable sire; to a dissipated husband’s raising a hideous storm amidst his peaceful family, and driving them, by extravagance, to

despair, wretchedness, and death?—If he knew aught of traffic; its cares, its frauds, its disappointments, and its frequent dangers? If he e'er saw a being, form'd for immortality, toiling from morn till eve, from year to year, from youth to age—to call a little clay, a thousand cares, his own?—I would ask him, if, in his orb, thousands of its inhabitants are form'd in fierce battalions, each one armed with an instrument of death; disciplin'd in savage manners; nurs'd in all the brutal vices; led to the field of slaughter; aiming the deadly weapon at the vitals of an unknown company of fellow-men, expiring amidst the rage of murd'rous anger? and, while they are thus '*forcing a passage to the flames,*' professing themselves the peaceful followers of Jesus Christ?—If he hath ever seen the worshippers of the deity, in his world, pursue each other with infernal rancour, lighting up fires round the bodies of the conscientious, and pursuing them with anathemas and the terrors of civil justice, for a difference of sentiment on the mode of exercising their religious services?—If he were ever amidst a crowd of imprisoned maniacs? If his heart were ever torn at the sight of misery, in the distorted frame of an unfortunate lunatic?—If he were ever a visitant, in a building appropriated to receive the victims of disease and misfortune?—If he ever saw the dire effects of a burning fever, the chill ague, the wasting consumption, the overwhelming dropsy, or the gnawing cancer, bringing to the grave any of his suffering brethren? If he ever wiped the dying sweat from the forehead, or eas'd the dying pillow, of the friend of his bosom; or attended such a friend to 'that bourne from whence no traveller returns?'—If he hath ever seen the felon's den, the gloomy gibbet, the wretched exit of untutor'd vice?—If he ever saw the savage murderer leap from the thicket, and embrue his hands in the blood of the lonely, unsuspecting, unoffending traveller? the child taking away the life of the father; the mother butchering her child?—If he ever saw a family driven from their home, their peaceful slumbers, by the ravages of fire, destitute and distracted?—If he ever heard the cries of a sinking crew in a wrecked vessel, amidst the pelting storm, the rolling thunder, the forked lightning, and the howling winds?—If he e'er fled the stalking plague, the fierce volcano, grim famine, or the voracious earthquake?—If he ever walked through a slave ship, a bastille, a tender, or an inquisition?—If he hath ever seen the sons of riot in their midnight revels—disease and death the waiters?—If he hath ever felt the flames of cruel jealousy, fell ambition, envy, anger, distrust, the fear of death, the gloom of terror, raging in his bosom?

“Or, if his orb be free from all these ills, if peace and plenty, the calm of innocence, the joys of health, the social ties of friendship, the sacred cords of bliss and fond affection, reign in all the circuit of his tranquil world?

“Happy! Happy inhabitants! when shall I feel your pleasures, and be released from all the ills, and all the crimes, which stain our mother earth?”

Hull, April 21, 1796.

W.

AN ADDRESS
TO
THE BRETHREN OF ST. JOHN'S LODGE,
NO. 534, LANCASTER.

DELIVERED AT THEIR COMMEMORATION OF
THE FESTIVAL OF ST. JOHN,
DEC. 28, 1795.

BY THE REV. JAMES WATSON.

[Transmitted for insertion in "The Freemason's Magazine," at the request of the Lodge.]

ON quitting the chair at the period of my presidency, I cannot help expressing my sincerest thanks to you, my worthy and respected BRETHREN, for your kind attention to all my recommendations; your ready obedience to all my official directions; and your candid indulgence to all my humble, but well-meant, endeavours to promote the prosperity and happiness of this now flourishing Lodge*. I cannot sufficiently applaud your temperance and regularity, both in and after Lodge hours; than which nothing tends more to the credit of our associations in the eyes of a censorious world. The rapid progress also made by several of our noviceiate brothers demands my warmest approbation; and their example will, I hope, stimulate others to a similar application. Suffer me moreover to express the satisfaction I feel, in surrendering the distinguished office you honoured me with into the hands of the † CHIEF MAGISTRATE of this ancient and opulent Borough; a man whose integrity of principle, and whose laudable zeal and activity in every undertaking, I have learned to respect and admire from long friendship, and even domestic intimacy.

As at my entrance upon this station, I obtruded a few Masonic observations ‡ upon your attention; so your kind indulgence then has emboldened me to trespass upon your patience with a few more, upon my quitting it, although they may have been already discussed by much abler brethren §.

The *three* degrees into which MASONRY is divided, seem to have an obvious and apt coincidence with the *three* progressive states of mankind, from the Creation to the end of time.

* Consisting of 38 members. † Richard Johnson, Esq. Mayor.

‡ Vide our Magazine for February, p. 78.

§ Vide in particular "Hutchinson's Spirit of Masonry."

The *first* is emblematic of Man's state of nature, from his first Disobedience to the time of God's Covenant with Abraham, and the establishment of the Jewish Economy.

The *second*, from that period to the æra of the last, full, and perfect Revelation from Heaven to Mankind, made by our GREAT REDEEMER.

The *third*, comprehending the glorious interval of the Christian Dispensation, down to the Consummation of all Things.

The state of darkness, or obscurity, of the FIRST DEGREE, strongly figures out the darkness of chaos before man's creation; or the night into which his glorious faculties were plunged, by the fall consequent upon his original transgression. It is also forcibly emblematic of the darkness of the womb antecedent to man's natural birth; and the *pain inflicted* at his entrance aptly represents his pangs, and bitter sensations, on his *entrance* into the LODGE of this chequered life. Like a woeful and benighted traveller, found in a dreary and hopeless desert, his indigent condition suggests to him the forlorn and helpless situation of man in a state of nature; teaches him the value of mutual good offices; and directs him to extend that relief afterwards to others, which he then so much wants himself, by *comforting the afflicted, feeding the hungry, and covering the naked with a garment*. He is brought to the light of the world, and the light of knowledge, by the help of others. His investiture is strongly significant of the first * cloathing of the human race, and marks out the modest † purpose of primæval dress. His tools are the rough implements of uninstructed genius, and the rude emblems of the simplest moral truths, pointing out the hard labour which human industry must undergo, when unassisted by the cunning and compendious devices of cultivated art. His Lodge is described to him as an universal wilderness, wherein he cautiously associates with his human brothers upon the highest of hills, or in the lowest of valleys; the green grass its pavement; the cloudy canopy of Heaven its covering. Thus he is taught to consider this whole terrestrial globe as his LODGE; and is thereby instructed to look upon all mankind as his BRETHREN, and to grasp the whole human race to his heart with the arms of universal benevolence and compassion. Hence, also, he learns to view the whole earth as one TEMPLE of the Deity, with its length due East and West marked out by the line of the Zodiac, and the ‡ *Giant's Course* of the Sun and Moon therein; and to contemplate every human heart, as an ALTAR burning with the incense of adoration to the GRAND ARCHITECT OF THE UNIVERSE.

As the darkness of heathenism, or natural religion, preceded the divine revelation vouchsafed to the favorite people of God; so, by our initiation into the SECOND DEGREE, we advance still farther into the *dawn* figured out by the Mosaic dispensation, which preceded the more perfect CHRISTIAN DAY. Here the noviciate is brought to light, to behold and handle tools of a more artificial and ingenious

* Gen. iii. 21.

† Gen. iii. 7.

‡ Psalm xix. 5.

construction, and emblematic of sublimer moral truths. By these, he learns to reduce rude matter into due form, and rude manners into the more polished shape of moral and religious rectitude; becoming thereby a more harmonious corner-stone of symmetry, in the structure of human society, until he is made a glorified corner-stone in the Temple of God, *made without bands, eternal in the Heavens*. Here he learns to apply the SQUARE of Justice to all his actions; the LEVEL of Humility and Benevolence to all his Brother Men; and by the PLUMB LINE of Fortitude, to support himself through all the dangers and difficulties of this, our fallen, feeble, state. Here, instead of the *casual* Lodge as before, like the vagrant tabernacle in the wilderness, he first becomes acquainted with the construction of the glorious Temple of King Solomon, whose magnificent proportions were dictated by the oracular instruction of God, and are figurative of celestial perfection.

The THIRD DEGREE brings the Masonic enquirer into a state representing the meridian light of the last and fullest revelation, from Heaven to man upon earth, by the eternal *Son of God*; through whose resurrection and ascension, he is raised from darkness and death to the certainty of life and immortality.

Such is the Masonic œconomy. Such are the outlines of that system, which is justly compared to an *equilateral triangle*, the perfect emblem of universal harmony, and the sublimest symbol of the incomprehensible Deity; whose radiant throne may we all hereafter encircle with songs and choral hallelujahs for evermore!

Amen, so MOTE it be!*

* Our worthy and ingenious brother Watson will, we trust, perceive the propriety of the deletions, which we have made in this address. The Masonic veil is sacred; and we dare not go beyond the prescribed bounds which the laws of the institution have so wisely fixed.

EDITOR.

EXTRACTS

FROM THE
MEMOIRS OF THE LIFE AND WRITINGS OF
EDWARD GIBBON, ESQ.

COMPOSED BY HIMSELF.

JUST PUBLISHED
BY JOHN LORD SHEFFIELD.

THE memoirs of the life and writings of the historian of the Roman Empire, written by himself, and confided to his friend Lord Sheffield, have just made their appearance, in two volumes 4to; and in a manner that is highly creditable to the care and talents of the learned editor. It appears from his Lordship's preface, that these memoirs are arranged from different journals and papers of Mr. Gibbon; but that they are always given in his own *exact* words. It is to be regretted that he did not continue his memoirs farther than to within twenty years of his death. This loss, however, has been in part supplied, by the publication of his epistolary correspondence with his most intimate friends, which is added in an Appendix; and which is, perhaps, the best picture of the real character and manners of its author:

“ ————— Omnis
“ ————— pateat veluti descripta Tabella
“ Vita Senis:”

Hon:

From his letters we are enabled to collect a great deal of the life and opinions of a man, whose works have given new dignity to the English language; and whose speculative tenets may not appear very objectionable, when the malevolence of some shall have ceased to misrepresent, and the prejudices of others to misconceive them.

Every memoir of so great a writer must be entertaining: we shall therefore extract, for our readers, such parts as appear to us particularly interesting; referring them to the work itself for more copious information.

Mr. Gibbon introduces the memoirs with a short introduction, which we extract in his own words:

“ In the fifty-second year of my age, after the completion of an arduous and successful work, I now propose to employ some moments of my leisure in reviewing the simple transactions of a private and literary life. Truth, naked, unblushing truth, the first virtue of more serious history, must be the sole recommendation of this

personal narrative. The style shall be simple and familiar: but style is the image of character; and the habits of correct writing may produce, without labour or design, the appearance of art and study. My own amusement is my motive, and will be my reward: and if these sheets are communicated to some discreet and indulgent friends, they will be secreted from the public eye till the author shall be removed beyond the reach of criticism or ridicule."

His reflections on the dignity of birth and hereditary descent, are not only elegantly written, but highly creditable to his heart and judgment.

"Wherever the distinction of birth is allowed to form a superior order in the state, education and example should always, and will often, produce among them a dignity of sentiment and propriety of conduct, which is guarded from dishonour by their own and the public esteem. If we read of some illustrious line so antient that it has no beginning, so worthy that it ought to have no end, we sympathize in its various fortunes; nor can we blame the generous enthusiasm, or even the harmless vanity, of those who are allied to the honours of its name. For my own part, could I draw my pedigree from a general, a statesman, or a celebrated author, I should study their lives with the diligence of filial love. In the investigation of past events, our curiosity is stimulated by the immediate or indirect reference to ourselves; but in the estimate of honour, we should learn to value the gifts of Nature above those of Fortune; to esteem in our ancestors the qualities that best promote the interests of society; and to pronounce the descendant of a king less truly noble than the offspring of a man of genius, whose writings will instruct or delight the latest posterity. The family of Confucius is, in my opinion, the most illustrious in the world. After a painful ascent of eight or ten centuries, our barons and princes of Europe are lost in the darkness of the middle ages; but, in the vast equality of the empire of China, the posterity of Confucius have maintained, above two thousand two hundred years, their peaceful honours and perpetual succession. The chief of the family is still revered, by the sovereign and the people, as the lively image of the wisest of mankind. The nobility of the Spencers has been illustrated and enriched by the trophies of Marlborough; but I exhort them to consider the *Fairy Queen* as the most precious jewel of their coronet. I have exposed my private feelings, as I shall always do, without scruple or reserve. That these sentiments are just, or at least natural, I am inclined to believe, since I do not feel myself interested in the cause: for I can derive from my ancestors neither glory nor shame."

After a long account of his family, our author proceeds to state the time of his birth, &c.

"I was born at Putney, in the county of Surry, the 27th of April, O. S. in the year one thousand seven hundred and thirty-seven; the first child of the marriage of Edward Gibbon, esq. and of Judith

Porten*. My lot might have been that of a slave, a savage, or a peasant; nor can I reflect without pleasure on the bounty of Nature, which cast my birth in a free and civilized country, in an age of science and philosophy, in a family of honourable rank, and decently endowed with the gifts of fortune. From my birth I have enjoyed the right of primogeniture; but I was succeeded by five brothers and one sister, all of whom were snatched away in their infancy. My five brothers, whose names may be found in the parish register of Putney, I shall not pretend to lament; but from my childhood to the present hour I have deeply and sincerely regretted my sister, whose life was somewhat prolonged, and whom I remember to have seen an amiable infant. The relation of a brother and a sister, especially if they do not marry, appears to me of a very singular nature. It is a familiar and tender friendship with a female, much about our own age; an affection perhaps softened by the secret influence of sex, but pure from any mixture of sensual desire, the sole species of Platonic love that can be indulged with truth, and without danger."

The account of Mr. Gibbon's progress in knowledge, and the circumstances that led him to the study of history, are curious and entertaining.

"The curiosity, which had been implanted in my infant mind, was still alive and active; but my reason was not sufficiently informed to understand the value, or to lament the loss, of three precious years, from my entrance at Westminster to my admission at Oxford. Instead of repining at my long and frequent confinement to the chamber or the couch, I secretly rejoiced in those infirmities, which delivered me from the exercises of the school, and the society of my equals. As often as I was tolerably exempt from danger and pain, reading, free desultory reading, was the employment and comfort of my solitary hours. At Westminster, my aunt sought only to amuse and indulge me; in my stations at Bath and Winchester, at Buriton and Putney, a false compassion respected my sufferings; and I was allowed, without controul or advice, to gratify the wanderings of an unripe taste. My indiscriminate appetite subsided by degrees in the *historic* line: and since philosophy has exploded all innate ideas and natural propensities, I must ascribe this choice to the assiduous perusal of the *Universal History*, as the octavo volumes successively appeared. This unequal work, and a treatise of Hearne, the *Ductor historicus*, referred and introduced me to the Greek and Roman his-

* The union to which I owe my birth was a marriage of inclination and esteem. Mr. James Porten, a merchant of London, resided with his family at Putney, in a house adjoining to the bridge and church-yard, where I have passed many happy hours of my childhood. He left one son (the late Sir Stanier Porten) and three daughters: Catherine, who preserved her maiden name, and of whom I shall hereafter speak; another daughter married Mr. Darrel of Richmond, and left two sons, Edward and Robert; the youngest of the three sisters was Judith, my mother.

torians, to as many at least as were accessible to an English reader. All that I could find were greedily devoured, from *Littlebury's* lame Herodotus, and *Spelman's* valuable Xenophon, to the pompous folios of *Gordon's Tacitus*, and a ragged Procopius of the beginning of the last century. The cheap acquisition of so much knowledge confirmed my dislike to the study of languages; and I argued with *Mrs. Porten*, that, were I master of Greek and Latin, I must interpret to myself in English the thoughts of the original, and that such extemporary versions must be inferior to the elaborate translations of professed scholars; a silly sophism, which could not easily be confuted by a person ignorant of any other language than her own. From the ancient I leaped to the modern world: many crude lumps of *Speed*, *Rapin*, *Mezeray*, *Davila*, *Machiavel*, *Father Paul*, *Bower*, &c. I devoured like so many novels; and I swallowed with the same voracious appetite the descriptions of *India* and *China*, of *Mexico* and *Peru*.

“My first introduction to the historic scenes, which have since engaged so many years of my life, must be ascribed to an accident. In the summer of 1751, I accompanied my father on a visit to *Mr. Hoare's*, in *Wiltshire*; but I was less delighted with the beauties of *Stourhead*, than with discovering in the library a common book, the *Continuation of Echard's Roman History*, which is indeed executed with more skill and taste than the previous work. To me the reigns of the successors of *Constantine* were absolutely new; and I was immersed in the passage of the *Goths* over the *Danube*, when the summons of the dinner-bell reluctantly dragged me from my intellectual feast. This transient glance served rather to irritate than to appease my curiosity; and as soon as I returned to *Bath*, I procured the second and third volumes of *Howel's History of the World*, which exhibit the *Byzantine period* on a larger scale. *Mahomet* and his *Saracens* soon fixed my attention; and some instinct of criticism directed me to the genuine sources. *Simon Ockley*, an original in every sense, first opened my eyes; and I was led from one book to another, till I had ranged round the circle of *Oriental history*. Before I was sixteen, I had exhausted all that could be learned in *English* of the *Arabs* and *Persians*, the *Tartars* and *Turks*; and the same ardour urged me to guess at the *French* of *D'Herbelot*, and to construe the barbarous *Latin* of *Pocock's Abulfaragius*. Such vague and multifarious reading could not teach me to think, to write, or to act; and the only principle, that darted a ray of light into the indigested chaos, was an early and rational application to the order of time and place. The maps of *Cellarius* and *Wells* imprinted in my mind the picture of ancient geography; from *Stranchius* I imbibed the elements of chronology; the *Tables of Helvicus* and *Anderson*, the *Annals of Usher* and *Prideaux*, distinguished the connection of events, and engraved the multitude of names and dates in a clear and indelible series. But in the discussion of the first ages, I overleaped the bounds of modesty and use. In my childish balance I presumed

to weigh the systems of Scaliger and Petavius, of Marsham and Newton, which I could seldom study in the originals; and my sleep has been disturbed by the difficulty of reconciling the Septuagint with the Hebrew computation. I arrived at Oxford with a stock of erudition, that might have puzzled a doctor, and a degree of ignorance, of which a school-boy would have been ashamed."

At fifteen years of age, our author went to Magdalen College, Oxford; where he continued only fourteen months, being forced to quit it on account of his conversion to Popery. His strictures on the conduct and discipline of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, are very severe; and we are sorry to add, in some instances, too true.

"Perhaps in a separate annotation I may coolly examine the fabulous and real antiquities of our sister universities, a question which has kindled such fierce and foolish disputes among their fanatic sons. In the mean while it will be acknowledged, that these venerable bodies are sufficiently old to partake of all the prejudices and infirmities of age. The schools of Oxford and Cambridge were founded in a dark age of false and barbarous science; and they are still tainted with the vices of their origin. Their primitive discipline was adapted to the education of priests and monks; and the government still remains in the hands of the clergy, an order of men whose manners are remote from the present world, and whose eyes are dazzled by the light of philosophy. The legal incorporation of these societies, by the charters of popes and kings, had given them a monopoly of the public instruction; and the spirit of monopolists is narrow, lazy, and oppressive: their work is more costly and less productive than that of independent artists; and the new improvements, so eagerly grasped by the competition of freedom, are admitted with slow and sullen reluctance in those proud corporations, above the fear of a rival, and below the confession of an error. We may scarcely hope that any reformation will be a voluntary act; and so deeply are they rooted in law and prejudice, that even the omnipotence of parliament would shrink from an inquiry into the state and abuses of the two universities."

Mr. Gibbon is very successful in the vindication of his character from that inconstancy, which has been charged upon it by his enemies, in his early conversion to the Church of Rome: for when he abjured the "errors of heresy," he could not be more than sixteen years old: a period when the human mind is very liable to error in religious matters.

"For my own part (says he) I am proud of an honest sacrifice of interest to conscience. I can never blush, if my tender mind was entangled in the sophistry that seduced the acute and manly understandings of CHILLINGWORTH and BAYLE, who afterwards emerged from superstition to scepticism."

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

SKETCHES
OF THE
MANNERS AND CUSTOMS OF THE
NORTH-AMERICAN INDIANS.

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

IN the year 1769, the Hudson's Bay Company, induced by several specimens of copper brought by the Indians to their settlements, which were said to be found on the banks of a great river to the northward, determined to explore the country, with a view to ascertain whether any commercial advantages could be reaped from a more accurate knowledge of the places from which these specimens were brought. Mr. Hearne, an enterprising and intelligent man in the company's service, was fixed on to conduct the expedition, and after innumerable hardships in two unsuccessful attempts, succeeded in ascertaining the position of the mouth of the great Copper Mine River, which he supposes to open itself into the Northern Ocean, and is situated in about lat. 71° . The country through which he travelled was, before then, very little known to Europeans; and of course his descriptions of the manners of the different Indians are original and entertaining. In consideration of his services in these expeditions, Mr. Hearne was appointed Governor of Prince of Wales's Fort in 1775; and this may account for these travels not being published before.

METHOD OF SETTING A NET WHEN THE RIVERS ARE FROZEN.

"To set a net under the ice, it is first necessary to ascertain its exact length, by stretching it out upon the ice near the part proposed for setting it. This being done, a number of round holes are cut in the ice, at ten or twelve feet distance from each other, and as many in number as will be sufficient to stretch the net at its full length. A line is then passed under the ice, by means of a long light pole, which is first introduced at one of the end holes, and, by means of two wedged sticks, this pole is easily conducted, or passed from one hole to another, under the ice, till it arrives at the last. The pole is then taken out, and both ends of the line being properly secured, is always ready for use. The net is made fast to one end of the line by one person, and hauled under the ice by a second; a large stone is tied to each of the lower corners, which serves to keep the net expanded, and prevents its rising from the bottom with every waft of the current. The Europeans settled in Hudson's Bay proceed much in the same manner, though they in general take much more pains; but the above method is found quite sufficient by the Indians.

“ In order to search a net thus set, the two end holes only are opened ; the line is veered away by one person, and the net hauled from under the ice by another ; after all the fish are taken out, the net is easily hauled back to its former station, and there secured as before.”

METHOD OF PITCHING TENTS AMONG THE SOUTHERN INDIANS.

“ To pitch an Indian's tent in winter, it is first necessary to search for a level piece of dry ground ; which cannot be ascertained but by thrusting a stick through the snow down to the ground, all over the proposed part. When a convenient spot is found, the snow is then cleared away in a circular form to the very moss ; and when it is proposed to remain more than a night or two in one place, the moss is also cut up and removed, as it is very liable when dry to take fire, and occasion much trouble to the inhabitants. A quantity of poles are then procured, which are generally proportioned both in number and length to the size of the tent cloth, and the number of persons it is intended to contain. If one of the poles should not happen to be forked, two of them are tied together near the top, then raised erect, and their butts or lower ends extended as wide as the proposed diameter of the tent ; the other poles are then set round at equal distances from each other, and in such order, that their lower ends form a complete circle, which gives boundaries to the tent on all sides : the tent cloth is then fastened to a light pole, which is always raised up and put round the poles from the weather side, so that the two edges that lap over and form the door are always to leeward. It must be understood that this method is only in use when the Indians are moving from place to place every day ; for when they intend to continue any time in one place, they always make the door of their tent to face the south.

“ The tent cloth is usually of thin Moose leather, dressed and made by the Indians, and in shape it nearly resembles a fan-mount inverted ; so that when the largest curve incloses the bottom of the poles, the smaller one is always sufficient to cover the top ; except a hole, which is designedly left open to serve the double purpose of chimney and window.

“ The fire is always made on the ground in the center, and the remainder of the floor, or bottom of the tent, is covered all over with small branches of the pine tree, which serve both for seats and beds. A quantity of pine tops and branches are laid round the bottom of the poles on the outside, over which the eyes of the tent is staked down ; a quantity of snow is then packed over all, which excludes great part of the external air, and contributes greatly to the warmth within. The tent here described is such as is made use of by the Southern Indians, and the same with which I was furnished at the factory : for that made use of by the Northern Indians is made of different materials, and is of a quite different shape, as shall be described hereafter.”

It has been a general complaint among travellers, who have viewed the manners of men in savage life, that they are always rapacious, unless restrained either by fear, or the dread of their superiors. This complaint is made by Mr. Hearne of the Indians he met with; nor can it be wondered at: the North American savage, wandering at will, and depending for his existence on what nature spontaneously produces, is in the constant habit of applying to his use whatever he finds. And this habit, unrestrained by civil obligation, leads him to think, that in the state of society in which he lives, the *want* of any article constitutes a *right* to it. It appears also, that they are as anxious to plunder each other as they are to plunder Europeans.

RAPACITY OF THE NORTHERN INDIANS.

“ The day after I had the misfortune to break the quadrant, several Indians joined me from the northward, some of whom plundered me and my companions of almost every useful article we had, among which was my gun; and notwithstanding we were then on the point of returning to the factory, yet, as one of my companions' guns was a little out of order, the loss was likely to be severely felt; but it not being in my power to recover it again, we were obliged to rest contented.

“ Nothing can exceed the cool deliberation of these villains; a committee of them entered my tent*. The ringleader seated himself on my left hand. They first begged me to lend them my skipertogan, † to fill a pipe of tobacco. After smoking two or three pipes, they asked me for several articles which I had not, and among others for a pack of cards; but on my answering them, that I had not any of the articles they mentioned, one of them put his hand on my baggage, and asked if it was mine. Before I could answer in the affirmative, he and the rest of his companions (six in number) had all my treasure spread on the ground. One took one thing, and another another, till at last nothing was left but the empty bag, which they permitted me to keep. At length, considering that, though I was going to the Factory, I should want a knife to cut my victuals, an awl to mend my shoes, and a needle to mend my other clothing, they readily gave me these articles, though not without making me understand, that I ought to look upon it as a great favour. Finding them possessed of so much generosity, I ventured to solicit them for my razors; but thinking that one would be sufficient to shave me during my passage home, they made no scruple to keep the other; luckily they chose the worst. To complete their generosity, they

* This only consisted of three walking sticks stuck into the ground, and a blanket thrown over them.

† Skipertogan is a small bag that contains a flint and steel, also a pipe and tobacco, as well as touchwood, &c. for making a fire. Some of these bags may be called truly elegant; being richly ornamented with beads, porcupine-quills, morse-hair, &c. a work always performed by the women; and they are, with much propriety, greatly esteemed by most Europeans for the neatness of their workmanship.

permitted me to take as much soap, as I thought would be sufficient to wash and shave me, during the remainder of my journey to the Factory.

“ They were more cautious in plundering the Southern Indians, as the relation of such outrages being committed on them might occasion a war between the two nations; but they had nothing of that kind to dread from the English. However, the Northern Indians had address enough to talk my home-guard Indians out of all they had: so that before we left them, they were as clean swept as myself, excepting their guns, some ammunition, an old hatchet, an ice-chissel, and a file to sharpen them.

“ It may probably be thought strange that my guide, who was a Northern Indian, should permit his countrymen to commit such outrages on those under his charge; but being a man of little note, he was so far from being able to protect us, that he was obliged to submit to nearly the same outrage himself. On this occasion, he assumed a great air of generosity; but the fact was, he gave freely, what it was not in his power to protect.”

Many writers have observed, that it is only the refinement of civilized society that can induce mankind to treat females with that tenderness and respect, with which they are treated in the states of modern Europe. Among the Northern Indians, however, they appear to be treated with greater indifference, not to say cruelty, than among any other people under Heaven. The following anecdote of Matonabee, one of their chiefs, is a striking proof of this:

TREATMENT OF WOMEN.

“ He attributed all our misfortunes to the misconduct of my guides; and the very plan we pursued, by the desire of the Governor, in not taking any women with us on this journey, was, he said, the principal thing that occasioned all our wants: ‘ for,’ said he, ‘ when all the men are heavy laden, they can neither hunt nor travel to any considerable distance; and in case they meet with success in hunting, who is to carry the produce of their labour? Women,’ added he, ‘ were made for labour; one of them can carry, or haul, as much as two men can do. They also pitch our tents, make and mend our clothing, keep us warm at night, and, in fact, there is no such thing as travelling any considerable distance, or for any length of time, in this country, without their assistance.’ ‘ Women,’ said he again, ‘ though they do every thing, are maintained at a trifling expence: for as they always stand cook, the very licking of their fingers, in scarce times, is sufficient for their subsistence.’ This, however odd it may appear, is but a too true description of the situation of women in this country; it is at least so in appearance: for the women always carry the provisions, and it is more than probable they help themselves, when the men are not present.”

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

CHARACTERS

OF

CHILLINGWORTH AND BAYLE.

TO contemplate the characters of great men, is, perhaps, one of the most important amusements we can be engaged in: since it is only by forming a proper estimate of the conduct of others, that we can learn to regulate our own. But the picture becomes doubly interesting, when it is drawn by the pencil of a great master. Mr. Gibbon has given the following sketches of the characters of two of the greatest men of their times.

CHILLINGWORTH.

While Charles the First governed England, and was himself governed by a catholic queen, it cannot be denied that the missionaries of Rome laboured with impunity and success in the court, the country, and even the universities. One of the sheep,

—Whom the grim wolf with privy paw
Daily devours apace, and nothing said,

is Mr. William Chillingworth, Master of Arts, and Fellow of Trinity College, Oxford; who, at the ripe age of twenty-eight years, was persuaded to elope from Oxford to the English seminary at Douay in Flanders. Some disputes with Fisher, a subtle jesuit, might first awaken him from the prejudices of education; but he yielded to his own victorious argument, "that there must be some where an infallible judge; and that the church of Rome is the only Christian society, which either does or can pretend to that character." After a short trial of a few months, Mr. Chillingworth was again tormented by religious scruples; he returned home, resumed his studies, unravelled his mistakes, and delivered his mind from the yoke of authority and superstition. His new creed was built on the principle, that the Bible is our sole judge, and private reason our sole interpreter; and he ably maintains this principle in the 'Religion of a Protestant;' a book which, after startling the doctors of Oxford, is still esteemed the most solid defence of the Reformation. The learning, the virtue, the recent merits of the author, entitled him to fair preferment; but the slave had now broken his fetters; and the more he weighed, the less was he disposed to subscribe to the thirty-nine articles of the church of England. In a private letter he declares, with all the energy of language, that he could not subscribe to them without subscribing to his own damnation; and that if ever he should depart from this immovable resolution, he would allow his friends to think him a madman, or an atheist. As the letter is without a date, we cannot ascertain the number of weeks or months that elapsed between this passionate ab-

horrence and the Salisbury Register, which is still extant. "Ego " Gulielmus Chillingworthi, omnibus hisce articulis, " et singulis in iisdem contentis volens, et ex animo subscribo, et " consensum meum iisdem præbeo. 20 die Julii 1638." But, alas! the chancellor and prebendary of Sarum soon deviated from his own subscription: as he more deeply scrutinized the article of the Trinity, neither scripture nor the primitive fathers could long uphold his orthodox belief; and he could not but confess, "that the doctrine of " Arius is either a truth, or at least no damnable heresy." From this middle region of the air, the descent of his reason would naturally rest on the firmer ground of the Socinians; and if we may credit a doubtful story, and the popular opinion, his anxious inquiries at last subsided in philosophic indifference. So conspicuous, however, were the candour of his nature and the innocence of his heart, that this apparent levity did not affect the reputation of Chillingworth. His frequent changes proceeded from too nice an inquisition into truth. His doubts grew out of himself; he assisted them with all the strength of his reason; he was then too hard for himself; but finding as little quiet and repose in those victories, he quickly recovered, by a new appeal to his own judgment: so that in all his sallies and retreats, he was in fact his own convert.

BAYLE.

Bayle was the son of a Calvinist minister, in a remote province of France, at the foot of the Pyrenees. For the benefit of education, the protestants were tempted to risk their children in the catholic universities; and in the twenty-second year of his age, young Bayle was seduced by the arts and arguments of the jesuits of Thoulouse. He remained about seventeen months (19th March 1669—19th August 1670), in their hands, a voluntary captive; and a letter to his parents, which the new convert composed or subscribed (15th April 1670), is darkly tinged with the spirit of popery. But Nature had designed him to think as he pleased, and to speak as he thought: his piety was offended by the excessive worship of creatures; and the study of physics convinced him of the impossibility of transubstantiation, which is abundantly refuted by the testimony of our senses. His return to the communion of a falling sect was a bold and disinterested step, that exposed him to the rigour of the laws; and a speedy flight to Geneva protected him from the resentment of his spiritual tyrants, unconscions as they were of the full value of the prize, which they had lost. Had Bayle adhered to the catholic church, had he embraced the ecclesiastical profession, the genius and favour of such a proselyte might have aspired to wealth and honours in his native country; but the hypocrite would have found less happiness in the comforts of a benefice, or the dignity of a mitre, than he enjoyed at Rotterdam in a private state of exile, indigence, and freedom. Without a country, or a patron, or a prejudice, he claimed the liberty, and subsisted by the labours of his pen. The inequality of his voluminous works is explained and excused by his alternately

writing for himself, for the booksellers, and for posterity; and if a severe critic would reduce him to a single folio, that relic, like the books of the Sybil, would become still more valuable. A calm and lofty spectator of the religious tempest, the philosopher of Rotterdam condemned, with equal firmness, the persecution of Lewis the Fourteenth, and the republican maxims of the Calvinists; their vain prophecies, and the intolerant bigotry which sometimes vexed his solitary retreat. In reviewing the controversies of the times, he turned against each other the arguments of the disputants; successively wielding the arms of the catholics and protestants, he proves that neither the way of authority, nor the way of examination, can afford the multitude any test of religious truth; and dextrously concludes that custom and education must be the sole grounds of popular belief. The ancient paradox of Plutarch, that atheism is less pernicious than superstition, acquires a tenfold vigour, when it is adorned with the colours of his wit, and pointed with the acuteness of his logic. His critical dictionary is a vast repository of facts and opinions; and he balances the *false* religions in his sceptical scales, till the opposite quantities (if I may use the language of algebra) annihilate each other. The wonderful power which he so boldly exercised, of assembling doubts and objections, had tempted him jocosely to assume the title of the *νεφεληγερετα Ζευς*, the cloud compelling Jove; and in a conversation with the ingenious Abbé (afterwards Cardinal) de Polignac, he freely disclosed his universal Pyrrhonism. "I am most truly (said Bayle) a protestant: for I protest indifferently against all systems and all sects".

SCENE IN THE ALPS.

Perhaps the circumference of the whole terraqueous globe does not present a scene more sublime and magnificent, than what is exhibited to us in the following extract from Mrs. Piozzi's "*Observations in a Journey through France, &c.*"

"IN these prospects, colouring is carried to its utmost point of perfection, particularly at the time I found it, variegated with golden touches of autumnal tints; immense cascades mean time bursting from naked mountains on the one side; cultivated fields, rich with vineyards, on the other, and tufted with elegant shrubs that invite one to pluck and carry them away to where they would be treated with much more respect. Little towns sticking in the clefts, where one would imagine it was impossible to clamber; light clouds often sailing under the feet of the high-perched inhabitants, while the sound of a deep and rapid, though narrow, river, dashing with violence among the insolently impending rocks at the bottom, and bells in thickly scattered spires calling the quiet Savoyards to church upon the steep sides of every hill—fill one's mind with such mutable, such various ideas, as no other place can ever possibly afford."

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS AND REFLECTIONS

MADE IN

A TOUR THROUGH LONDON,

IN DECEMBER 1784.

BY W. HUTTON, OF BIRMINGHAM,

F. S. A. SCO.

CONTINUED FROM P. 179.

GUILD-HALL.

“ I SHOULD be lost,” says the stranger, “ in that vast metropolis.” There is nothing more unlikely. A man among men can scarcely be out of his way. His eye is continually caught with something new. He is ever seeking, and ever finds. If he hungers and thirsts after curiosities, here he may be filled.

Entering Guild-Hall, on the left, they were busy drawing the lottery, and the crowd very attentive. The characteristic of the nation is gambling. I was sorry to see it encouraged by Government. Nothing so much deranges the fortunes and the morals of a people. However, this is, perhaps, the only species, where fraud is not practised. As I am not fond of hazard of any kind, nor had any interest in the wheels, I was no more solicitous about events than the giants before me.

Entering another court, I heard part of the famous trial between Commodore Johnstone and Captain Sutton. On which side right lay, is uncertain; perhaps on neither, or rather, on the lawyers'. The jury, however, seemed conscious of their own weight, and determined to decide as seemed right in *their own* eyes. A practice worthy of imitation.

I then entered a third court, where Lord Loughborough presided. While the counsel were battling each other with keen weapons, his Lordship was attentively perusing a newspaper. I could not refrain from smiling, when I considered he was teaching the world to disregard his dark brethren of the long robe, by setting the example himself. Being master of the subject in dispute, and fixed in his judgment, perhaps he might view the combatants in the light of two animals often beheld in the street, which growl, pull each other down, and seemingly bite, yet meet and part friends.

It is curious to a stranger, who is unbiassed by custom, and often views things as they are, to contemplate the various ways of fighting, by which people become distinguished with particular dresses. Some of these dresses appear of the ludicrous kind.

There are fighting professions, besides that of a soldier, and implements of war, besides the sword. The counsel at Guildhall *seemed* to

take the utmost pleasure in cutting each other up, with that keen weapon, the tongue. The gown and the wig, like the painted bodies of the ancient Britons, seemed designed to strike terror into the enemy. But under the enormous wig, now and then appeared a natural head of hair; so that both the man and his subject appeared in a false dress.

Each of the counsel retains in view, as the result of victory, a singular robe among the Judges, perhaps among the Peers. Before I quit Guild-Hall, I shall take a trip to the Royal College of Greenwich, and the Cathedral of St. Paul, both which happened the next day.

The beautiful palace of Greenwich gives pleasure to the beholder. I attended to the situation, the buildings, the paintings, the dress, the manners, the people, and was pleased with all. I considered its twenty-five hundred inhabitants as an assemblage of men from every part of the British dominions.—That among them were eyes which had surveyed every country on the globe. Seeing one man in a yellow coat with red sleeves, You seem, says I, by the singularity of your dress, to fill some important office in these splendid regions? “No, Sir,” he replied, with the modesty of one whose manners were softened by long service, “the reason of this dress is, I got drunk, and beat my comrade.” And so your dress, then, is the reward of your victory? You have not forgot the art of fighting. You have only changed your weapon, from the sword to the fist. But if you are in a dress of disgrace, why do you not keep within? “They oblige me, as an additional punishment, to appear in public.” Why then you only fare like every one else; they all appear in public, who can dress, like you, in the garment of victory.

The same day I attended divine service at St. Paul's, where the Bishop of L—— preached in a black gown and white sleeves. It immediately occurred to my thoughts, whether his Lordship did not acquire that distinguished dress as the result of conquest, gained by another keen weapon, termed a pen. The stranger, too, would be apt to suppose this black and white dress inferior to that which is all white; or, that two colours, like those at Greenwich, were a degree below one: for a speaker, in white, addressed the Deity, but the Bishop only the people.

I then entered another court in Guild-Hall, which was crowded. I attempted a passage. The bar-keeper prevented me with, “Are you an attorney, Sir?” Something like one. “Come, Sir, I do not know them all.”

Here Lord Mansfield sat as chief; on his right was Lord Rodney, as his friend. I could not forbear contemplating, that I had before me two of the principal characters of the age; one stood at the head of the law, the other of arms; they had both done signal service to their country; that country had heaped favours upon both, and yet was debtor to both.

The practice of the bar is not so much to open, as to complicate a case. He raises his reputation who says the smartest things, not

he who says the truest. But Lord Mansfield, like a superior power, easily perceived the merits of a cause, carefully divided truth from disguise, and never lost sight of equity. I was pleased, when I reflected he had lived to extreme age, because his country had been benefited by it fifty years. But I was sorry he had not fifty to live, that his country might have a benefit to come.

The depredations made upon this great man by Lord George's mob, in 1780, were as much to his honour as any act of his life. The public, in their collective capacity, seldom do wrong; but a capricious mob, conducted by a favourite madman, as seldom do right.

I surveyed this venerable sage more than three hours, during which time he determined about nine causes, and, to my apprehension, as they ought. Perhaps it is not possible to say any thing greater of a judge—than, that his decisions are right. I shall repeat one.

Two Jews, whose names I have forgot, so shall distinguish them by those of plaintiff and defendant, were residents in London, but natives of the same place in Germany. The latter, being in distressed circumstances, applied to the plaintiff for his assistance, to enable him to begin business. Here, says the plaintiff, I will lend you this watch, it is worth fifty shillings; sell it, and buy something more to go on with.

In a few days the defendant applied again. Sir, the watch is too trifling to begin with, I wish you would lend me more goods to sell with it, as one will help the other.

Here are, says the plaintiff, twelve sets of fine buckles, and four sets of finer, worth 18l. Take them, and I wish you success.

In a few days more, the defendant applied for a third assistance. It would be of great service if I had some coarser goods to sell with these, which, for ready money, I could buy very cheap. I find also, it will be dangerous to sell without a licence, and I know where one is to be sold for a trifle.

Then take these six guineas, says the plaintiff, which will accomplish your wish.

The defendant took the money, and immediately ran away to America, where he resided nineteen years.

In the beginning of 1784, he returned to London; and was quickly discovered by the injured plaintiff, who sent his servant, desiring to speak with him.

The defendant replied, "If your master has any thing to say to me, I live at No. 9, in such a place."

The plaintiff sent a second time, "My master says, if you will not pay what you owe him, he will arrest you." "If there is any little matter between your master and me, I am willing to settle it at any time."

The plaintiff hearing no more of his townsman, served him with the copy of a writ for 27l. The defendant gave bail, which brought on the trial I heard.

Long harangues were uttered in this plain case. But the defendant, by counsel, sheltered himself under these subterfuges; the sta-

tute of limitations; the money having never been demanded on one side, nor acknowledged on the other; and if the defendant, said they, allowed any little matter between them, when they came to reckon, the balance might be on the other side.

Lord Mansfield, in a small distinct voice, observed, a balance was not likely to exist on the other side, because it appeared from the trial, that this was the only transaction of property between them. That the plaintiff could not easily demand his money, while the other resided in America. That his acknowledging there might be some little matter between them, was acknowledging the debt, by which the statute of limitations was done away.

Though his Lordship did not express himself upon this statute, it was easy to see he considered it as extremely useful, in preventing litigious, obsolete, and even false claims; but he also considered, that time pays no debts, that every just demand should be satisfied, and that a debt once contracted is a debt till paid.

THE WILLING LADIES.

We are now entering upon the fairest part of the creation; the prospects are beautiful, but the ground is treacherous. As I profess to relate only what I saw, it may fairly be supposed I preserve the same rule in this slippery chapter; and, perchance, may be suspected of falling. But cannot a man describe the course of a river, without descending into the stream? Besides, he who is sheltered under the word *sixty*, may venture himself among any description of the fair sex, without hazard to *their* reputation, or his own. He may retreat without any additional honour to his virtue.

I have already remarked in the introduction, that the curiosity of an object consists in its novelty. We may be surprized to see a man eight feet high; but if we see him every day, the surprize ceases. How often have I beheld astonishment in the face of a stranger, at his first view of Birmingham? such as, perhaps, was mine in London. His features told me, he had never seen its equal. Hence we members of the quill relate trifles to others, which are wonderful to ourselves. But let him view Birmingham for three days, and his astonishment wears off.

The philosophers will tell us, that one half of our species were born for the other, and that human nature is every where nearly the same. This species however, differs widely from habit in different places. The manner in which the two sexes approached each other, in London, surprized me, as being different from what I had ever observed.

Before I had been one hour there, a gentleman remarked, as two ladies were passing along, "They were girls of the town." I replied, "You must be mistaken, they appear ladies of beauty, elegance, and modesty." I could have laughed at his ignorance. But before I had been one day, he had reason, I found, to laugh at mine.

These transitory meteors rise, like the stars, in the evening; are

nearly as numerous; and, like them, shine in their only suit. They hawk their charms to a crowded market, where the purchasers are few.—Many attempts are made for one customer gained. They cling to ones arms like the Lilliputian ships to the girdle of Gulliver.

Some of the finest women I saw in London were of this class. I conversed with many of them.—They could all swear, talk indecently, and drink gin. Most of them assured me, they had not a penny in the world. I considered them as objects of pity more than of punishment; and would gladly have given a trifle to each, but found it could not be done for less than ten thousand shillings.

Of all professions, this seems the most deplorable, and the most industriously pursued. That diligence is exercised to starve in this, which would enable them to live in another.

Many causes tend to furnish the streets of London with evening game; as, being destitute of protection in early years; being trepanned by the artful of our sex, or the more artful of their own; accidental distress, without prospect of relief; disappointment of places, or of love. But the principal cause is idleness. To the generality of the world, ease is preferable to labour. Perhaps it is difficult to produce an instance of a girl, of an industrious turn, going upon the town. It is seldom an act of choice, but of necessity. Inclination seems no part of the excitement. This is much the same as in the rest of women. It is not the man they want, but the money. They suffer what they do not relish, to procure the bread they do. In the connexions between the sexes, the heart is not of the party. Their language, like that of the leech, is, *give*; and like it, they squander their profits and become lean.—Their price is various, but always a little more than they can get.

There is a small degree of delicacy requisite, even in the most abandoned: A female should ever appear in a female character. Charms tendered in the vulgar stile, cease to be charms. We should not see, but guess.

However necessary this degenerate race may be for preventing depredations upon families, in them the order of things seem inverted. The male was designed to be the solicitor, as is practised among every species of animals, the woman to “be woo’d, and not unsought be won;” but by offering her treasures to every beholder, she renders them despicable; which tends to cultivate a monstrous passion in our sex, never designed by nature.

Various degrees of prudence may easily be seen, even among these fallen beauties, by their dress and their manners. But in this profession, prudence does not increase with age; for I could observe, the dress and the wearer grow old together.

Some are elegantly attired, others extremely shewy with trifles; and the use of spirits had burnt holes in the apparel of numbers, which are never repaired by the needle, or a flourishing trade.

A genteel figure, and one of the handsomest women I had ever seen, approached me; a few insignificant remarks opened a conversa-

tion, as is customary with those who have nothing to say, but who understand intentions better than words.

And pray, Madam, what could you do with an old fellow?

"O, my dear Sir, I love an old man better than a young one."

Provided he is better furnished in the pocket. And so you take any thing into your arms, if you can but take the cash in your fingers.

"It is a cold night, and I wish to take you."

But I have no *fire* about me.

"Let me lead you, Sir to my apartments."

Perhaps I shall find one there; or rather, like the Israelites, be led by a pillar of fire.

"Let me drink your health, Sir."

Perhaps you are able to destroy health without drinking.

"Do, Sir, favour me with a glass."

I have not one drop of spirits, or they should be much at your service.

"But you have *that* which will purchase them."

And *that* I will give you with pleasure.

"Shall I see you again?"

If you take a journey to Birmingham.

"Let me go with you, Sir," says a smart young lass, as she laid hold of my arm.

If you please, Madam, and welcome; but really I do not know myself where I am going. I am like some others in this city, only a street-walker.

"I will do any thing to oblige you, Sir."

You are extremely civil, Madam.

"Please to give me something to drink your health."

Take that then; and I wish it may preserve yours. A courtesy divided us for ever.

Whether a man parts with a guinea by his own consent, or another's, his fortune is left the same, but not his mind. The money which is drawn by force, comes with a frown; but that which he gives, with a smile. Hence arises that growing complaint against taxes. These being *charged* upon us, we complain. But I found, as a traveller, through the streets of London, I had accumulated a double tax. The great number of starving beggars in the day-time, and the still greater of civil ladies in the night, taxed me round the day. Had these taxes been forced upon me by Government, they would have sat uneasy; but being created by myself, were borne without a murmur.

It is curious to observe infant nature in her early operations. I was accosted, among others, by a living *Dol*.

And pray, my dear, how long have you opened a commerce with our sex? Her diffidence prevented an answer. Perhaps when you quitted the cradle? What age are you?

"Going of thirteen."

You mean, when you are turned twelve.

She solicited a trifling sum, which was received with thanks, and I left her without one word of advice, and that for two reasons. He who gives advice unasked, is laughed at when he turns his back; and the advice intended was, to apply herself to labour; which she would have rejected with scorn.

Most of the ladies I conversed with were not natives of London; but were a sacrifice to the metropolis, offered by the thirty-nine counties.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

THE STAGE.

BY JOHN TAYLOR, ESQ.

CONCLUDED FROM PAGE 182.

WHEN first the muse prefer'd her humble bay
 To deck the fav'rites of a former day,
 Scarce could she deem an orb would claim her song,
 Form'd to transcend the brightest of the throng.
 At SIDDONS' call, glad she resumes her lays,
 To blend her tribute with the gen'ral praise;
 And though too sure, alas! her feeble strain
 Must, on such matchless pow'rs, essay in vain,
 Yet may the muse, how'er in numbers faint,
 Prove she can feel what she despairs to paint.
 But SIDDONS' name can raise a potent spell,
 And mem'ry with her stores must fondly swell,
 Recall at once her voice, her eye, her mien,
 And all the wonders of the mimic scene;
 Nor dazzled critics heed th' unequal lay,
 Lost in the blaze of recollected day.

Blest with a form for happy sculpture's hand,
 To fix the lines of graceful and of grand;
 A harmony of face, and pow'r of eye,
 To image all that feeling can supply;
 A voice, each change of passion to engage,
 From tend'rest pathos to the wildest rage:
 Soft as the breeze that wantons with the flow'r,
 When on the heart she tries her gentler pow'r;
 Strong as the storm, when fury takes its course,
 And madness strains it to the utmost force;
 Beyond all sense of fiction she can soar,
 And real horrors scarce could whelm us more.

Whether her *Zara's* proud disastrous love,
 Or *Shore's* mild woes, the kindred feelings move—

Whether her genius tempt a bolder flight,
 The frail *Macbeth* to murd'rous deeds incite,
 Terrific spurn at Nature's softest laws,
 Or playful plead misguided *Cassio's* cause ;
 Whether she seeks to make our sorrows flow
 Through unambitious scenes of home-felt woe,
 Where mid the wreck of fortune, fame, and life,
 The *Gamester* leaves his fond, though ruin'd wife ;
 In all, sublime, endearing, or refin'd,
 The great pervading energy is MIND ;
 In all, the passions to her potent art
 By turns resign the subjugated heart.

But though she thus the tragic heights can gain,
 And pour the plaintive or heroic strain,
 With graceful ease the " *learned sock*" she wears—
 Thus *Rosalind* her comic skill declares ;
 Whose sportive elegance can sweetly move
 With happiest charm of gaiety and love.

Oh! thou whose pow'r can sooth or storm the soul,
 With magic touch the fiercest to controul ;
 Who, born the drama's noblest paths to trace,
 Canst e'en to Shakspeare's muse impart new grace,
 Let scandal rave, let sick'ning envy try
 To blast thy laurels, and thy worth decry,
 While 'tis thy noble triumph, only those,
 Sure test of genius, are thy hopeless foes :
 The feeling still thy merit shall attest,
 Give thee fond credit for a kindred breast,
 Swell with thy rage, and with thy anguish mourn,
 As vice shall tow'r, or virtue droop forlorn ;
 And while less graceful plaudits stun thine ear,
 Bestow a nobler meed—the *silent tear*.

To close in order due, our long career,
 See *KEMBLE* march, majestic and severe ;
 Fraught with uncommon pow'rs of form and face,
 He comes the pomp of tragedy to grace.

Fertile in genius, and matur'd by art,
 Not soft to steal, but stern to seize, the heart,
 In mould of figure, and in frame of mind,
 To him th' heroic sphere must be assign'd.

August or daring, he adorns the stage—
 The gloomy subtlety, the savage rage,
 The scornful menace, and the cynic ire,
 The hardy valour, and the patriot fire—
 These shew the vigour of a master's hand,
 And o'er the fancy give him firm command :
 As *Richard*, *Timon*, and *Macbeth* proclaim,
 Or stern *Coriolanus'* nobler aim.

Nor fierce alone, for well his pow'rs can shew
 Calm declamation and attemper'd woe :—
 The virtuous *Duke* who sway awhile declines,
 Yet checks the *Deputy's* abhorr'd designs ;
 And, in the Sov'reign or the saintly guise,
 Benevolently just, and meekly wise :
 The *Dane*, bewailing now a father's fate,
 Now deeply pond'ring man's mysterious state ;
 Tender and dignifi'd, alike are seen—
 The philosophic mind and princely mien.

When merely tender, he appears too cold,
 Or rather fashion'd in too rough a mould ;
 Nor fitted love in softer form to wear,
 But stung with pride, or mad'ning with despair :
 As when the lost *Octavian's** murmurs flow
 In full luxuriance of romantic woe.
 Yet where *Orlando* cheers desponding age,
 Or the sweet wiles of *Rosalind* engage,
 We own, that manly graces finely blend
 The tender lover, and the soothing friend.

Though nature was so prodigally kind
 In the bold lineaments of form and mind,
 As if to check a fond excess of pride,
 The pow'rs of voice she scantily supply'd :
 Oft, when the hurricanes of passion rise,
 For correspondent tones he vainly tries ;
 To aid the storm, no tow'ring note combines,
 And the spent breath th' unequal task declines.
 Yet, spite of nature, he compels us still
 To own the potent triumph of his skill,
 While, with dread pauses, deepen'd accents roll,
 Whose awful energy arrests the soul.

At times, perchance, the spirit of the scene,
 Th' impassion'd accent, and impressive mien,
 May lose their wonted force, while, too refin'd,
 He strives by niceties to strike the mind ;
 For action too precise, inclin'd to pore,
 And labour for a point unknown before ;
 Untimely playing thus the critics part,
 To gain the head, when he should smite the heart.
 Yet still must candour, on reflection, own
 Some useful comment has been shrewdly shewn ;
 Nor here let puny malice vent its gall,
 And texts with skill restor'd, *new readings* † call :
 KEMBLE for actors nobly led the way,
 And prompted them to think as well as play.

* The Mountaineers.

† The *cant term* by which useful researches have been discouraged.

With cultur'd sense, and with experience sage,
 Patient he cons the time-disfigur'd page,
 Hence oft we see him with success explore,
 And clear the dross from rich poetic ore,
 Trace, through the maze of diction, passion's clew,
 And open latent character to view.

Though for the muse of tragedy design'd,
 In form, in features, passions, and in mind,
 Yet would he fain the comic nymph embrace,
 Who seldom without awe beholds his face.
 Whene'er he tries the airy and the gay,
 Judgment, not genius, marks the cold essay;
 But in a graver province he can please
 With well-bred spirit, and with manly ease.
 When genuine wit, with satire's active force,
 And faithful love pursues its gen'rous course,
 Here, in his *Valentine*, might CONGREVE view
 Th' embody'd portrait, vig'rous, warm and true.

Nor let us, with unhallow'd touch, presume
 To pluck one sprig of laurel from the tomb;
 Yet, with due reverence for the mighty dead,
 'Tis just the fame of living worth to spread:
 And could the noblest vet'rans now appear,
 KEMBLE might keep his state, devoid of fear;
 Still, while observant of his proper line,
 With native lustre as a rival shine.

Thus has the muse, in artless numbers, try'd
 The claims of Genius fairly to decide;
 Averse to censure, anxious to commend,
 And to the moral stage a zealous friend.

If the known merits of the scenic band
 Demand the tribute of a nobler hand,
 Yet may she boast, nor partial nor severe,
 Her strains the dictates of a mind sincere;
 And should the ventrous boast be deem'd too high,
 That all is seen with an impartial eye,
 The muse at least can feel with honest pride,
 Her bias must be charg'd on candour's side.

ON

THE RETURN OF SPRING.

Solvitur acris hiems grata vice veris et Favoni.

Hon.

THERE are scarcely any, endowed with the least possible degree of sensibility, but feel the heart unusually dilated upon the return of Spring. The revival of nature, and the renovation of those delightful scenes, which the rude hand of winter had concealed under one dreary uniform of devastation, present a prospect pleasing to every eye and gladdening to every heart. The daisied lawn, the budding hawthorn, the reviving grove, the carol of birds from every tree, and the bleat of lambs in the neighbouring pastures, excite in the mind most pleasing sensations, and tune every chord to harmony and love. The effect which the return of this genial season produces, is visible in every part of animated nature, which seems to receive a new and unusual vigour from its kindly influence. The powers of the human mind likewise, which appear to have been rendered torpid by the cheerless aspect of winter, acquire a considerable expansion, and the many poetical effusions which this "youth of the year" has excited, sufficiently indicate that it has a particular power of quickening the activity of the imagination, and strengthening the wing of genius. There has not been a poet whom it has not inspired, not a muse from whom it has not received tribute.

The most pleasing sensation ever felt in the human breast is hope. Scarcely any one after the raptures of enjoyment, can say that possession ever gave him the delicious satisfaction he has experienced in listening to the secret suggestions of this sweet enchantress. It seems to be owing to some reason like this, that the early promise of Spring, gives more pleasure than the maturity of Summer, or the fruits of Autumn. The mind has still something left to wish and to hope for, some new and untried enjoyment in reversion. Every morning some new blossom is expanded, some new object grows up, and the eye and the understanding are gratified with perpetual variety.

When Heaven and earth, as if contending, vie
To raise *man's* being and serene his soul;
Can he forbear to join the general smile
Of nature? Can fierce passions vex his breast,
While every gale is peace, and every grove
Is melody?

THOMSON.

It must be a matter of surprize to every feeling mind, that while all around nature smiles delighted, man can yet seem untouched by the genial influence, and with a heart filled with projects of vengeance, he can whet his sword against his brother man. That while

every gale breathes fragrance, and every prospect excites benevolence, contending armies are preparing the engines of destruction, and only wait the dreadful signal to "cry havoc and let loose the dogs of war." That the kind season which diffuses happiness to every part of animated nature besides, should bring to man alarm, and apprehension, devastation, and distress. There is surely some strange perverseness and depravity in mankind, that thus disposes it to run counter to the great order of Nature, and to act so contrary to those principles, which from their being supposed peculiar to the human heart, are called the principles of humanity.

Perhaps it would be presuming to penetrate too far into the counsels of Providence, to examine whether wars do not form part of its secret system, or are necessary to the œconomy of the world; certain it is, that the history of the world is nothing more than the history of wars by which it has been agitated. The triumph, or downfall of ambition, the alternate successes and mutual ravages of contending armies, the rise and decadence of empire, factions, cabals, intrigues, and insurrections, form the principal subjects that engage the pen of the historian, while the sterile years of peace are passed over in oblivious silence, as affording no subject of entertainment, no agreeable narrative to engage the attention of posterity. Those happy years, in which it may reasonably be presumed that every useful heart, contributing to the advantage or embellishment of social life, was cultivated with industry, are left unrecorded, as not worthy of remembrance. Those halcyon days, when every man might "sit under his own vine, and under his own fig tree," and enjoy the fruits of his labour unmolested, when not a cloud was seen on any face, or anxiety felt in any heart, are hurried over as barren wastes, where a dreary uniformity of prospect fatigues and disgusts the eye of the traveller.

The turbulent passions and restless activity of ambition, can find no satisfactory employment in the enervating calm of peace, it must for its own peculiar gratification shake off the inglorious languor, and to find for its sword matter of argument embroil a world. But it is almost always the fate of this passion, that the wars it excites, seldom produce any substantial advantages, and setting aside the false glory of destroying thousands of our fellow creatures, and laying towns in ashes, the contending parties usually sit down exhausted just where they begun.

It is not unlikely that if this vicissitude which we observe continually to take place in the universe, was to be suspended, much of that pleasure which arises from variety must be annihilated. We might be brought by the constant recurrence of the same blessings, to regard with listless indifference, what we should embrace with rapture, after passing through difficulty and danger to obtain. The mariner who has been tempest-tost on a boisterous ocean, enters with more joy into his destined harbour, than he who has been wafted over a calm sea by favourable gales. Contrasted with the horrors of war, we certainly must estimate more highly the blessings of

peace, and taste with more exquisite transport the joys it brings, as the rudeness of the storm causes the ivy to cling more closely to its supporting oak, and as the return of Spring is more gladly welcome, after the dreary and desolating reign of Winter.

Bridlington.

LXS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE.

MR. EDITOR,

The following very singular and pathetic Anecdote was found among the papers of an Officer, lately deceased, who served in America during the contest between Great Britain and her Colonies, and was an eye-witness of part of the fact related. I have not the smallest doubt that it is literally true; and if you think it deserving a place in your valuable and entertaining miscellany, it is very much at your service.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.

L. M.

Islington, April 13, 1796.

IN the confusion while part of the town of Charlestown was in flames, a Scotch soldier, belonging to the regulars, forced his way into one of the houses, where he found in one of the rooms a woman just coming out with her daughter, about five years old, in her hand, to go to her husband's chamber, where he was confined by illness, to assist him in his escape. The mother on her knees, and the little infant, who following the example of her mother, begged that the soldier would spare their lives, they conceiving he intended to murder them. The screams of the mother and daughter reached the room where the husband lay, and though he had been confined for a long time to his bed, he leaped up, and with a drawn sword in his hand, rushed into the apartment which was the scene of distress, and instantly run the soldier through the body; who, though mortally wounded, had just time to turn about to see from whom he received this condign punishment; when, to his astonishment and confusion, he discovered the person to be his brother, and died. The unfortunate husband had but just time to see his wife lying in a fit, his child running about in a frenzy, and his brother lying dead at his feet; and having cried out, "I have killed my brother!" fell down and died also. The nurse, who had followed her master, had just heard his last words, when she perceived the house in a flame, and running forth, in hopes to get assistance to save this unfortunate family, had just got out of the house, when the roof, which had first taken fire, fell. It was some days before the nurse recovered her recollection, sufficiently to give any account of this fatal event, but it was afterwards discovered, that the unfortunate husband had left Scotland seven years before, and gone to settle in New England, where he shortly after married much to his advantage, and soon after went to settle at Charlestown, where he lived with great credit, and in domestic happiness, till the day of that general confusion.

THE
VANITY OF FAME.

[From the French of M. de VOLTAIRE.]

IN the year 1723, at the Hague, I accidentally fell into the company of a Chinese, who, to a perfect knowledge in trade, joined great learning, and an extensive skill in science, two points, which though they may seem inconsistent to an European taste, are no way incompatible in themselves. If we are wrong in this respect, we may thank the prevailing sway which money has obtained, and the little regard that merit is ever likely to find amongst our politer part of the world.

This Stranger, who spoke the Dutch tolerably, came into a Bookseller's shop, where several men of Letters happened to be. He asked for a book, and was presented with Mr. Bossuet's *Universal History*, but indifferently translated.—At so promising a title, the Chinese seem'd quite overjoyed.—I am too happy (he cried) I shall see what notions you have here, of our vast empire, of a nation that has subsisted as such for fifty thousand years, under a continued succession of Princes. I shall learn your sentiments of our religion, our sciences and learned men, and of that pure worship we offer to the supreme Being. With what pleasure shall I read your account of our arts, many of which are older with us, than most of your monarchies in Europe. I doubt your author is but ill informed of the war we had 22,552 years ago with the warlike people of Tonquin, and the Japaneze, or of the solemn embassy which the powerful emperor of India sent, to desire laws of us in the year of the world 500,000,000,000,791,234,500,000—Alas (interrupted a Gentleman present) your nation is not once mentioned in this book, you make too inconsiderable a figure: The principal subject here is the oldest nation in the world, the chosen people of the Jews.

The Jews! (cried the Chinese)—I suppose then that this nation at least possesses three parts of the globe.—He was answered that indeed they expected it, but at present their chief men were only the principal brokers in this country.—You mistake, surely (replied the Asiatic) have these people, ever had a large empire? I returned that for some ages they had been masters of a small territory; but that the antiquity of a nation was not to be estimated by the extent of a country, no more than the merit of a man by his riches—But (continued the stranger) are there no other people mentioned in this book?—Yes, (answered the virtuoso, who stood by me) you have it in a long account of a country called Egypt, about fourscore leagues in breadth, in which is a lake 150 leagues in compass.—Hold! (interrupted the Chinese smiling) that is good!—all the world in this kingdom was learned—said the virtuoso!

Excellent things! answered the Chinese,—but is that all you have to tell me? No, resumed the European, you next have an account of the celebrated Greeks. Who are these?—The inhabitants of a province about two hundred times less than China (said the other) who have been famous all over the world.—I never (replied the Chinese, with a pleasant air) heard of these people in all my travels, either in India, Japan, or Great Tartary, through most of which countries I have been. Strange ignorance (cried the virtuoso) unaccountable barbarity!—I suppose then you have never heard of Epaminondas the Theban, nor the port of Piræum, you cannot tell the names of Achilles's Horses, nor how the ass of Silenus was called. You know nothing of Jupiter, nor Diogenes, nor Lais, nor Cybele, nor—

I am afraid (answered the philosopher) you are equally unacquainted with our history. I should, I fear, surprize you with the ever memorable accident which happened to the celebrated Xiofu Conco-chi Ganku, and that you are intirely uninstructed in the mysteries of the great Fi-si-hihu. But pray let me know what other strange matters are contained in this Universal History? Upon that, my friend descanted learnedly for near a quarter of an hour on the revolutions of the Roman State, but when he came to mention Julius Cæsar, the Chinese stopped him, saying,—I think I have heard of this man, pray was not he a Turk?

How, (replied his antagonist with some heat) do not you know at least the difference between Pagans, Christians, and Mahometans? Did you never hear of Constantine, and the Popes? We have some confused account, (replied the Chinese) of a person called Mahomet.

Sure (said the virtuoso) you must at least know something of Luther, Zuinglius, Oecolampadius, and Bellarmine,—I shall never remember such hard names, said the Asiatic, very gravely: And with these words he left us to sell a considerable Parcel of Peko Tea, and fine Geogram, with the profit of which he bought several European commodities, and returned to his country, adoring Tyen*, and imploring the protection of Confucius.

This conversation fully convinced me of the vanity of human glory, I could not help thus reflecting with myself. Since the names of the great Cæsar, and the deified Jupiter are unknown in the most ancient, most extensive, most beautiful, most populous, and best governed empire on earth; how ridiculous is it for even the princes of our little dynasties to hope for fame! O ye vain preachers of a small parish, ye doctors and heads of universities!—ye trifling authors, ye unweariedly stupid commentators, how well does it become you to boast a lasting reputation!

* This is the name the Chinese give to the Supreme Being.—See a full account of Tyen in the translation of Du Halde's China, Vol. I. page 661. Fol.

ANECDOTES.

OF THE GREAT DUKE OF NEWCASTLE.

This great man, it is generally known, was very fond of wit; and it frequently happened that men of wit and talents obtained great favours from him by a sprightly idea or saying, which could not be obtained by any other means. A certain author of that period, having been told his Grace's weak side, waited on him one morning early in Lincoln's-inn-fields; and having obtained admission, by stating his business to be of the utmost importance, addressed his Grace as follows:—"Having the honour of being related to your Grace, and knowing that you have many good things in your gift, I presume to wait on you to claim the relationship, and solicit your bounty in my behalf." "I beg your pardon," replied the Duke, "but as I have not the honour of knowing you, will you inform me how we are related?" "I need not inform your Grace," said the stranger, "*that we are all related by ADAM.*" "Very true," again replied his Grace, "I acknowledge the tie; and in consideration of it, beg your acceptance of this halfpenny. And be assured, that if every one, who is as nearly related to you as I am, will give you as much, you will not have farther occasion to solicit my bounty." This conduct so confounded the man of wit, that he retired without uttering another word.

OF THE DUKE OF MARLBOROUGH.

When Marshal Tallard was riding with the Duke of Marlborough in his carriage, after the victory of Blenheim, "My lord Duke," says the Marshal, "you have beaten to-day the best troops in the world." "I hope," replied the Duke, "*you except those who have had the honour of beating them.*"

OF THE LATE SIR PATRICK BLAKE.

Sir Patrick was once in company where a nobleman, since dead, was relating many wonderful accounts of Echos, which he had heard abroad; more particularly one in the ruins of a temple, on the Apian way, about twelve miles from Rome, which, he said, *repeated any words seventy times.* That, replied Sir Patrick, (who had listened with great attention to much more than he believed) is nothing wonderful. There is an echo on my brother's estate, near the lake of Killarney, in Ireland, to which I have frequently said, "*Good-morrow, Madam Echo!*" and it has immediately answered, "*Good-morrow, Sir Patrick Blake, how do you do?*" The nobleman never afterwards told his wonderful tales of Echos when Sir Patrick was present.

OF HASSAN, CAPTAIN PACHA, A LATE CELEBRATED TURKISH ADMIRAL.

Hassan, captain pacha, was one of the greatest men that ever commanded the Turkish fleets. Though seventy years of age, his mental and corporeal faculties seemed not the least impaired by time. In an engagement, when his ship was boarded, he and his second were principally active in clearing the decks of the enemy. A Calmouk seized him by the garment, and drew the trigger of his pistol at him, but it missed fire, and he was instantly cut down by the valiant old Musselman. His second was almost as singular a character as he was. Their knowledge of each other arose from the following incident.—The captain being informed of a sudden tumult near the seraglio, ordered his caïque, and on his arrival at the place saw a croud of riotous people, with a desperate fellow at their head. Though unarmed, he immediately rushed forward to seize him. “Stop,” said the other, presenting his pistol, “I know thee, captain pacha, and know too that my life is in danger; a step farther, and thou diest.” Astonished at his temerity, but not terrified by the menace, (for the heart of Hassan was insensible of fear) he drew up, and viewing his opponent from head to foot with a countenance in the act of changing from anger to admiration: “Bold fellow,” said he, “yield then, and trust to me.” At the word, the pistol dropt from the other’s hand, and he threw himself at the pacha’s feet, who raised him from the ground, and ever after employed him as his lieutenant. One brave man will always love another. It is said that Hassan was formerly a slave in Spain, having been taken on board an Algerine corsair. His partiality for the English nation was remarkable. In the last war, if he heard of any naval combat between us and our enemies, he never would believe we were vanquished. His high opinion extended from the nation to its representative, Sir Robert Ainslie, with whom he was very intimate.

OF DR. BENTLY.

When Dr. Bently was appointed Master of Trinity College, Cambridge, the Fellows of that society did not approve the nomination; and determined, at all events, to resist his admission into his office. For this purpose, upon the Doctor’s arrival at Cambridge, they ordered the College gates to be kept shut day and night, and on no account to be opened. These orders were so punctually obeyed, that the Doctor was forced to take up his abode for a time with the Master of St. John’s. On the following Sunday he preached before the university at St. Mary’s, and chose for his text the words of the Apostle, “*By the help of God, I will climb over the wall.*” This the Doctor, in the course of the night, *actually* did, by passing the wall between St. John’s and Trinity, into the garden of the lodge of the latter, and by that means getting into the lodge itself. The next

morning he called the Fellows together, and compelled them to proceed to the chapel, and swear him into his office.

OF THE DUKE OF LEINSTER.

His Grace having a particular friendship for a young banker in Dublin, arising from his love of patriotism and general good character, returned him for one of his boroughs; and when the latter waited on him to thank him for his favour, his Grace addressed him in the following manner: "Sir, I have returned you for this borough, because I think you a good private character, and a man fit to serve your country. I have, however, one condition to make with you in return; which is, *that in every parliamentary discussion whatever, you never consider yourself in the least connected with me, or my interests.*" Such patronage, while it reflects the highest honour on the Duke, sets a noble example to men of his rank in the state.

SINGULAR INSTANCES OF PUSILLANIMITY

IN THE POPE'S SOLDIERS.

A MAN, detected in stealing some stones lying near a dead wall, by a patrol of the Pope's soldiers, was desired by them to throw away the stones and surrender. The consequence he knew -- an imprisonment for two or three weeks. He rallied the whole party, each abusing the other, till one of the soldiers said, "It does not signify, you must submit, or I shall shoot you." The man, with an almost incredible intrepidity, replied, "Fire;---but mark, should you miss, you are a dead man." Whether this intimidated the soldier or not, he levelled his musquet, and actually missed. The man sprung forward, caught the soldier by the shoulders, dashed his head against the wall, and killed him on the spot. His comrades, in surprize and wonder at the action, ran away; and the man very composedly walked home.

A GERMAN Prince (I think it was the Elector of Saxony) some time since being at Rome, was requested by his Holiness's nephews to review the troops. They were accordingly ordered out; the Elector gave the word; but when in the midst of the manuel, upon its beginning to rain, every soldier of them left the field, and ran to shelter. In a short time, the rain being over, they resumed their position. How great must have been the surprize of an officer, who, with composure, would have led his own troops to pass rivers up to their chin!

SINGULAR INSTANCE

OF

GENEROSITY.

THOUGH little detached pieces of history cannot be supposed to give us any important idea of the rise and fall of empires, the religion, customs, and manners, of great and powerful states; yet, in periodical publications, they perhaps answer, if properly selected, a more noble purpose: they improve the heart, regulate the passions, and, by exposing to our view pictures drawn from real nature, make us more inclinable, either to imitate the virtue, or despise the vice. One example will go further than an hundred precepts; and, in proportion as the examples of virtue and vice are predominant, in any age, among the great, so will the morals of the vulgar be.

While Rome was a growing state, her Generals were brave and virtuous, and they were imitated by the meanest citizens; but, when luxury, grandeur, and the thirst of power and partial distinction crept into the senate, men were held in consideration, only in proportion to the magnificence of their buildings, the luxury of their tables, and their external parade.

When time has established facts, when the corroborating testimony of succeeding ages has fixed its seal on them, and when they afford examples which come home to the bosom of every individual, we pay more respect to them, than we do to those fleeting objects, which daily present themselves to our view in our own times. From the ancients, we learn wisdom; from our own times to imitate the prevailing vices and fashions.

“During the war between the Portuguese and the inhabitants of the island of Ceylon, Thomas de Susa, who commanded the European forces, took prisoner a beautiful Indian, who had promised herself in marriage to an amiable youth. The lover was no sooner informed of this misfortune, than he hastened to throw himself at the feet of his adorable nymph, who with transport caught him in her arms. Their sighs and their tears were mingled; and it was some time before their words could find utterance to express their grief. At last, when they had a little recovered, they agreed, since their misfortunes left them no hopes of living together in freedom, to partake with each other all the horrors of a civil war.

“Susa, who had a soul truly susceptible of tender emotions, was moved at the sight. ‘It is enough (said he to them) that you wear the chains of love; you shall not wear the chains of slavery. Go, and be happy in the lawful embraces of wedlock.’

“The two lovers fell on their knees. They could not persuade themselves to quit so generous a hero; and thought themselves happy in being permitted to live under the laws of a nation, who so nobly knew how to make use of victory, and so generously to soften the calamities of war.”

BRITISH PARLIAMENT.

THE SIXTH SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

WEDNESDAY, April 6, 1796.

HEARD Counsel on Jones's Divorce Bill. Christie's Divorce Bill was postponed, on account of Informality in the Affidavit.

THURSDAY, April 7.---On the motion of Lord LAUDERDALE, ordered accounts of the exports and imports, from April, 1792, to 1795, specifying the amount of each year.

Lord LAUDERDALE then moved for a copy of the contract, made in September, 1795, for the conveyance of troops and stores to the West Indies.

Lord GRENVILLE observed, that had intimation been previously given, he would have ascertained, whether the paper called for contained any matter respecting an expedition yet pending, which ought not to be generally seen; but that he was unprepared for the subject.

Lord LAUDERDALE said, he had been prevented giving his customary notice, by an opinion that the production of a contract made with a multitude of persons, could not contain any State secret, and would not, consequently, be opposed; but that he had not any objection to give such time as should be required.

FRIDAY, April 8.---Received and read several private Bills.

MONDAY, April 11.---Read the Bills on the table.

On the motion of Lord GRENVILLE, ordered accounts of the Imports and Exports for the last Ten years, distinguishing each.

TUESDAY, April 12.---Counsel appeared at the Bar in support of Morsam's Divorce Bill, which was read a second time, and ordered to a Committee.

Heard Counsel in an Appeal from Chancery, Lord Albemarle *versus* Rogers.

WEDNESDAY, 13.--- Heard Counsel on the Bill of Divorce, J. S. Brisco's, Esq. with J. H. Hope, his wife, who since the year 1794, had cohabited with Mr. Gordon.

THURSDAY 14.--- After a conversation of some length, between Lords Lauderdale, Sydney, and Grenville, and the Bishop of Rochester, the Legacy Bill was read a third time, and passed.

FRIDAY 15.--- Heard Counsel on the Scotch Appeal, Stein *versus* Stuart.

MONDAY, April 18.--- Referred back the Scotch Cause, Stein *versus* Stuart.

TUESDAY 19.--- Went through, and received the report on the Legacy Bill.

On the motion of Lord LAUDERDALE, ordered copies of the Bills purporting to have been drawn at Hamburgh, on Boyd and Co.

WEDNESDAY 20.---CHRISTIE'S Divorce Bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed.

Heard Counsel in the Cause between the Corporation of London and Lynn.

THURSDAY 21.--- Heard Counsel in the Cause between the Corporation of London and Lynn.

The third reading of the Legacy Bill was moved for by Lord GRENVILLE, and opposed by Lord LAUDERDALE, who, among many other points, tending to shew the injurious tendency of the Bill, said, that had it been enacted a century since, the Estate of the Duke of Norfolk would in that period have been taxed 60,000l.

Lord Grenville, and the Bishop of Rochester replied; after which the Bill was read a third time without a division.

FRIDAY 22.--- Corporation of London *v.* ditto of Lynn. On the motion of the LORD CHANCELLOR, ordered, that the Judges be consulted, 'whether the original Plaintiffs were entitled to the Judgment of the Court of Common Pleas.'

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MONDAY, April 4, 1796.

MR. FRANCIS gave notice, that on the 11th he would bring forward a motion respecting slaves.

On the motion of General SMITH, ordered that such Members of the House, as were Members of the Privy Council, should present an Address to his Majesty, praying that he would order a Copy of the sentence against E. Cawthorne, Esq. to be laid before the House.

On the motion of Mr. LECHEMERE, the order for the Corn Committee was adjourned to the 12th; when he brings forward an enquiry into the adulteration of flour.

TUESDAY, April 5.---Read a third time, and passed, the *Tamer Navigation Bill*. The *Newspaper*, and *Votes of Parliament Conveyance Bills*, were deferred till the 13th, and the *Pewter Pot Bill* to the 15th.

LEGACY TAX BILL.---On the order of the day for the third reading of this Bill, Alderman NEWNHAM observed, though it was highly exceptionable, the Minister if he was determined, would carry it; in which case he should say, this was a good Country to *live*, but a bad Country to *die*, in.

Mr. RASHLEIGH opposed the Bill: as did General SMITH, alledging it was an inquisition into every man's property.

Mr. Fox said the Bill was not equitable, as it did not include landed property, which when taxed, ought, to be included; though possibly it could not be subject to the same provisions.

Mr. PITT said he agreed in the propriety, though not to the necessity, of extending the tax to real property, which had not been included, though personal property had been taxed so long since as the year 1783.

Mr. GREY observed that the tax of 1783 had little resemblance to the proposed one; and that it was the established principle in all Governments, not to tax national capitals. On a division, there appeared for passing the Bill, 64.---Against it, 16.

DOG TAX.---The House in a Committee, Mr. DENT said, this was the first instance of the people of any Country having demanded to be taxed. He observed, that the friends of the Bill were actuated by a desire to diminish the difficulties of the poor. He expatiated on the consumption of provisions, which consequently added to their price; and said he was prepared to prove that in the Infirmary of Manchester, alone, thirty-three persons had in one month died of canine madness. Mr. Dent calculated the population of Great Britain at ten millions of persons, or two millions of families, and averaged one dog to each. He proposed to tax every other dog than those belonging to blind men, at half-a-crown, by which he supposed the number might be reduced one half, when the residue would create a revenue of 125,000l. Mr. Dent supposed the population of Britain had increased one fourth, since the year 1750. He said, that one Gentleman had paid 400l. and another, by contract, paid a mealman 800l. a year, for providing his hounds with flour, &c. notwithstanding which, the depredations of dogs destroyed 50,000 sheep annually. Mr. Dent concluded by moving a tax of two shillings and sixpence on every dog.

Mr. PITT agreed to the principle of the motion, but wished that it should not operate to the extirpation of dogs. He conceived there should be a discrimination between the opulent and the poor, whose dogs added to their society, and to their comfort. The poor, he thought, should not pay more than one shilling, to be collected by the parish for the use of the indigent; whilst persons whose houses were of a rental to be assessed, should pay three shillings, which should be collected, and applied like other taxes, to the purposes of the State. Mr. Pitt concluded by moving, that the words 'three shillings' be substituted for 'two shillings and sixpence.'

Mr. WILBERFORCE said the comfort the poor derived from the possession of dogs, was not equal to what they lost by keeping them.

Mr. LECHMERE thought sporting dogs fair subjects for taxation; and that the duty should, in a pre-eminent degree, extend to Ladies' lap-dogs.

Sir GREGORY PAGE TURNER spoke on the same side; when the motion, as amended by Mr. PITT, was put, and carried.

WEDNESDAY, April 6.---There being but thirty-four Members, at four o'clock, adjourned.

THURSDAY, April 7.---Mr. PYBUS, one of the Lords of the Admiralty, presented a copy of a warrant, for arresting a Member of the House, Admiral Cornwallis, on a charge of disobedience of orders; and added, that the Marshall, in consequence of instructions from the Admiralty, had taken the Admiral's word for his appearance.

FRIDAY, April 8.---Read a third time and passed, the Corn Bounty Bill. The Proceedings of the Court Martial on Mr. CAWTHORNE, were presented by Sir C. Morgan; when, on the motion of Gen. Smith, amended by Lord Tyrconnel, the entire were ordered to be printed.

The Committee on the Dog Tax reported, that they had "Resolved that it is the opinion of this Committee, that a duty not exceeding 3s. per annum, be imposed on all Dogs, without exception." Mr. Pitt and Mr. Dent were among the members appointed to bring in the Bill. On the motion of Mr. Grey, ordered accounts of arrears due to Generals, Staff and Field Officers, with the several sums of money paid; and whether by Exchequer Bills or not.

Gen. SMITH moved for a Committee to enquire into the expence of erecting Barracks, and by what authority that expence had been incurred. The principal speakers, in a long and highly animated debate, were, Gen. Smith, Mr. Windham, Mr. M. A. Taylor, Mr. Fox, Mr. Pitt, Mr. Courtney, Mr. W. Smith, and Mr. Grey. The motion was negatived, 98 to 24.

MONDAY April 11.---Read a third time, and passed, Ella Inclosure, Leominster Canal, Election Attendance, Lascelles's Sheffield's, and Hatton's Estates, and Ramsey Drainage Bills.

Mr. PITT gave notice that on the 18th he would submit to the House some taxes, in lieu of those he had relinquished; likewise a mode to assist commercial credit.

WEST-INDIA SLAVES.---Mr. FRANCIS made a strong appeal to the House, as the guardians of the national character, and its own consistency: he said, that in 1792, one of the fullest Houses that had ever debated the question, had resolved, "That the Slave Trade should be abolished in 1796." He observed, that the Public attributed to the want of candour in the Minister, the recent resolution for the continuance of the Trade; and instanced a declaration of a Member of that House, who to the enquiry of a friend observed, that though he had voted against the abolition, he had yet voted with the Minister. Mr. Francis, in a speech of considerable length, fraught with argument and feeling, recommended "that slaves should be universally secured in the possession of those advantages, which the advocates for slavery declared they generally possessed at present;" to accomplish which he moved for liberty to bring in a Bill.

SERGEANT ADAIR reprobated the Slave Trade, which he pronounced repugnant to every thing just and humane, but he conceived, less than a total abolition of the traffic could not ameliorate the situation of the slaves.

Mr. FOX observed that the violent opposition of some Gentlemen, and the only nominal support of others, precluded all hope that a traffic, injurious to every principle of justice, policy, and humanity, would be this session abolished; that the question therefore was, whether it would be better to make use of a partial remedy, which may in some respects be exceptionable, or permit the evil in its full extent?

Mr. PITT said, no amelioration of a system, fundamentally wrong, could satisfy him; and that he trusted the House would persevere till it had effected the total abolition of the Slave Trade.

Mr. WINDHAM conceived, if the proposed Plan could be properly matured, it would be preferable to abolition.

Mr. W. Smith, and Mr. M. Robinson, supported the motion; which was opposed by Mr. Dundas.

Mr. FRANCIS replied: when the question was put, and negatived without a division.

TUESDAY 12.---Mr. D. SCOTT took the oaths and his seat.

On the motion of Mr. ROSE, ordered that an Address be presented to his Majesty, praying that he will direct an account of all money, issued in consequence of Addresses of the House, since the 4th of December, 1795, and which have now been made good by Parliament.

WEDNESDAY 13.---Mr. SHERIDAN made his promised motion, for the production of papers respecting the War in the West Indies; which was opposed by Mr. Dundas and Mr. Pitt. After some debate, the question was adjourned to the 21st.

General TARLETON moved for a copy of a letter written by M. Sombreuil to the Secretary at War; which, after a debate, in which Mr. Fox, Mr. Windham, Mr. Pitt, and Mr. Sheridan, were the principal speakers, was disposed of by the order of the day.

On the *Pewter Pot Bill*, Mr. Dent apprehended that the poor, many of whom were without vessels to receive the beer, when brought to their habitations, would be induced to go to public-houses to drink it.

Mr. Fox stated, that it was in every respect better to remove the incitement, than increase the punishment inflicted for the commission of offences: that during the last three years, 253 persons had been tried for stealing pewter pots, the loss of which to Publicans, exceeded 100,000l. annually.

Mr. LECHMERE spoke in favour of the Bill; which on a division was carried, 31 to 9---Read a first time.

THURSDAY 14.---Read a third time and passed, the Weston Enclosure, and Congleton Road Bills. The Newspaper Bill was ordered to be printed, and to be considered the 21st; as was the Committee on the Slaves Carrying Bill.

Mr. LECHMERE, in consequence of the thinness of the house, postponed his intended motion respecting flour and corn, till the 19th.

FRIDAY 15.---The *Dog Tax Bill* was read a first time.

Mr. PITT said, he should persevere in proposing, that for one dog, persons not liable to taxes, should pay one shilling, which should be received, and applied by the parish; and that each other person, who should keep a dog, should pay for it three shillings; but having more than one, should pay five shillings a year for each; one shilling for each dog being in every case to be applied to the use of the poor; when the surplus revenue, accruing to the State, would amount to 100,000l. per annum.

Mr. DENT wished the poor to receive the entire produce of the Tax.

The Bill was ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday the 20th.

The Westminster Police Bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed on Monday the 25th.

The Committees of Supply, and Ways and Means, and Dutch Property, were ordered for the 11th, and City Militia Bill for the 19th.

MONDAY, April 18.---The Corn Bill was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time on the 25th.

Jones's Divorce Bill read a second time, and ordered to be committed the 27th. Read a third time, and passed, Tilney Inclosure, and Lewen's Naturalization Bills.

Mr. SHERIDAN moved, that Copies of the Letters of the Count de Sombreuil to the Secretary of War, should be laid before the House.

Mr. WINDHAM said, that as the House and the Public were already possessed of the letters he should oppose the motion, which implied a necessity that did not exist of their being officially brought forward.

General SMITH said, the dying request of a gallant officer, solicitous for the preservation of his character, should be complied with.

Mr. Fox was very severe on Mr. Windham.

Mr. PITT defended the measures, the responsibility of which he took to himself. The question was disposed of, on a division, by the order of the day for the *Committee of Ways and Means*.

Mr. PITT observed, that every circumstance which could tend to increase the burthens of the people, was to him occasion of extreme regret; but, advertent to the necessity of the War, he felt a confidence that the temporary inconvenience would be compensated by great and permanent advantages. He calculated a revenue of 100,000*l.* a year from the Tax on Dogs, and between 30 and 40,000*l.* a year on the amendment of the Duty on Hats, each of which should have the required stamp upon the lining; which sums united would equal the proposed tax on Cottons, which he had given up. Since the estimate in December, 1795, the Extraordinaries of the Army amounted to 535,000*l.* ditto Ordinance, 200,000*l.* erection of Barracks, 267,000*l.* advanced out of the Civil List, including sums to the suffering Clergy of France, and to be made good by Parliament, 100,000*l.* Balance due on Ways and Means, after the loan of eighteen millions, 177,000*l.* Total 1,279,000*l.*, to which was to be added, exclusive of the Vote of Credit for two millions and a half, about 1,221,000*l.* Mr. Pitt went into a detail of Navy Debt, with four millions of which he proposed to charge himself up to December, 1796. He already had 1,200,000*l.* which would be increased by the proposed taxes, and leave not much more than two millions to provide for. To enable the Bank more essentially to assist the Merchants, he proposed by payment of cash to take out of the market 3,500,000*l.* of Exchequer Bills, and the million granted as premium on the importation of corn being no longer requisite, he would apply it, and the million of Exchequer Bills, which would be unpaid the 5th of April, to the same account. Mr. Pitt, after a long and particular explanation, stated 7,500,000*l.* to be the sum now required, the interest of which would amount to 555,000*l.* He forcibly expatiated on the resources of the Country, and its commerce, which, notwithstanding the War, was constantly increasing; in proof of which he stated, that the exports of last year amounted to 27,270,000*l.* being more by three millions than at any former period. Mr. Pitt enlarged on the benefits resulting from the Sinking Fund, which, he stated, would in fifty-two years clear off the entire National debt. He observed, the taxes were productive, and would shortly afford a million surplus at the disposal of Parliament. He said, the last duties on wines, without diminishing the consumption, had produced a revenue of 600,000*l.* a year, which he proposed to double by another duty of 20*l.* a pipe, the produce of which he calculated at 30,000*l.* Mr. Pitt adverted to the insolence and distresses of France, with which he contrasted the flourishing state of this Country, in terms highly gratifying; and concluded by moving, "That the sum of 7,500,000*l.* be raised by way of loan."

Mr. GREY conceived the Minister had not been correct in his statement of our exports, which were increased by the War, and often rated at more than their amount. With respect to the taxes that had been proposed, the first he had no objection to; but it was one which he thought would not be so productive as was stated; and he was impressed with that idea, from reading the curious Bill that had been introduced for raising that duty, which seemed, in its present stage, to be no less than one to authorize dog-stealing. The Bills might, however, be amended in the Committee, at which time he would move, that instead of one shilling a year on the dogs of poor cottagers, there should be inserted 'nothing at all,' as that appeared to him to be the most objectionable part of the Bill. He next entered into minute calculations upon the estimates made by the Minister, and contended that he was not correct in some respects, and that in others he had not acted with sufficient justice towards the country. It did not appear to him that the quantity of wine, would not be diminished in consequence of the increased duty intended to be laid upon it. The Navy debt had been increasing each succeeding year beyond the estimates made by the Minister. Why, therefore, should he, when that was greater last year than ten millions, estimate it for the ensuing year at no more than four? If he had acted on his own principles, and according to what occurred hitherto, he should have estimated the debt at seven millions. Therefore he did not give a fair account of what the expences were likely to be. Nor did he state any means to provide for the arrears of the army or the Civil List. He followed Mr. Pitt in his calculations, and strongly animadverted upon each.

Mr. PITT replied.

Mr. Fox defended Mr. Grey's statement. He was happy to admit, our credit was infinitely superior to that of France; but wished to remind the House how often it had been deceived with statements of that Country, whose victories had kept pace with the accounts of its destruction. He said, France had disposed of its assignats, and might dispose of its mandats. That increase of commerce was the natural consequence of war, which increased consumption in a degree proportionate to the expenditure.

Mr. PITT, Mr. Sheridan, Mr. Steel, General Smith, and Mr. Dundas, spoke to the question, which was carried without a division.

TUESDAY 12.---Read a third time, and passed the Miller's, Wilkinson's Estate, and Harbleton and Farnworth Inclosure Bills.

Mr. E. PIENNEPOINT took the oaths and his seat for Bossiney.

The Committee on the London Militia Bill was deferred to the 26th.

After a conversation between Mr. Grey and Mr. Steel, respecting the accounts of Barracks, Mr. Hobart brought up the resolutions of the Committee of Ways and Means, which were read a first time. On the motion for the second reading, Mr. W. Smith noticed the resolution of the 18th of February approving the last Loan, though by the statement of the Chancellor of the Exchequer 3 per cent. more had been paid for it than the present one; though circumstances were not now more favourable, and the sum borrowed so much less.

Mr. PITT said, that in making the former Loan, he had calculated for a probable fall of stocks not at present to be apprehended.

Mr. Francis, Mr. Grey, and Mr. Pitt, spoke of the resolutions, which were agreed to, and Bills ordered.

The Committee on the High Price of Corn was deferred to the 26th: and, on the motion of Sir P. STEPHENS, accounts of the money expended in experiments to discover the longitude were ordered.

WEDNESDAY 21.---Read a third time, and passed the Warwick and Bramston Canal Bill.

The second reading of the Pewter Pot Bill was opposed by Mr. Dent, General Smith, Sir W. Younge, and Mr. Windham; and supported by Mr. Fox, Mr. Francis, Mr. Lechmere, and Mr. Courtney. On a division the Bill was thrown out, the numbers being 27 to 18.

THURSDAY.---Serjeant ADAIR presented a Petition from the Quakers, and stated, that seven of that persuasion were at present confined in the jail at York on account of the prosecutions.

General SMITH gave notice, that he would on Monday move the consideration of the proceedings of Mr. Cawthorne.

The Committee on the Slave Carrying Bill was postponed till the 27th, and that on Newspapers till the 29th.

The adjourned debate on Mr. Sheridan's motion respecting the war in the West Indies, was opposed by Mr. PITT, on account of the general ill consequences which would result from an implied opinion of the necessity of the enquiry.

Mr. SHERIDAN said, opinion could not be supposed to preclude the production of papers on which, alone, opinion should be founded.

A debate of some length was further adjourned to the 18th; Mr. Grey observing, his father, Sir Charles, was ready, and desirous to attend the Bar of the House, to explain his conduct.

FRIDAY 22.---Read the 3d time and passed, Leacroft's Estate, Bolton Roads, and Tattershal Inclosure Bills.

Dog Tax postponed to the 25th; Election Writs Bill to the 26th; Game Laws to the 29th; and General Inclosure Bill to the 4th of May.

Wine Duty.---A motion that Auctioneers should not be permitted to sell Wine which had not paid duty, debated by Gen. Smith, and Messrs Sheridan and Rose, was carried, 38 to 20, and the Bill committed.

Mr. GREY gave notice that he would, on Tuesday the 3d of May, move resolutions respecting the Finances, in which he conceived there had been gross mismanagement of the public money, and a flagrant violation of the law; and that he would follow these motions, if granted, by *An Impeachment against his Majesty's Ministers.*

(TO BE CONTINUED REGULARLY.)

REVIEW
OF
NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Academical Contributions of original and translated Poetry. Lunn, Cambridge, and Cawthorn, Strand, London, royal 8vo. Price 3s. 6d. Pages 111.

WE are free to own that, after the trite nonsense which has lately come from the University of Cambridge, under the titles of *SCRAPS*, the *TINEUM*, &c. we took up this small volume with very great prejudices against it; but we feel a pleasure in saying, we never have been more agreeably disappointed. The generality of the pieces in this collection, are truly *classical and elegant*; and highly *honourable* to the abilities of the gentlemen concerned. Nor do we think it can with justice be said, that any of them are below mediocrity. We should presume from the style, that the whole were written by not more than three or four persons; though all are published without a name: *Stant nominum umbræ*: each performance is distinguished by an initial letter. The advertisement which follows is prefixed to the volume:

“The following Poems were written, at different times, and in various places, by some junior Members of the University of Cambridge; several of them, previously to the commencement of the academical residence of the authors. Some few have already appeared in a periodical publication; but, as they have since been revised, and, we trust, considerably improved, it is hoped the insertion of them among so many pieces, never before published, will not be deemed improper. The whole is now, with becoming deference, submitted to the candid acceptance of the public; in the full confidence, that, if the *ACADEMICAL CONTRIBUTIONS* possess any merit, the praise, due to that merit, will not be denied them.”

Cambridge, April 10, 1795.

We congratulate the University of Cambridge on this performance; since it affords an undeniable proof, that the study of the severer sciences has not banished poetry from “*Cam’s smooth margent green*,” and that the muses are still wooed “*in the cloister’s haunts*.”

The following stanzas are selected from an Ode entitled “*CARACTACUS*.” The British hero, in captivity, is supposed to bewail the miseries of his country:

“ Proudly o’er her heroes slain,
“ See! the Roman drives his car;
“ While on every bloody plain
“ Sounds the dreadful din of war.
“ O’er the gloomy scene around
“ Horror spreads his empire wide;
“ From the blood-embued ground
“ Floods of carnage stain the tide.
“ While the bleak winds whistle round,
“ Lonely wand’rers o’er the heath,
“ In the midnight tempest’s sound,
“ Hear the dreadful voice of death.”

The following lines in the Ode to Despair are exquisitely beautiful ;

“ And there—while DANGER's giant form
Stalks through the horrors of the hurtling storm,
Whose voice what mortal unappall'd can hear?
Shivers aghast the phantom FEAR.
There MADNESS too, whose shatter'd hair,
Wildly streaming, mocks the air ;
His blood-shot eye-balls sparkle fire,
And burst with ineffectual ire,
While still by fits he shakes his hundred chains,
Loud laughs with ghastly grin, or roars along the plains.”

Did our limits permit, we would willingly extract more ; though we should perhaps be at a loss what flowers to cull, from so *extensive* and *elegant* a parterre.

Experimental Essays, Political, Economical, and Philosophical. By Benjamin, Count of Rumford, F. R. S. *Essay IV. On Chimney Fire-Places, with Proposals to save Fuel, and prevent Chimnies from Smoking.* 8vo. Price 2s. Cadell and Davies.

COUNT RUMFORD, the author of these Essays, though by birth an Englishman, has passed a great part of his life in the service of the elector of Bavaria, by whom he has been employed to regulate the economy of the poorer part of his subjects ; and it is said, that the Count's different plans for their relief, have been attended with so much success, that Bavaria, from being almost the worst, is now become the best managed State in Germany. Through all his Essays, the Count writes as a scholar and philosopher ; and we take up the present Essay with peculiar satisfaction, since it relates to a part of domestic economy, which is of the first importance to the health and comfort of the inhabitants of this country. The general outline of his plan seems to be to lessen the consumption of fuel, to prevent smoke, and to obtain an air in our apartments, free for respiration, and of course healthful.

After enumerating the various ills, arising from the present defective state of chimnies and fire places, the Count proceeds to point out the chief of the defects as follows :

“ Although the causes, by which the ascent of smoke in a Chimney may be obstructed, are various ; yet that cause which will most commonly, and I may say almost universally be found to operate, is one which it is always very easy to discover, and as easy to remove,—the bad construction of the Chimney in the neighbourhood of the Fire-place.

In the course of all my experience and practice in curing smoking Chimnies,—and I certainly have not had less than five hundred under my hands, and among them many which were thought to be quite incurable,—I have never been obliged, except in one single instance, to have recourse to any other method of cure, than merely reducing the Fire-place and the throat of the Chimney, or that part of it which lies immediately above the Fire-place, to a proper form, and just dimensions.”

In the second chapter are pointed out the means of remedy, which for the most part consists in contracting the throat of the chimney, or that part which is immediately over the Fire-place. A variety of directions are given, by which bricklayers may alter Fire-places, according to the Count's inten-

tion: for these we must refer our readers to the work itself, extracting only the outline of the plan in the Count's words.

“ The bringing forward of the fire into the room, or rather bringing it nearer to the front of the opening of the Fire-place;—and the diminishing of the throat of the Chimney, being two objects principally had in view in the alterations in Fire-places here recommended, it is evident that both these may be attained merely by bringing forward the back of the Chimney.—The only question therefore is, how far it should be brought forward?—The answer is short, and easy to be understood;—bring it forward as far as possible, without diminishing too much the passage which must be left for the smoke. Now as this passage, which, in its narrowest part, I have called the *throat of the Chimney*, ought, for reasons which are fully explained in the foregoing Chapter, to be immediately, or perpendicularly over the Fire, it is evident that the back of the Chimney must always be built perfectly upright.”

Upon the whole we consider this Essay as extremely conducive to public utility, and think the Count is in general accurate and just in his observations. Though at the same time we cannot allow him all the merits of *Originality*: for his principles of contracting, by means of covings, and reflecting the heat into the room, have been made use of in several houses at the west end of the town with great success more than twelve years ago.

The remarks on *combined and radiant* heat, in pages 312 and 313, are very ingenious. In page 302, he is not perhaps quite right, when he says, “ that the warm air in a room rushes out at an opening made for it at the top of the window, when colder air from without is permitted to enter at the door:” for though this may be strictly true, when applied to a cottage whose door opens immediately to the air; yet in large houses, the current along the passages cannot be so cold as the external air at the window; and we think that unless the air on the outside of the door of the room be colder than the air on the outside of the window (which can hardly ever be the case) the air will not rush out at the opening made for it at the top of the window. If the contrary of this be contended for, how shall we be able to account for the elasticity of condensed air.

There seems to us a contradiction between the method of ventilation recommended in page 301, and the German method mentioned in page 303; but it is possible, we may not fully comprehend these passages.

We are sorry our limits will not permit us to enter into a fuller examination of this excellent little Essay; we hope, however, at some future opportunity to be able to treat of it more at large.

Angelina. A Novel. In a Series of Letters. By Mrs. Robinson. 3 vol. 12mo. About 900 Pages. Price 10s. 6d. Hookham and Carpenter. 1796.

THE talents of Mrs. Robinson, as a Novel writer, have long been stamped by public approbation; and we think the production, now before us, will not in the least detract from her well-earned fame. Unwilling by anticipation to diminish the pleasure which our readers may receive from the perusal of these volumes, we forbear to enter into a detail of the story. We shall only observe, that its principal object is to expose the folly and iniquity of those parents, who force the inclinations of their children in conjugal connections; and to hold forth to just detestation the cruelty of those, who barter a daughter's happiness for the splendours of title or fortune. The sentiments in these volumes are animated and rational. They breathe a ge-

nuine spirit of independence; and a love of whatever is dignified, and excellent, among human beings. In the character of Angelina we find all that can adorn the female mind, breaking through the clouds of sorrow, and misery. The story, though it is not calculated to greatly rouse or agitate, is yet sufficiently interesting to excite and preserve the attention of the reader throughout; and the language is elegant, and appropriate. We cannot close this article without admonishing the fair authoress against confounding the active with the neuter verb; we observe too that she generally writes "laying" for "lying."

Adela Northington. A Novel. 3 vol. 12mo. Cawthorn. 1796.

THIS novel is, we understand, the first production of a Mrs. Burke; and it is so far above the generality of first attempts, as to be highly creditable to the talents of the authoress. The language is in general smooth and neat; the story well told; and the mind is throughout kept on the wing of expectation. If there be any fault, it is in the development of the story in the last volume, which perhaps is not so well brought about, as more experience will enable Mrs. Burke to do in her future performances. She certainly writes with great strength of imagination, and as time corrects her judgment, she will no doubt rank in the first class of the Novelists of the day. At all events, Adela Northington affords us a good earnest of Mrs. Burke's talents, and will deservedly be placed far above the trash with which the press daily teems.

An Inquiry into the Authenticity of certain Papers and Instruments, attributed to Shakespeare, in a Letter addressed to the Right Hon. James Earl of Charle- mont. By Edmond Malone, Esq. 8vo. Pages 424. Price 7s. Cadell and Davies.

To follow Mr. Malone through the whole of this learned performance would be to extract the whole volume: there is so much ancient erudition throughout, that only those who are well versed "in such learning as was never read" (Vide Dr. Farmer's Essay on the Learning of Shakespeare) can be competent judges of the truth and force of the arguments. The author in the beginning of this inquiry undertakes

"To prove, from 1. the Orthography; 2. the Phraseology; 3. the Dates given, or deducible by inference; and 4. the Dissimilitude of the Hand-writing, that not a single paper or deed in this extraordinary volume (*the volume published by Mr. Ireland*) was written or executed by the person to whom it is ascribed."

The arguments for his first objections, viz.—to the orthography—are ingenious and forcible; and we think, that unless the advocates for the authenticity of the MSS. can produce other examples of the use of the method found in them, the point may almost be determined from this single objection. Time, however, must determine, whether fair answers can be given by Mr. Ireland, or not.

There is much ingenuity in the investigation of the "Phraseology;" but we cannot think the reasoning by any means *conclusive*. That a word, not to be found in Minshien and the old Lexicographers, might be in use, is not only possible, but probable; more especially in words in use in the familiar intercourse of life. For not to insist on the variety of words we daily hear

and read, which are not to be found, even in Johnson; it is a known fact, that dictionary writers have not always inserted words, established by long custom, and almost coeval with the period when our language began to throw off the rust of barbarism, and assume an elegant and polished appearance. In the first edition of Johnson's Dictionary, the substantive "Ocean" was omitted; nor is the verb "embolden" to be found in any of the subsequent editions. Shall we from hence deny the existence of these words? Besides, that numberless omissions of the same kind might be shown. The English language, at the period when the papers here investigated were written, was in a very rapid state of improvement; and 'tis more than probable new uses were daily given to old words, and new words introduced. Every one arrogated to himself the privilege of enriching the language; and vindicated the innovation in the language of the poet,

" ————— Cum lingua Catonis et Enni
 " Sermonem patrium ditaverit,
 " Cur ego invideor? —————

And it is almost certain, that any affected novelty would be eagerly sought after, and used, by a queen (we mean this to apply to the word "complimente" in queen Elizabeth's letter) whose very virtues were affectation.

[We could wish our plan would admit us to dwell longer upon this objection of Mr. Malone's; but we have, as it is, rather exceeded our limits. We shall, however, next month take up the consideration of the two remaining objections.]

A Letter to George Steevens, Esq. containing a critical Examination of the Papers of Shakespeare, published by Mr. Samuel Ireland. By James Boaden, Esq. 8vo. Pages 72. Price 2s. 6d.

THOUGH Mr. Malone, in his Inquiry, has all the arguments which are made use of in this ingenious little book; yet Mr. Boaden has the merit of having first published his objections to the authenticity of the Shakespeare MSS. The pamphlet now before us is drawn up in a very pleasing manner; and the arguments given with a great deal of force and perspicuity. We need not enter into a detail of its contents, since they will in substance be contained in our review of Mr. Malone's work. We would, however, recommend this letter to the perusal of those, who may not chuse to enter so much into abstruse black-letter learning, as that gentleman has done; and who may prefer the expence of two shillings and six-pence, to seven shillings. It would be unjust to close this article without acknowledging the pleasure we received in the perusal of the imitations of Shakespeare, which are subjoined.

Remarks on Conversations occasioned by Mr. Burke's Letter, in a Letter to a Professor on the Continent. 8vo. Price 1s. Pages 31.

THIS Letter, though published without the author's name, is dated from "Lincoln's Inn," and is altogether a very temperate and conciliatory performance. The attempts to vindicate Mr. Burke are sometimes successful; and there is, throughout, a great deal that shows the writer to be a man of humanity and good sense.

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POETRY.

MASONIC PROLOGUE.

SPOKEN IN THE THEATRE AT EXETER,

JANUARY 7, 1771.

THO' Slander follows wheresoe'er I go,
 To villify the Art she does not know,
 Undaunted (guilt alone has cause to fear)
 Cloath'd with this honour'd badge, I now appear,
 Owing myself a Mason ;—at the name,
 No guilty redness dyes my cheek with shame :
 Let Slander follow ;—I her darts defy ;
 And laugh at sneering Folly's oft-told lie.
 But what our Order teaches I will shew ;
 The lessons you *must* love—when once you know.
 It always bids us, humbly to adore
 Th' Almighty Architect ;—by whose great pow'r
 The Universe was built ;—to his decree,
 Which Wisdom ever guides, resign'd to be.
 It makes us zealous in our country's cause,
 True to its prince, and faithful to its laws ;
 Forever bids us, with the strictest care,
 To act with all the world upon the square ;
 Never to publish a frail neighbour's shame,
 Or filch away a brother's honest name ;
 To be sincere ;—his secrets ne'er reveal,
 And him to serve, with fervency and zeal.
 With true philanthropy it warms our breast,
 With useful zeal to succour the distress ;
 Bids us shew mercy when we have the pow'r,
 And to the houseless stranger ope the door ;
 The naked with warm vestments to infold,
 And guard the shiv'ring wand'ers from the cold ;
 To feed the hungry—bid them *eat* and live,
 And to the thirsty lip the cup to give ;
 To visit wretches tortur'd by disease,
 Make smooth their bed, and pour the balm of ease.
 The widow's tale, the orphan's cry to hear,
 And from their eyes wipe off Affliction's tear ;
 “ To know each office, each endearing tye,
 “ Of soft-eyed, Heaven-descended Charity.”
 Upright it bids us walk ;—to put a rein
 On sensual appetites,—and pride restrain.
 It roots out narrow notions from the mind,
 And plants a gen'rous love for all mankind ;
 Regards not modes of Faith, but cries, “ Unite
 With ALL, who work by the nice rule of right ;

All have one father;—all good men and true,
 In diff'rent roads, the same great end pursue.
 When to the Lodge we go—that happy place,
 † *There*, faithful Friendship smiles in every face.
 What tho' our joys are hid from public view,
 They on *Reflection* please, and must be true.
 † The Lodge, the social virtues fondly love:
 † *There*, Wisdom's rules we trace, and so improve;
There we, (in moral architecture skill'd)
 Dungeons for vice—for virtue temples build;
 † Whilst scepter'd reason from her steady throne,
 † Well pleas'd surveys us all, and makes us one.
There concord and decorum bear the sway,
 And moral music tunes th' instructive lay:
There on a pleasing level all appear,
 And merit only is distinguish'd *there*.
 Fraternal love and friendship *there* increase,
 And decent freedom reigns, and lasting peace.
 Secrets we have—but those we gladly shew
 To proper persons,—who apply to know.
 Be not offended, lovely, beauteous fair,
 That you from Mason's rites excluded are;
 'Tis not because we think you would disclose
 Whate'er within your breasts we might repose;
 But we're afraid (and sure our fears are true)
 Were you admitted, Love would enter too;
 That Jealousy might then our hearts inflame,
 And to a rival's, turn a brother's name;
 Break all our bonds, annihilate our joy,
 And soon our ancient Order quite destroy.
 Be not offended! we your sex adore,
 And pay true homage to your sov'reign pow'r.
 Thus I, the lessons which we're taught, have shewn,
 Which surely *must* be lov'd, as soon as known;
 If e'er with these, our actions disagree,
 Censure the Men—but blame not Masonry:
 We do not blame, when Christians go astray,
 The Light that came from Heav'n, to shew their way.

THE MASON'S PRAYER.

PARENT of all! omnipotent
 In Heav'n and Earth below;
 Through all Creation's bounds unspent,
 Whose streams of goodness flow.

The Lines marked with this reference † are closely imitated from the Freemason's beautiful and well-known Anthem.

Teach me to know from whence I rose,
 And unto what design'd;
 No private aims let me propose,
 Since link'd with human kind.

But chief to hear fair Virtue's voice,
 May all my thoughts incline :
 'Tis Reason's law, 'tis Wisdom's choice,
 'Tis Nature's call and thine.

Me from our sacred Order's cause,
 Let nothing e'er divide ;
 Grandeur, nor gold, nor vain applause,
 Nor Friendship false misguide.

Teach me to feel a *Brother's* grief,
 To do in all what's best ;
 To suff'ring man to give relief,
 And blessing to be blest.

ELEGY.

FROM THE SPANISH.

WRITTEN IN 1782.

PERAZA*, let our maids deplore,
 As help from God they seek :
 On sea-girt Palma's fatal shore,
 The roses left his cheek.

Thou, isle, no longer Palma art :
 Where flow'rs were wont to blow,
 Sad Cypress now appalls the heart ;
 Thou direful spring of woe!

Thy plains may raging tempests spoil!
 Volcanoes rend each plain!
 Among thy wretched sons the while,
 May sorrows only reign!

Where, youth, is now thy warlike might ?
 Alas ! 'tis now no more.
 Thy sun is set in endless night,
 Thy race of glory o'er.

* Peraza was a valiant young Spaniard, who was killed in 1782, in an attempt to subdue Palma, one of the Canary Islands, and this Elegy is sung there to this day by the inhabitants.

TO THE MOON.

HAIL Orb refulgent ! Heav'n's benignant queen !
 Beneath th' influence of thy silver ray,
 The anxious bosom feels a sweet serene,
 Chasing the bickering bustlings of the day !

Let not th' unjust attempt thy tranquil reign—
 For—to his mind—no peace thy presence brings :—
 His heart malignant hugs the direful *stain*,
 And secret anguish to his conscience clings !

I love to wander 'midst th' silent shade,
 Where meditation quits the pensive soul ;—
 There pride, ambition, envy, ne'er invade—
 Each wayward passion meets thy just control.

'Tis here that mis'ry's tear forgets to flow—
 'Tis here that sad misfortunes cease to live ;
 No ardent tumults in the bosom glow,
 Nor poverty's dread fangs can torture give.

Save the sad loss of him, by love endear'd,
 A *parent* tender, sensitive, and kind ;—
 Or *she*, whose memory is still rever'd
 By ev'ry virtuous—ev'ry feeling mind !—

Now o'er th' vast concave spreads thy gentle light,
 And “ tips with silver ev'ry mountain's ”—brow ;
 Now opes the curtain of the sable night ;
 Now opes the landscape on the trav'ler's view !

Welcome—thrice welcome are thy cheering beams,
 To guide the weary pilgrim to his cave ;
 Sublime thou tremblest o'er the lucid streams,
 And warn'st the forder from a *wat'ry grave* !

The grateful pilot, too, beholds thy blaze,
 Whilst o'er the vast expanse he glides secure ;
 Reflection oft, and oft the wistful *gaze*,
 Anticipate the pleasures of the shore.

How bless'd the youth who courts thy soothing aid,
 Freed from the anxious fetters of restraint,
 Supremely bless'd, who meets his darling maid,
 Of soul congenial—“ *mingling true content* ! ”

Come then, *Angelia*—rouse my humble lay ;
 Come, sweetest damsel, my fair theme inspire ;
 Ere *Phœbus* whirls his chariot on the day—
 —In vain !—thy graces render mute the lyre !

PROLOGUE
TO
VORTIGERN.

WRITTEN BY SIR J. BLAND BURGESS.

SPOKEN BY MR. WHITFIELD.

NO common cause your verdict now demands ;
Before the Court immortal SHAKESPEARE stands—
That mighty master of the human soul,
Who rules the passions, and, with strong controul,
Thro' ev'ry turning of the changeful heart
Directs his course sublime and leads his pow'rful art.

When on his birth propitious Nature smil'd,
And hung transported o'er her fav'rite child,
While on his head her choicest gifts she shower'd,
And o'er his mind her inspiration pour'd ;
“ Proceed,” she cry'd, “ the high decree fulfil !
“ 'Tis thine to rule, with magic sway, the will ;
“ On Fancy's wing to stretch o'er boundless space,
“ And all Creation's varied works to trace ;
“ 'Tis thine each fitting phantom to pursue,
“ Each hidden pow'r of verse to bring to view ;
“ To shed o'er British taste celestial day,
“ And reign o'er Genius with unrivall'd sway.”
Such was the high behest—The sacred choice
Long has been sanction'd by your candid voice :
The favour'd relicks of your Shakspeare's hand
Unrivall'd, and inimitable stand.

If hope of fame some modern Bards have led
To try the path where Shakspeare wont to tread ;
If, with presumptuous wing, they dar'd aspire,
To catch some portion of his sacred fire,
Your critic Powers the vain attempt repell'd ;
The flimsy vapour by your breath dispell'd,
Expos'd the trembling culprit to your sight,
While Shakspeare's radiance shone with doubled light.

From deep Oblivion snatch'd, this Play appears ;
It claims respect, since Shakspeare's name it bears ;
That name, the source of wonder and delight,
To a fair hearing has at least a right ;
We ask no more—with you the judgment lies,
No forgeries escape your piercing eyes ;
Unbiass'd then, pronounce your dread decree,
Alike from prejudice and favour free.
If, the fierce ordeal pass'd, you chance to find
Rich sterling ore, tho' rude and unrefin'd,
Stamp it your own ; assert your Poet's fame,
And add fresh wreaths to Shakspeare's honour'd name.

EPILOGUE TO THE SAME.

WRITTEN BY MR. MERRY.

SPOKEN BY MRS. JORDAN.

YE solemn Critics! wheresoe'er you're seated,
 To grant a favour may you be entreated?
 For which I'll pay you proper adoration,
 And strive to please you—that is my vocation.
 Then do not frown, but give due share of praise,
 Nor rend from Shakspeare's tomb the sacred bays,
 The scatter'd flow'rs he left, benignly save!
 Posthumous flow'rs! the garland of the grave!
 What tho' he liv'd two hundred years ago,
 He knew you very well, as I will show:
 His pencil sketch'd you, and that seldom errs;
 You're all, whate'er you think, his characters.
 How?—do you doubt it?—cast your eyes around,
 In ev'ry corner of this house they're found.
 Observe that jolly Grazier in the Pit,
 Why, he is **FALSTAFF**, fat, and full of wit;—
 In fun and feasting places his delight,
 And with his **DOLLY** emulates the Knight.
 Look at that youth, whose countenance of woe
 Denotes a tender-hearted **ROMEO**;
 He only wishes, though he dare not speak,
 To be a glove to touch his **JULIET**'s cheek;
 While she from yonder terrace smiles serene,
 And longs with him to play the Garden Scene.
 But oh! I tremble now—there sits a man,
 Rugged and rough—a very **CALIBAN**!
 He growls out his displeasure—'tis a shame!
 Do, dear **MIRANDA**! make the monster tame.
 And you, my pretty **BEATRICE**, don't fret,
 Your **BENEDICK** is fond of a Coquette:
 For though he vows he'll think no more about you,
 He means to marry—he can't live without you.
 Kind, faithful **IMOGENS** are here to charm us,
 Mad **EDGARS**, ancient **PISTOLS** to alarm us;
 And **HOTSPURS**, too, who seek the glorious boon,
 “ To pluck bright Honour from the pale-fac'd Moon.”
 Besides, we have our **TOUCHSTONES**, **SHYLOCKS** dire,
IAGOS false, and many a **SHALLOW** 'Squire.
 Nay, here are Ladies, who, in their own houses,
 Are **DESDEMONAS**, plagu'd with jealous spouses.
 'Tis true, there is some change, I must confess,
 Since **SHAKESPEARE**'s time, at least in point of dress.
 The ruffs are gone, and the long female waist
 Yields to the Grecian more voluptuous taste;
 While circling braids the copious tresses bind,
 And the bare neck spreads beautiful behind.
 Our Senators and Peers no longer go,
 Like men in armour, glitt'ring in a row;

But for the cloak and pointed beard, we note
 The close-cropt head, and little short great-coat.
 Yet is the modern BRITON still the same,
 Eager to cherish, and averse to blame;
 Foe to deception, ready to defend,
 A kind protector, and a gen'rous friend.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

DRURY-LANE THEATRE.

April 2. **T**HE long expected Play of *Vortigern* was brought forward at this Theatre. Public curiosity had been raised so high, by the expectation of the supposed relics of our *immortal Bard*, that the avenues to the Theatre were crowded, at a very early hour; and it is probable, that not more than one in four, who went for that purpose, could obtain admission. From the great noise in the Theatre before the Curtajn drew up, it was evident, that the Audience was entirely composed either of the friends of Mr. Ireland, and the advocates for the authenticity of the Piece, or of those who went predetermined to resist the performance of what they conceived to be an attempt to impose upon public credulity. During the first three acts, there was a considerable majority in favour of the play; but in the fourth and fifth acts, the opposition was so strong that very little of the performance could be heard; and after the play this opposition had so much increased, that, after half an hour's tumult, (brought on by an attempt to announce it again for Monday evening) the Manager gave it up to the almost unanimous verdict of *condemnation*, found by the audience.

The story is as follows:

Constantius, king of Britain, finding the cares of royalty too great for his age, joins Vortigern with him in the government of the kingdom. The ambitious Vortigern, eager to reign alone, murders his patron and benefactor, and is shortly after, by the nobles, declared king. Aurelius and Uther, then in Rome, are informed of these events; and being determined to punish the usurper, they league with the Scots, and invade England. Upon this, Vortigern, despairing of success through his own means, calls in to his aid Hengist and Horsus, two Saxon chiefs; through whose means he is at first successful; but in the event is defeated, and dethroned by Aurelius. But prior to this, Hengist and Horsus, anxious to cement their alliance with Vortigern by the ties of blood, introduce Rowena, whom he marries, after repudiating his wife Edmunda. Flavia, the daughter of Vortigern, loves and is beloved by Aurelius, whom in the event she marries. From this episode the poet has wrought some very good scenes.

Such is the outline of the story of this play.

The Dramatis Persona were

Vortigern	-	-	-	Mr. Kemble.	
Constantius	-	-	-	Mr. Bensley.	
Vortimerius	}	Sons of	}	Mr. Whitfield.	
Catagrinus				Vortigern.	Mr. Trueman.
Pascentius					Mr. C. Kemble.
Aurelius.	}	Sons of	}	Mr. Barrymore.	
Uther				Constantius.	Mr. Caulfield.
Fool				Mr. King.	
Hengist	-	-	-	Mr. Benson.	
Horsus	-	-	-	Mr. Phillimore.	
Rowena (Daughter of Hengist)				Miss Millar.	
Flavia (Daughter of Vortigern)				Mrs. Jordan.	
Edmunda (Wife of Vortigern)				Mrs. Powell.	

Barons, Attendants, &c.

The MSS. attributed to Shakespeare, have been so general a topic of conversation, and are likely to meet with so ample a discussion from those who have en-

tered into an enquiry concerning them, that we forbear here to make much comment. We cannot, however, but think, that the play of Vortigern may be the production of the pen of Shakespeare, for any thing in the internal evidence of the piece itself; though it certainly never could be meant by him for representation. And, if it be his, it must have been written at a very early period of his life, and laid on the shelf, as unworthy to be produced. That this may have been the case, is evident from the best parts of it having been made use of in *Richard the Third*, *Macbeth*, and *As you like it*. Besides, that there is throughout a want of polish; and the scenes and even speeches are not so artfully connected as more labour in the finishing must have made them. The Bard, therefore, abandoning Vortigern as his subject, made use of the materials as he had occasion for them, in subsequent pieces.

Condidit et composuit quæ mox depromere posset.

We do not pretend to decide either for, or against, the authenticity of the papers in the possession of Mr. Ireland; but we are nevertheless convinced there is no evidence to be drawn from Vortigern that is *conclusive* against their being the performance of the great poet: for not to dwell upon the unconnected and unfinished state of several of his other performances, we think that there are several parts of the present play, that are equal to any thing he has written. The characters of *Edmunda* and *Flavia* are very ably drawn; and the *Oraison* of the latter, in the second act, is extremely beautiful. This was delivered by Mrs. Jordan with a "honed sweetness" that "might charm stern murder." The words of Vortigern in the last act---

Give me another sword:

For this is so slippery-clogg'd with gore,

It mocks my grasp.

are surely not unworthy of Shakespeare. Many more passages might be brought worthy, and certainly many very unworthy, of the poet; but as Mr. Ireland is about to publish the play, the public will be able to judge for themselves, whether it is upon the whole worthy of him, or not.

We cannot omit mentioning the great disadvantages under which the piece laboured on the night of representation, from the indisposition of Mr. Palmer and Mrs. Siddons, and from the parts of Hengist and Horsus being allotted to such performers as Mr. Benson and Phillimore. We mean not to say any thing against these gentlemen; they have their line of acting, and should not be put out of it. The fault rested with the manager; whose conduct in attempting to lead the judgment of the audience in the two last acts, by "grinning horribly" at any objectionable passage, was highly *improper*.

In our observations on Vortigern we have thus fairly stated our opinion; but we do not wish it to be understood that we are advocates either on one side, or the other: for notwithstanding the learned book of Mr. Malone, we consider that at present *sub judice lis est*.

THEATRE ROYAL, COVENT-GARDEN.

Saturday, April 9. A new Opera, under the title of the "*Lad of the Hills*," or "*The Wicklow Gold Mine*," the avowed production of Mr. O'Keefe, was represented at this Theatre.

The plot of this Piece is grounded on the late discovery of the Gold Mine, in the county of Wicklow. Yemman, a peasant, has been some time in possession of the secret; and his being able to live himself, and relieve the needy, without labour, draws on him the suspicions of the country people, particularly of Grannaham, a schoolmaster, who determines, in order to discover the source of his wealth, to intercept his letters sent by the post. Yemman, being informed of this, resolves to stop the Mail Boy, and take out a letter which he knows to be coming, relative to some Ore he had sent to Dublin; this, however, is effected by Maunus, his brother, a desperate character, and a defender. But Yemman is found with the bag in his possession, and committed as a robber to the mass house for safety; from whence, after attempts made in vain for that purpose, by his lover Shelah, he is rescued by a gang of defenders. Meanwhile he is visited by Grannaham, who, by accident, possesses himself of the letter taken from the

mail bag, and by that means discovers the whole secret of the *Gold Mine*. Devereux, the owner of the land, on which the mine is, comes into the country on a love expedition after Jesse, the daughter of Mr. Tinnyhinch, his steward, and by this means a very pleasant scene is brought about between him and Grannaham, who mistakes him for a goldsmith and refiner, come about the Ore. Having found Jesse all he can wish her, he promises, at her request, his interest to obtain Yemman's pardon; and the piece closes with his union with Jesse, and that of Yemman with Shelah. There is another character, Tady O'Rourke, who seems to have little connection with the story, but is persuaded that he is beloved by Jesse. This introduces some pleasant equivoue.

This piece, like most of Mr. O'Keefe's, should rather be called a musical Farce, than a regular Opera; since it relies more on the humour of the incidents and situations than on its fine poetry or fine writing. There is throughout a great deal of pleasantry, though the dialogue in general is but indifferent. It, however, compels us to *laugh*; and we are not too scrupulous in our enquiries why. The scene between Devereux and Grannaham, in which the former is mistaken for a goldsmith, is truly comic; but the joke of "let us all start fair," in the last Act, is too stale for the stage. The piece was throughout tolerably well received.--- We think that with some alterations it may become a great favourite. The music was upon the whole very good. Inledon's song in the first Act, and Bowden's "Heart of Steel," in the second, do great credit to the talents of Mr. Shield; and were extremely well sung. The scenery was very beautiful, and reflects honour on the liberality of the manager.

The Characters were

Grannaham	-	-	-	Mr. Johnstone.
Yemman	-	-	-	Mr. Inledon.
Tady O'Rourke	-	-	-	Mr. Fawcett.
Devereux	-	-	-	Mr. Townsend.
Phelim	-	-	-	Mrs. Martyr.
Maunus	-	-	-	Mr. Bowden.
Tinnyhinch	-	-	-	Mr. Richardson.
Jesse	-	-	-	Mrs. Clendining.
Shela	-	-	-	Mrs. Mountain.

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY-LANE.

April 20. A new Tragedy, under the title of *Almeyda, Queen of Granada*, was brought forward at this Theatre, said to be from the pen of Miss Lee, authoress of the popular comedy of the Chapter of Accidents, the novel of the Recess, &c.

The story of the play is laid during one of the most splendid Eras of the Moorish kingdom in Granada. Almeyda, just restored from captivity in Castile, takes possession of the throne of her father. Abdalla, her uncle, who has been regent of the kingdom, ambitious to aggrandize himself and his posterity, determines to marry his son Orasmin to Almeyda, and, by that means, to secure the crown and its inheritance to his family. But during her captivity, Almeyda has set her affections on Alphonso, a noble Castilian; and refuses the offer of Orasmin's love. Alphonso, in disguise, obtains access to Almeyda; but is discovered, and confined in a dungeon by Abdalla. From this confinement he is relieved by the generosity of Orasmin. Almeyda, meanwhile, obtains admission into the dungeon; and not finding Alphonso, conceives he has been murdered by the tyrant; who, finding himself foiled in all his ambitious views, resolves to destroy his niece by poison. This he effects, by declaring that he has already secretly administered it to her, and offering a remedy to prevent its operation. This remedy is in reality the poison itself; which Abdalla drinks of, and afterwards gives to Almeyda. The piece then concludes with the death of both of them.

Great as is Miss Lee's fame as a writer already, we think this Tragedy will deservedly add very much to it. The language is in general polished; and the sentiments just and virtuous. She has chosen a good subject for her plot, and has worked it up with a great deal of art. If we may be allowed to point out any defect, we would point out the mad scene of Almeyda, in the fourth Act, which, notwithstanding the fine acting of Mrs. Siddons, was somewhat tedious.

MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

ON Sunday the 10th of April, a sermon was preached at the parish church of St. George, Bloomsbury, for the benefit of the ROYAL CUMBERLAND FREE-MASON'S SCHOOL, by the *Rev. Brother*, ARCHER THOMPSON; who took his text from the 5th Chapter of St. John's Gospel, 7th verse.

“ The impotent man answered him, ‘ Sir, I have no man, when the water “ is troubled, to put me into the pool; but, while I am coming, another “ steppeth down before me.”

The story was told in a most pathetic and impressive manner; and his application of its meaning to the exigencies of the society, was truly happy. *Artis est celare artem*; and Mr. Thompson evinced the fullness of his literary wealth throughout a glowing composition, without disgusting his attentive auditors with apparently laboured description, or over-strained metaphor. The best eulogium a preacher can possibly receive, is *silence*; and our poet's “ *deathful stillness*,” was perhaps never more strikingly exemplified, than during the delivery of the hortatory peroration.

The Rev. Brother Weedon Butler, Senior, morning preacher of Charlotte Chapel, read the previous service with peculiar propriety; and the collection at the doors amounted to 45l. 16s. 8d.

On the following day, the Governors and a numerous Company of Friends to the Institution, dined together at *Free-masons Hall*, the *EARL OF MOIRA* in the Chair; when that benevolent Nobleman addressed the Company in a speech of such pathos and persuasion, that the happy result of it was a collection from the Company to the amount of upwards of FIVE HUNDRED AND FIFTY POUNDS.

It is with the greatest pleasure we are able to state to the Masonic Body, and the public at large, the flourishing condition of this laudable and excellent charity. From the accounts brought forward by the Governors at the Anniversary Dinner, it appears, that they have, at an expence of upwards of 2000l. erected a School House, in St. George's Fields, sufficiently capacious to receive one hundred children. It appears also, that the number admitted at the period of its Institution, FIFTEEN, has been increased to THIRTY-SIX; and that the liberal contributions of several of the Royal Family, the Nobility, Gentry, &c. embolden the Governors to hope they will soon be enabled still farther to augment the number. We congratulate our Brothers on the prospect of the ROYAL CUMBERLAND FREE-MASONS' SCHOOL being likely to become as universal, in *doing good*, as the Society which first established it.

FROM
THE LONDON GAZETTES.

SATURDAY, APRIL 2.

HORSE-GUARDS, *March 31, 1796.*

DISPATCHES from Major-General Stuart, commanding His Majesty's and the East-India Company's troops in the Island of Ceylon, dated Trincomale, October 10, 1795, have been received by the Right Honourable Henry Dundas, one of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State; by which it appears that the fort of Batticaloe, in that island, surrendered on the 18th of September to a detachment under the command of Major Frazer of the 72d regiment. That on the 24th of the same month, General Stuart embarked from Trincomale, with a considerable detachment of troops and artillery, on board the Centurion man of war, the Bombay frigate, the Bombay store ship, and the Swallow and John packets, and on the 27th disembarked the troops at Point Pedro, about twenty-four miles from Jaffnapatam, of which important place he took possession on the following day. That on the 1st of October, Captain Page, of his Majesty's ship Hobart, with a part of the 52d regiment under the command of the Honourable Captain Monson, on their return from Point Pedro to Trincomale, took possession of the factory and military post of Molletivoe; and that on the 5th of the same month, the fort and island of Manar surrendered to Captain Barbut, whom General Stuart had detached on that service, with the flank companies of the 72d regiment, and two companies of Sepoys, immediately on his having obtained possession of Jaffnapatam.

A letter from Colonel Brathwaite, dated Madras, October 17, 1795, announces the surrender of Malacca, and its dependencies, on the 17th of August, to the troops sent on that service, under the command of Major Brown.

By dispatches from Bengal it also appears, that Chinsurah and its dependencies have been taken, and that the Dutch forces at those settlements are prisoners of war.

TUESDAY, APRIL 5.

ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, *April 5.*

Copy of a Letter from Rear Admiral Rainer, dated on board his Majesty's ship Suffolk, in Madras Road, the 15th of October, 1795, to Evan Nepean, Esq.

SIR,

Yesterday, on the point of Sailing, I received the inclosed letter and papers from Captain Newcome, giving an account of his proceedings, and particularly of the success of the expedition under his own and Major Browne's orders, of the Honourable Company's Infantry, against Malacca; this place being now in the possession of the British troops.

I feel a more than ordinary satisfaction in announcing this event for their Lordship's information, as, on account of the original force destined for that service being reduced, my expectations were less sanguine; and also of its great importance, from the security thereby afforded to the trade of his Majesty's subjects in the Straights of Malacca and the Chinese Seas.

Being doubtful of the propriety of my conduct, in not having corresponded with the Right Honourable Henry Dundas on the subject of the late expeditions, in which I co-operated in Council and execution, in obedience to the King's orders

by him transmitted, and as therein prescribed, (not having then even received their Lordships directions so to do, and which are also silent on that head) I have to request you will please to intercede with their Lordships to use their influence to remove any culpability that may reflect upon my conduct for this omission; in which, if I have erred, it has been through defect of instructions, and my inexperience in the receipt of such kind of orders.

On the success of his Majesty's arms at Trincomale and Fort Oostenburg, and on receiving the account of the same from Malacca, I took upon me to order salutes to be fired by his Majesty's ships then in port; and on the 13th instant, at the suggestion of my Lord Hobart, I directed Captain Lambert, of his Majesty's ship *Suffolk*, to fire seventy-eight guns, funeral wise, on the melancholy occasion of the death of his Majesty's faithful ally, his Highness the Nabob Wallajah, late Nabob of the Carnatic, (the forts of St. George, by his Lordship's orders, paying the same honours) that particular number of guns being appointed as corresponding to those of the years of his late Highness's age; which I trust their Lordships will approve, and notify to the Board of Ordnance, to be allowed in the several Gunners monthly expences.

Please to acquaint their Lordships, that the Presidency here have just received accounts of the surrender of Manar, in the Gulph of the same name.

I have the honour to be, &c.

PETER RAINER.

To Peter Rainer, Esq. Commodore and Commander of his Majesty's ships employed in the East Indies.

SIR,

I ARRIVED here on the 15th inst. with his Majesty's ships under my command, the *Ewer* and Carnatic transports, and a part of the Convoy, having parted company with his Majesty's ship *Resistance*, in the night of the 13th, between the Sandheads. Captain Pakenham joined company again in Malacca Road on the 17th in the morning.

By the inclosed letters you will see that we were obliged to commence hostilities, which began by the *Resistance* firing a few guns at the *Constantia* (a Dutch Indiaman run into the mud) which she returned by firing two guns, and then striking her colours. From the great assistance afforded me by the boats from the China fleet, &c. I was enabled to land all the troops, with two six-pounders at the same time. They left the ships at seven P. M. on the 17th; and reached the shore by nine P. M. At half-past nine P. M. an Officer came on board the *Orpheus* from the Governor, to surrender the place on our terms; they then delivered over St. John's Post, a commanding work, well furnished with cannon, about 1300 yards from the fort, and 200 from the place of conference, to a subaltern, with a party of our grenadiers, and we entered the fort with the remainder of the British detachment. The garrison being thus completely in our power, and unconditionally, further than the securing of property, the Dutch guards were permitted to remain armed at their posts, until the Governor, whom we then accompanied to his house, gave, in his own hand-writing to Major Browne, a detail of the guards, which were then relieved by the British troops. From the anxious desire of complying with his Majesty's orders we have agreed to the inclosed capitulation, and every thing now appears perfectly quiet, and all parties reconciled.

I have the honour to be, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) HENRY NEWCOME.

Orpheus, Malacca Roads, August 25, 1795.

PRELIMINARY ARTICLES.

The measures adopted by the Dutch Government of Malacca subsequently to the amicable proposals tendered by the Naval and Military Commanders of the British forces, by the agency of Mr. Forbes Ross McDonald, appointed by Commodore Peter Rainer, commanding the British squadron in India, and Colonel

John Braithwaite, commanding the land forces on the coast of Coromandel, having rendered it necessary to debark the troops, towards which the possession of the *Constantia*, a Dutch armed ship, which lay between the English squadron and the Fort, becoming indispensable, actual hostilities commenced by his Majesty's ship the *Resistance* firing upon, and, after exchange of some guns, taking possession of her; and, having been followed up by the discharge of several guns from the Dutch Battery upon the British troops after they had gained the shore, are circumstances which, together with the invitation subsequently given to the British Commanders to take possession of the Fort, cannot be considered in other light than ultimately placing the Dutch garrison in the predicament of having surrendered as prisoners of war, and which has been since acknowledged by the Dutch Government to have been their expectation. Agreed---A. Couperus.

Nevertheless, in obedience to the commands of his Britannic Majesty, requiring us to cultivate the alliance, which has so long and so happily subsisted between the two nations, we dispense with the unparticipated control, which the foregoing circumstances would warrant our taking upon ourselves, and hereby accede and confirm to the Dutch government its establishment and authority in all civil matters, to the full extent as heretofore; reserving however to ourselves, and those who have been in immediate connection with us upon the service, a claim to the public property in Malacca, and the shipping in the Roads, to the extent which his Britannic Majesty may be graciously pleased to determine; and for this purpose the value of the public property ashore and in the Roads, is to be estimated and placed in deposit, promising on our part to give protection to public and private property under the above reservation, and to defend the interests of the ancient Dutch Government against their enemy the French, to the utmost of our power, under the following conditions. Agreed---A. Couperus.

The commanding Officer of the British troops to be acknowledged Commandant of the fort and garrison of Malacca, and military posts thereupon depending, with a seat as Second in Council. Agreed. A. Couperus.

The keys of the fort to be lodged with him, and the military stores of every description to be delivered over to him. Agreed. A. Couperus.

The Parole to be given by him. Agreed. A. Couperus.

The disposal of the Dutch garrison to be wholly at his discretion. Agreed. A. Couperus.

A fund to be assured to him in monthly payments, for the subsistence of the troops, and for the defence of the fort and its dependencies; and that provision for this fund be made in the first instance. Agreed. A. Couperus.

This article to be understood as agreed to, so far as the resources of the Dutch Government of Malacca and its dependencies extend.

N. B. This paragraph by Mr. Couperus.

In consideration of the extraordinary expence incurred by the British Government, in sending their troops for the protection of their allies the Dutch at Malacca, the Governor and Council of that settlement will represent these circumstances to the Governor-General and Council of Batavia, and in forwarding an account of the monthly expence of the British troops, they will make application to the Governor General, that he may provide for it. Agreed. A. Couperus.

The English and Dutch flags to be displayed, when occasion requires, upon the two flag staffs which are already erected. Agreed. A. Couperus.

The armed vessels belonging to the Malacca Government shall be put under the orders of the British naval Commander. Agreed. A. Couperus.

Order shall be sent by the Dutch Government to their Officers commanding at Rhio and Peru, to put themselves and their garrison under the orders of the Officer commanding the British forces. Agreed. A. Couperus.

The above Conditions being drawn up in general terms, as the basis of connection with the Protecting Power, the illustration which any of them may require will be arranged and detailed in a subsequent paper, subject, however, in whole or in part, to the future regulation of the British Government in India.

A true Copy, (Signed)

H. NEWCOME.

DAN. INCE, Dep. Sec.

SATURDAY, APRIL 16.

HORSE GUARDS, April 13.

A letter of which the following is an Extract, dated Calcutta, December 15, 1795, has been received by the Right Hon. Henry Dundas, one of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State from Major-General Sir Robert Abercromby, K. B. Commander in Chief of his Majesty's and the East-India Company's Forces in Bengal.

" I have the honour to inform you that Major Petrie, soon after the surrender of Cochin, detached a force against the Dutch Fort of Quilon, and their Forts of Porca and Quilon in the Travancore country. They were delivered up without resistance; and we are now in possession of all their Settlements on the Continent of India."

ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, April 16.

Extract of a letter from Sir Edward Pellew, Bart. Captain of his Majesty's ship Indefatigable, to Mr. Nepean, dated off Quiberon, the 9th of April, 1796.

On the 20th ultimo, we chased three Corvettes, one of which, La Volage of 26 guns, we drove on shore under a battery in the mouth of the Loire, and dismasted her, but she was afterwards got off. In this affair the Amazon had four men wounded; the other two ships got into the Loire. We have also captured and destroyed the vessels as per inclosed list.

List of ships and Vessels referred to in the above Extract, viz.

Favorite Sultana, Brig, laden with salt---captured.
 Friends, Brig, laden with flour, &c.---captured.
 Name unknown, Brig, in Ballast---sunk.
 Name unknown, Chasse Maree, empty---sunk.
 Providence, Chasse Maree, laden with wine and brandy---captured.
 Name unknown, Brig, laden with empty casks---sunk.
 Four Marys, Brig in ballast---captured.
 Amiable Justine, Brig, in ballast---captured.
 La Nouvelle Union, Brig, in ballast---captured.

Ships of War from L'Orient to Brest.

La Sagesse and la Eglatant, driven into the Loire.
 La Volage, driven on shore and dismasted, but was got off again.

EDWARD PELLEW.

SATURDAY, APRIL 23.

HORSE GUARDS, April 23, 1796.

Letters, of which the following are a copy and an extract, have been received by the Right Honourable Henry Dundas, one of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, from Major-General the Earl of Balcarres, Lieutenant-Governor of the island of Jamaica.

SIR,

CASTLE WEMYS, January 30, 1796.

I had the honour to inform you, by my dispatch of the 30th of December, 1795, that I had entered into a Treaty of Peace with the Trewlaney Maroons. Two of the articles were very important, namely the surrender of themselves and arms, and their giving up all the runaway slaves who had joined them in rebellion, notwithstanding the Treaty I had not the smallest confidence in their sincerity, and every preparation was made to continue the War with unabated vigour.

Three weeks having elapsed without any apparent intention, on the part of the Maroons, to fulfil the Treaty, I ordered the Honourable Major-General Walpole to move forward, on the 14th instant, with a strong column of regular troops.

He had only advanced some yards when a message was delivered from the Maroon Chief, begging that no further hostile step should be taken.

As we had experienced much duplicity and evasion, it was judged expedient to move slowly on, and the line of march was so arranged as to give the Maroons an opportunity of coming in with safety. This had the desired effect. The Maroons, to the number of five hundred, surrendered themselves, and were conducted within our posts. Including those whom I had formerly secured, I have in my possession near six hundred.

Thirty Maroon men and one hundred women and children still remain out; of this number several men are severely wounded, and others sick. I do not compute the effective Maroon warriors now in rebellion to exceed fourteen, and these are afraid to come in from a consciousness of their crimes.

The Maroon rebellion I think is drawing to a close; and a substantial proof of my assertion is, that public credit, which was destroyed by this revolt, is now completely restored. The general opinion is, that property has acquired a degree of security which it never heretofore had in this Island.

His Majesty's forces, Regulars and Militia, have fought the rebels in more than twenty actions. They have been impelled by one sentiment, that of crushing a most daring, unprovoked, and ungrateful rebellion.

I should indeed find it a most arduous task to detail individual merit. The efforts of the whole community have been directed to shew their attachment to his Majesty, and to maintain his Government and their own happiness against all banditti whatsoever. I must, however, recommend to his Majesty's notice the Honorable Major-General Walpole; and I am proud to say, that much is owing to his personal activity, and excellent conduct. Our success though great, is not without its alloy. The Maroon rebels, like to other rebels, have found it easier to raise rebellion than to quell it. The runaway slaves are still in the woods, ill armed, and with very little ammunition. Their reduction may take some time, and create further expence and uneasiness to the country; but they merit the less consideration, as I am happy to give the most unqualified assurances of the excellent and peaceable disposition of the negroe slaves throughout the Island.

I have the honor to be, &c.

BALCARRES.

Extract of a Letter from the Earl of Balcarres to Mr. Dundas, dated February 15, 1796.

My letter of the 30th of January apprized you, that thirty Maroon men and one hundred women and children remained out in rebellion.

I have now the honour to inform you, that, after having ineffectually searched for them, from four different points, forty-three more have surrendered themselves, of which six are stout, able Maroon men. The Maroons now out consist of twenty-four men and sixty-three women and children.

HORSE-GUARDS, April 23.

Dispatches have this day been received by the Right Honourable Henry Dundas, one of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, from Major-General Leigh, dated at Martinique, January 27, and Barbadoes, March 10, 1796: by the former of which it appears, that on the 20th of January, the enemy at St. Vincents made an attack on the British Post at Millar's Ridge, which they continued with great violence from day light until it was quite dark, but were finally repulsed with considerable loss, after twice attempting to carry the redoubt. At the commencement of the action Lieutenant-Colonel Prevost, having advanced with a view of surprising an advanced picquet of the enemy was twice wounded, but is not thought to be in any danger. The behaviour of this Officer, of Major McLeod, of the 59th, who commanded at Millar's Ridge, and of the other Officers, is mentioned by General Leigh, in the strongest terms of commendation. The total loss of the British during the action was 2 serjeants and 22 rank and file killed, 1 Lieutenant-Colonel (Prevost) 2 serjeants and 31 rank and file wounded.

By the dispatch of the 10th of March it appears, that Major Wright of the 25th regiment who commanded at Pilot's Hill, in the island of Grenada, was obliged to abandon that position, and fall back to the post of Sautour, on the night of the 29th of February. It is stated, that the want of water, of which the supply had been entirely cut off by the enemy, rendered this retreat necessary, and that it was effected in good order, with the loss of only two privates badly wounded. Previous to the retreat, Major Wright had been frequently attacked by the enemy without success. His loss on these occasions was:

25th regiment.---2 rank and file killed; and 2 ditto wounded.

Black Rangers.---8 rank and file killed; 10 ditto wounded, 2 ditto missing.

ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, April 23.

Extract of a Letter from Admiral Peyton, Commander in Chief of his Majesty's ships and vessels in the Downs, to Evan Nepean Esq. Secretary to the Admiralty, dated on board the Savage sloop, April 21, 1796.

I have received a letter from Captain Roe, of his Majesty's sloop *Racoon*, acquainting me he had taken, on the coast of France, a French lugger privateer, with thirteen men, armed with blunderbusses and musquets, which had been out from Dunkirk five days, but had taken nothing.

ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, April 23, 1796.

Extract of a Letter from Rear-Admiral Parker, Commander in Chief of his Majesty's ships and vessels at Jamaica, to Evan Nepean, Esq. dated Swiftsure, at the Mole, 29th of February, 1796.

I beg leave to acquaint you, for their Lordships information, that the Honourable Captain Carpenter, of his Majesty's ship *Intrepid*, being stationed to cruize off old Cape Francois for the reinforcements expected from Cork, fell in with a French frigate, which, after ten hours chase, (the latter part being very light airs of wind,) first anchored, and afterwards, by their cutting her cables, drove on shore, in a cove a little to the eastward of Porto Plata, when the crew abandoned her, and she was taken possession of and got off, without damage by Captain Carpenter.

It appears by the log-book that she is called *La Percante*, commanded by the Citoyen *Jacque Clement Tourtellet*, Lieutenant de Vaisseau, mounting twenty 9-pounders, and six brass 2 pounders, and had on board near two hundred men, dispatched by order of the Minister of Marine and Colonies, and sailed from Rochelle the 6th of December last, with orders not to be spoke with, nor to speak with any thing.

STATE PAPERS.

The following STATE PAPERS, which Ministers have officially delivered to all the Foreign Ambassadors on the proposed, and rejected Overtures for a *General Pacification*, will be found of a most extraordinary, as well as important nature.

NOTE.

Transmitted to M. BARTHELEMI, by Mr. WICKHAM, March 8, 1796.

THE undersigned, his Britannic Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary to the Swiss Cantons, is authorized to convey to Monsieur Barthelemi, the desire of his Court to be made acquainted, through him, with the dispositions of France, in regard to the object of a general pacification. He therefore requests Monsieur Barthelemi to transmit him in writing, (and after having made the necessary enquiries) his answer to the following questions.

1. Is there the disposition in France to open a negotiation with his Majesty and his allies for the re-establishment of a general Peace, upon just and suitable terms, by sending, for that purpose, Ministers to a Congress, at such place as may hereafter be agreed upon?

2. Would there be the disposition to communicate to the undersigned the general grounds of a pacification, such as France would be willing to propose; in order that his Majesty and his Allies might thereupon examine in concert, whether they are such as might serve as the foundation of a negotiation for Peace?

3. Or would there be a desire to propose any other way whatever, for arriving at the same end, that of a general pacification?

The undersigned is authorized to receive from Monsieur Barthelemi the answer to these questions, and to transmit them to his Court, but he is not authorized to enter with him into negotiation or discussion upon these subjects.

(Signed)

W. WICKHAM.

Berne, March 8, 1796.

NOTE.

Transmitted to Mr. WICKHAM, by M. BARTHELEMI, March 26, 1796.

The undersigned, Ambassador of the French Republic to the Helvetic Body, has transmitted to the Executive Directory the note which Mr. Wickham, his

Britannic Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary to the Swiss Cantons, was pleased to convey to him, dated the 8th of March. He has it in command to answer it by an exposition of the sentiments and dispositions of the Executive Directory.

The Directory ardently desires to procure for the French Republic a just, honourable, and solid Peace. The step taken by Mr. Wickham would have afforded to the Directory a real satisfaction, if the declaration itself, which that Minister makes, of his not having any order, any power to negotiate, did not give room to doubt of the sincerity of the pacific intentions of his Court. In fact, if it was true that England began to know her real interests; that she wished to open again for herself the sources of abundance and prosperity; if she sought for peace with good faith; would she propose a Congress, of which the necessary result must be to render all negotiation endless? Or would she confine herself to the asking in a vague manner, that the French Government should point out any other way whatever, for attaining the same object, that of a general pacification?

Is it that this step has had no other object than to obtain for the British Government the favourable impression which always accompanies the first overtures for Peace? May it not have been accompanied with the hope that they would produce no effect?

However that may be, the Directory, whose policy has no other guides than openness and good faith, will follow in its explanations, a conduct which shall be wholly conformable to them. Yielding to the ardent desire by which it is animated to procure Peace for the French Republic and all nations, it will not fear to declare itself openly. Charged by the Constitution with the execution of the laws, it cannot make, or listen to, any proposal that would be contrary to them. The Constitutional Act does not permit it to consent to any alienation of that, which, according to the existing laws, constitutes the territory of the Republic.

With respect to the countries occupied by the French armies, and which have not been united to France, they as well as other interests political and commercial, may become the subject of a negotiation, which will present to the Directory the means of proving how much it desires to attain speedily to a happy pacification.

The Directory is ready to receive, in this respect, any overtures that shall be just, reasonable, and compatible with the dignity of the Republic.

(Signed)

BARTHELEMI.

*Basle, the 6th of Germinal, the 4th year of
the French Republic (26th of March, 1796.)*

NOTE.

The Court of London has received, from its Minister in Switzerland, the answer made to the questions which he had been charged to address to Monsieur BARTHELEMI, in respect to the opening of a negotiation for the re-establishment of general tranquillity.

This court has seen, with regret, how far the tone and spirit of that answer, the nature and extent of the demands which it contains, and the manner of announcing them, are remote from any disposition for Peace.

The inadmissible pretension, there avowed, of appropriating to France all that the Laws actually existing there may have comprised under the denomination of French Territory. To a demand such as this, is added an express declaration, that no proposal contrary to it will be made, or ever listened to; and this under the pretence of an internal regulation, the provisions of which are wholly foreign to all other Nations.

While these dispositions shall be persisted in, nothing is left for the KING but to PROSECUTE A WAR equally just and necessary,

Whenever his Enemies shall manifest more pacific sentiments, his Majesty will at all times be eager to concur in them, by lending himself, in concert with his Allies, to all such measures as shall be best calculated to re-establish general tranquillity, on conditions just, honourable, and permanent, either by the establishment of a Congress, which has been so often, and so happily the means of restoring Peace to Europe; or by a preliminary discussion of the principles which may be proposed on either side, as a foundation of a general Pacification; or lastly, by an impartial examination of any other way which may be pointed out to him for arriving at the same salutary end.

Downing Street, April 10, 1796.

MONTHLY CHRONICLE.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

NEW YORK, February 6.

GREAT objections are made in Congress to the mint establishment, on account of the expence attending it. The benefit which the commercial part of the community would derive from the abolition of the different nominal values of coin, is manifest, and will ultimately impress its due weight.

The Assembly of this State, this morning, decided against the expediency of adopting resolutions for amending the constitution of the United States, similar to those from Virginia. The bill for amending the Criminal Law of New York is yet before the legislature.

The exports from the United States, for last year, exceeded the one preceding 14,963,000 dollars. The export of the seven Northern States was 31,000,000. The difference chiefly arises from the excessive price provisions bear in Europe.

CADIZ, March 4.

THIS place is in a state of commotion and phrenzy, with the presence of the Royal Family, who arrived two days ago from Seville. There are no bounds to their joy and exultation in having, within their walls, this superior order of beings. The balconies are hung with curtains; obelisks, statues, and triumphal arches are erected; bands of music play in the squares; bull feasts are exhibited in the day, and illuminations at night. The people parade in their best clothes. The Monks decorate their convents with variegated lamps; and forsake their cells, to join in the carnival. The men of war in the bay, Richery's and all, fire Royal salutes, and make a fine shew with their flags displayed. The Royal party went on board the Santissima Trinidad, of 132 guns, the four decker, from whence they viewed a very pretty sham sea-fight in the bay.

COPENHAGEN, March 8.

CITIZEN Grouvelle, Minister from the French Republic, went, on the 4th instant, in a magnificent carriage, to the Royal palace at Amalienburg; where, in his acknowledged quality of French Minister, he was honoured with the first audience from his Majesty and the Royal family.

Count Bernstorff, our Minister of State, has thought necessary, before this decisive step, to address the following official note to the Danish Ministers, who reside with the different powers of Europe.

“That the system of his Danish Majesty, being perfectly free from all passions and prejudices, founding itself, in all cases, upon the principles which are offered by prudence and truth, he regulates his conduct according to the modifications, which become as just as they are indispensable, by the alterations occasioned by circumstances; that as long as there existed in France no other than a Revolutionary Government, his Majesty thought himself obliged to refuse to admit a minister from that Government; but at present, since the French Constitution is organized, and become regular, the said obligation is vanished, and therefore, in a short time, Mr. Grouvelle will be publicly acknowledged: declaring besides, that this step means nothing more than a natural result of circumstances, and an additional proof of his Majesty's perfect and impartial neutrality.”

PARIS, April 1.

THE day before yesterday the Marquis Del Campo, Ambassador from Spain to the French Republic, presented his letter of Credence to the French Directory, and had his first audience. Preparations had been made at the Luxemburg for giving to this ceremony a suitable degree of splendour and solemnity.

25. Accounts are just received from our armies in Italy. The campaign is opened; and our troops, under the command of General *Buonaparte*, have defeated the Austrians, under General *Beaulieu*, in two decisive actions, near *Monte Lezino*. The Austrians, in the two actions, have lost in killed, wounded, and prisoners taken, 15,000 men, together with forty pieces of cannon, their colours, waggons, &c. &c.

HOME NEWS.

EXETER, April 1, 1796.

ON Thursday, an apprentice to a dyer, doing something to an immense cauldron of boiling water, fell in, and continued immersed for half a minute; on being taken out, although scalded and burned to a shocking degree, he appeared in full possession of all his faculties, received the sacrament, and for about four hours, the time he survived the accident, appeared free from that pain our horror annexes to that description of death.

Taunton, April 1, A servant maid, at our assizes, received 400l. damages from her master, Mr. Higgins, of Shepton Mallet, for a violent and unprovoked assault.

Chester, April 1. At the Conway Assizes, the Grand Jury found a Bill of Indictment against the Bishop of Bangor, his Agent, Chaplain, and two other divines, for a riot; and also another Bill against the Bishop for an assault!

8. Yesterday came on, at the Sessions House, Clerkenwell, before Mr. Mainwaring and several other Magistrates, the trial of Mrs. Phipoe, who stood indicted for an assault on Mr. Courtois. The particulars of this case will immediately recur to the minds of our readers, when we mention that Mrs. Phipoe is the same person who was tried and convicted some months ago at the Old Bailey, on a charge of feloniously and forcibly obtaining from the said Mr. Courtois a promissory note for 2000l. but her case being left for the opinion of the twelve Judges, it was given in her favour, a promissory note not being considered as a thing of value; the Court however ordered her to be detained for the assault, but which she gave bail to answer. On her trial yesterday, the same circumstances were adduced in evidence against her as at the Old Bailey, and on which the Jury found her Guilty.

The Chairman said the Court would take time to consider the sentence, and ordered her to be brought up on the last day of Sessions.

The sentence of the Court afterwards was that she be confined one year in Newgate.

8. Tuesday last came on the election of a Governor and a Deputy Governor of the Bank of England, for the year ensuing, when

Daniel Giles, Esq. was chosen Governor, and
Thomas Raikes, Esq. Deputy Governor.

And Wednesday came on the election of twenty-four Directors, when the following Gentlemen were chosen.

Samuel Beachcroft, Esq.
Tho. Boddington, Esq.
Roger Bohem, Esq.
Samuel Bosanquet, Esq.
Bicknell Coney, Esq.
Edward Darell, Esq.
Tho. Dea, Esq.
N. Bogle French, Esq.
William Manning, Esq.
Job Mathew, Esq.
Wm. Mellish Esq.
Sir R. Neavé, Bart.

Joseph Nutt, Esq.
John Pearse, Esq.
George Peters, Esq.
Charles Pole, Esq.
John Puget, Esq.
James Reed, Esq.
Edward Simeon, Esq.
Godfrey Thornton, Esq.
Samuel Thornton, Esq.
B. Watson, Esq. and Ald.
Mark Weyland, Esq.
Benj. Winthrop, Esq.

10. This day the Sessions ended at the Old Bailey, when fifteen prisoners received sentence of death; one to be transported for fourteen, and eighteen for seven years, twelve to be confined in Newgate, ten in the House of Correction, nine to be publicly and six privately whipped and discharged. Six of the Convicts sentenced the last Session to death, received his Majesty's pardon on condition of being transported for life.

TRIAL OF VICE-ADMIRAL CORNWALLIS.

PORTSMOUTH, *April 9.* Yesterday the COURT MARTIAL for the Trial of VICE ADMIRAL CORNWALLIS met on Board the ORION, of 74 guns, laying in our Harbour.

The members were as follows :

ADMIRAL EARL HOWE, *President.*

Admirals Sir Peter Parker	Admirals H. Harvey.
Lord Bridport	R. R. Bligh
G. Vandepuit	C. M. Pole
Sir A. Gardner	Captains E. E. Nugent
J. Colpoys	C. P. Hamilton
Sir R. Curtis	E. Dod.

Judge Advocate, SIR G. JACKSON, Bart.

The charges stated, that the Admiral, after having proceeded part of the way to the West Indies, did return contrary to the orders he had received; that instead of shifting his flag, as he ought when the Royal Sovereign had been disabled, he gave the command of the convoy to another Officer; and that after his return, he disobeyed a second order, by not hoisting his flag on board the Astrea frigate, and proceeding to the West Indies. As the charges originated with the Admiralty, a prosecutor did not appear.

To substantiate these Charges, the order given to Admiral Cornwallis, in February, to proceed in the Royal Sovereign, to the West Indies, was read, as was the Admiral's letter, mentioning his return and the cause of it. The order of the Board, to proceed in the Astrea, was then read, with the Admiral's reply; in which he stated his precarious health, which would be destroyed if he went out in a frigate, and requesting permission of the Board to wait the repair of the Royal Sovereign.

Sir Charles Cotton proved the delivery of the first order at sea. Mr. Tebbet, master ship builder, of Portsmouth Yard, proved his having examined the damages the Royal Sovereign had received, which could not be repaired either at sea or in the West Indies, and which made it requisite she should return to Dock.

The evidence for the prosecution being closed, Admiral Cornwallis was called upon for his defence; when having a weakness in his eyes, he obtained leave for Mr. Erskine to read a paper, which stated, that his health, injured by a long and laborious life of service, would have justified his having declined the situation offered to him, which he understood was to act under Sir John Laforey; that under this impression, his principal solicitude was for the safety and expedition of the convoy; that the Royal Sovereign being compelled to return, and part of the ships that sailed with him having been separated from the others, he was prevented shifting his flag on board any of those others, by a knowledge that they were not intended to be a part of his squadron, but that each had distinct and secret orders; that had the good of the service required him to interfere with these secret orders, he should not have hesitated to have done so, though at the certainty of that Court Martial to which he knew the act would make him liable; that he trusted it would be believed, his health, or his life, could not, in his estimation, weigh with the good of the service; but that it would have been unworthy the honest pride of a British seaman to have given up his real duty for the appearance of an ostentatious and fruitless zeal; that in the state of his health, he should have been inexcusable in giving up Officers, in whom he knew he in every situation could rely, for others, of whom he was wholly ignorant; but that had he been so inclined, not one of the ships into which he could have gone, was provided, or in any respect fit, to go to the West Indies; that the command he had accepted was not compulsory; his health would have justified its refusal had he disliked it; but the reverse was the case; and it would be absurd to impute to him a deliberate purpose to sacrifice the credit acquired by a long and laborious life; that it was one thing to decide under the difficulty and embarrassment of immediate and pres-

sing necessity, and another to decide after the event had actually taken place; that acting from his judgment, he had a right to a fair discretion was evinced by fresh marks of confidence from the Admiralty, after his arrival at Spithead; that on receiving the order to go out in the *Astrea*, convinced that his doing so, would render him more fit for an Hospital than a command, he had written to Lord Spencer, not to say he would not go, but that he requested to be permitted to wait till the Royal Sovereign was repaired; that he conceived this proposal would have been acceded to, or refused; and that it was impossible to accuse him of disobedience to the order, till the reply to his request should be received: but no reply having been given, he did not stand in the situation of an Officer justifying the disobedience of orders; that the expressions of sailors should least of all men be subject to criticism; that the system of British law was calculated, not to entrap, or entangle in snares, but was built on justice tempered by humanity.

Captain Whitby proved that Admiral Cornwallis had consulted him on the possibility of repairing the Royal Sovereign in the West Indies, and had expressed great concern on examining the Charts &c. to find it could not be done: he likewise swore, from his knowledge of the Admiral's health, that he thought it would have been injured by his going out in the *Astrea*: Mr. Alexander, the Master, and Mr. Kaine, the Surgeon of the Royal Sovereign, gave their testimony to the same effect.

This day (*April 9*) the Court being assembled, delivered its sentence as follows.

SENTENCE.

"The Court is of opinion, that misconduct is imputable to the Vice-admiral, for not having proceeded to the West Indies, in the *Mars*, or *Minotaur*, after the damage the Royal Sovereign sustained; but in consideration of the circumstances of the case, do acquit him of any further censure thereupon."

"And the Court is also of opinion, that the charge of disobedience of the order of the Admiralty, of the 15th of March last, declining to proceed to Barbadoes, in the *Astrea*, is not proved; they therefore, acquit him thereof accordingly."

ADMIRAL CORNWALLIS'S flag was flying on Board the *Royal Sovereign*, during the whole of the *Court Martial*.

Exeter, April 10. A few days ago Thomas Wilson, alias Mountain, was executed at the Drop over the Lodge of the new County gaol, pursuant to his sentence, for robbing the house of Norman M'Caslin, at Plymouth Dock, of three pair of silver knee-buckles, and sundry other articles. Since his confinement he has several times attempted to break prison; and (after his condemnation) he made a hole through a brick-and-half-partition, large enough for him to pass into the chapel gallery, from which he astonishingly ascended into another ten feet above, with fetters nearly weighing 50lb, and so formed as not to permit one foot to step six inches before the other. Here he broke through a plaster partition, and thus got over the brick ceiling of all the cells, and immediately under the roof of the whole building, where he was overheard and soon secured. Searching him, a hooked nail and a bit of tin plate were found. The bit of plate he had whetted to a very keen edge, as a knife to cut up the stout canvas cover of his straw bed into long strips. These he had twisted and strongly tied together, so as to form a very stout rope nearly forty feet long, whereby he intended to have made his descent from the roof into the surrounding yard. He was afterwards confined in a room on the ground-floor so chained that he could reach no wall, and a guard constantly with him---since which his conduct has been a mixture of rage and disappointment, very unbecoming his unhappy situation. He was brought on the platform about twelve o'clock, where he spent some time in addressing the crowd; after which he twice called out aloud, "God save the King!" threw aside his book, and was launched into eternity.

21. The Admiralty received accounts, that the gallant Sir Sydney Smith followed, in his boats, a French lugger privateer which he had driven into the Port of Havre, and which he there boarded and took; but by a combination of events,

the lugger getting aground, he was attacked by a corvette, and some gun boats, by which he, with Messrs. W. More, R. Kenyon, P. Burrowes, and five other inferior Officers, and 24 privates, the entire of his force, were taken prisoners. Lieutenant ierson, on whom the command of the Diamond devolved, sent a flag truce, which brought information from the Governor of Havre, that Sir Sydney was well, and should experience the respect due to so distinguished an Officer.

Sir Sydney, after being examined by the commander of Havre, was sent to Rouen, under an escort.

14. This day Henry Weston, the person who stands charged with forgeries on the Bank to the amount of 17,000*l.* was brought to town from Liverpool, where he was apprehended on Tuesday night, by two of the Bow-street runners, who found him in bed at Bates's hotel.

Soon after he was taken into custody, he made an attempt to put an end to his own life with a razor, which induced the officers to take every instrument of offence from him, and watch him as narrowly as possible. At Hounslow, however, where they stopped to change horses, being permitted to go into the yard, accompanied by one of the officers, he turned his back upon him, and cut his throat with a knife, which he, afterwards, acknowledged he took from a house where they had stopt for refreshment. It being dark at the time, and getting into the chaise immediately, without returning into the house, this circumstance was not perceived till they got to Mr. Addington's house, in Vine-street, before whom the prisoner was immediately taken, when he appeared all covered with blood: a surgeon being sent for, the wound (which at present has no very dangerous symptoms) was sewed up, and he was ordered to remain in custody at the house of an officer in Bow-street, until sufficiently recovered to undergo an examination.

It appeared that he went to Liverpool with an intention of going to the West-Indies, having engaged a passage on board the ship Hector, bound for St. Vincent's which put to sea on Tuesday, but was obliged to return, on account of the wind having changed. All the money found on his person was 160 guineas which, with twenty paid by him for his intended passage, was the whole sum he was possessed of, though he had received 15,000*l.* out of the 17,000 for which he had forged on the Bank. He has lately lost considerable sums at a gaming-house.

On Friday, April 15, he underwent an examination before Mr. Addington, the solicitor of the Bank, and others, at *Carpmeal's* House, in Bow-street. He ingeniously confessed all the various forgeries of which he stood charged, except that of his aunt, Mrs. Harris, which he solemnly denied, declaring, in her presence, that she herself signed both the warrants and assignments for transferring her Stock, which that lady, on her part, as positively contradicted. At the close of the altercation, he burst into a flood of tears, and said, this extraordinary and ill-founded charge from one of his own relations, was the only thing that affected him. He is to be re-examined to-morrow.

After being again examined on the 16th, he was fully committed for trial at the next sessions.

REGRATING.---At the Quarter Sessions, held at Aylesbury, Bucks, Thomas Battams was indicted for regrating. The offence alledged against him, was buying, in Olney Market, fourteen quarters and a half of oats, and selling the same again at sixpence per quarter profit (whereby he gained seven shillings and three pence) in the same Market. The Marquis of Buckingham in the chair, and a Bench of Justices, mostly clergymen, tried the cause. The prisoner acknowledged the fact; but had no intention by such act (which we understand is too common in most Market Towns in the kingdom) to raise the price of corn, and submitted himself to the mercy of the court.

After the Court broke up, each Magistrate was to give in his judgment in writing; some were for a fine of one thousand pounds, and six months imprisonment, others for less, and some few for a trifling fine only proportioned to the offence. The Noble Marquis urged, in mitigation of punishment, the Prisoner's zeal in enrolling his sons in the Buckinghamshire Yeomanry, and then pronounced the sentence of the Court. viz. To be confined in the common gaol fourteen days, to pay a fine of two hundred pounds, and to remain a prisoner till paid.

April. 22. The Attorney General prayed the judgment of the Court of King's Bench on Kidd Wake, who had been tried and convicted for insulting his Majesty during his passage to the House of Peers, on the first day of the present Session of Parliament, by running after the carriage, and crying, "No War; down with George, &c."

An affidavit was produced on the part of the Prisoner, stating, that he went to see the King go to the House of Peers merely from curiosity; that he was not connected with any party or body of men, nor did he speak to any person in the crowd, or intend in any respect to insult his Majesty; that his principles were perfectly in favour of the Constitution and Government of this Country, and that the reason of his running so near the King's coach was, because he was very short-sighted, and anxious to see his Majesty.

Thirteen persons swore to the prisoner's being short-sighted, and bore testimony to his being a young man of good character.

Mr. Erskine addressed a few words to the Court, in mitigation of punishment. He dwelt upon the circumstance of the prisoner not going to the procession in company with any disaffected persons, but his being a casual spectator, totally unconnected with any association or conspiracy formed for any disloyal purposes.

Mr. Serjeant Shepherd followed on the same side.

The Attorney General felt it his duty to observe, that the offence of which the prisoner stood convicted, was the highest misdemeanour on which the Court could be called upon to pronounce a punishment. It was an outrage on the person of the King, while he was in the discharge of one of the most important duties to the country.

The Court considered the offence to be of a very serious nature, and therefore would take time to consider of the punishment. In the mean time the prisoner was remanded to Newgate.

PROMOTIONS.

GENERAL F. Dundas, to be Commander, in Chief at the Cape of Good Hope. General Clarke to be Commander in Chief in Bengal. General Stuart to be Commander in Chief at Bombay. The Rev. Mr. Nasmith of Snaewell near Newmarket, to the Rectory of Upwell, in Norfolk. The Rev. George Hay Drummond, Brother to the Earl of Kinnoul to the Rectory of Rawmarsh, with that of Tankersley, both in the West Riding of the County of York.

MARRIAGES.

IN October last, at Calcutta, Captain Kennard Smith to Miss Frances Pierce. In October last at Arcot, C. D. Dent, Esq. of Madras, to Miss Harriet Neale, March, 26. Mr. Charles Lashbrook, of Cannon Street, to Miss Thompson. At Exworth, Benjamin Cobb, Esq. to Miss Cartwright. 27. Rev. John Richards of Grange Com: Wexford to Miss Paul. 29. Major F. Slater of the 60th Regiment to Miss Rebow. J Upstone Esq. to Miss E. Cafe. 30. At St. John's Clerkenwell, Mr. John Maberly, of Lincoln's Inn Fields to Miss Leader. The Rev. John Collins, Vicar of Cheshunt to Miss Smith. Charles Higgs Esq. of Cheltenham, to Mrs. Browne. Mr. Farquhar, of Norton Street to Miss Nancy Deas de Faria. The Rev. H. Wynne, of Killucan, Ireland, to Miss Eckersal. April 1. B. Sullivan, Esq. to Miss Sage. 3. In Dublin W. Farran, Esq. to Miss E. Smith. 4. Thomas Maude Esq. of Newcastle upon Tyne, to Miss Roxby. J. Heather Esq. to Miss M'Dowell. 5. At York Sir R. Wilmot, Bart. to Miss Grimstone. Mr. Francis Wilson, of Stockport, to Miss Browne. 6. Mr. Pringle, of Ely Place, to Miss Tutt. 9, W. Barnett, Esq. of York to Miss E. C. Markham. 10. W. Armitage, Esq. of Lincoln's Inn to Miss Haistwell. 11. Major Thomas, of the 28th Regiment, to Miss M. Bulmer. 11. T. Askew Esq. to Miss E. Cary. 14. At Leominster, Mr. C. H. Hebb to Miss Weaver. 15. N. Best, Esq. of the Middle Temple to Miss E. Wood. 16. The Rev. Mr. Jolliffe, of Poole, to Miss Ann Carpenter. Earl Temple to Lady Anne Elizabeth Bridges. 19. Edward Wilbraham Bockle Esq. M. P. to Miss Taylor.

OBITUARY.

IN October last, his Highness the Nabob Wallajah, Nabob of the Carnatic. At eleven o'clock, the Fort and his Majesty's ships in the roads began to fire minute guns, and continued to the number of years his Highness had completed, which was seventy-eight. At twelve o'clock the body was removed from the palace, at Chepauk. under a canopy of state, to the place of interment, the Grand Mosque, at Treplihane.

His Highness had ever been regarded and esteemed as the firm and sincere Ally of the English Nation. His Highness will be succeeded on the Mfund by his illustrious eldest son, his Highness the Nabob Umdut ul Omorah.

March 21. William Benson Earle, Esq. of the Close, Salisbury, who has by Will left the following bequests:--- To the Matrons of Bishop Seth Ward's College, in the Close, Salisbury, he has bequeathed the sum of 2000 guineas. To St. George's Hospital, Hyde Park Corner---to Hetheringham's Charity for the relief of the Blind---to the Philanthropic Society---and to the Fund for the Relief of Decayed Musicians, a contingent legacy of 1000 guineas each. To the three Hospitals established in Winchester, Salisbury, and Bristol, 100 guineas each. To the respective parishes of the Close, St. Edmund, St. Thomas, and St. Martin in Salisbury, 50 guineas each. For different charitable purposes, in the parish of Grately, Hants, the sum of 400 guineas; and to the poor Cottagers in Grately, his tenants, the fee simple of their cottages. To the parish of North Stoke, in Somersetshire, 30 guineas. To the Royal Society, 200 guineas---to the Society of Antiquarians, 200 guineas---and to the President of the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, &c. 200 guineas, for the purchase of Books for the Public Libraries of those three respectable Societies. To the Bath Agricultural Society, 100 guineas. He has bequeathed the sum of 400 guineas for erecting a window of painted glass, in the great West nave, of Salisbury Cathedral; and an annual subscription of

five guineas for ten years, towards the support of the Salisbury Concert; and a further sum of 250 guineas for the three next Triennial Musical Festivals at Salisbury, after his decease. Besides the above public legacies, he has amply remembered his friends, and has bequeathed many others, with a view to encourage merit, and to reward industry and goodness.

March 26. Mr. Currey, Apothecary at Littlehampton, in Sussex, and Surgeon of the Royal William Man of War. He was seized whilst at dinner, at his house in Littlehampton, by a paralytic paroxysm, which instantly deprived him of the use of all his faculties. He languished till Tuesday last, without discovering the least knowledge of his nearest relatives, and then expired.

April 1. In the Parish of Humberie, Scotland, Donald Cameron, Farmer, who brought up a family of twenty-five children, whom he had by two wives. By his first wife he had five; by his second he had twenty. This second wife, at four births, brought him nine children, and seven of these in less than twenty-two months; for she had first two; three in less than eleven months after; and two in the like space of time. All the twenty-five children lived to be useful members of society; and many of them are alive at present, and opulent in their station as farmers.

In Westminster, Lieut. Col. H. Minchin, M. P.

Lately, in the South of France, the Marchioness Puibusque, Daughter of Governor Holwell.

The Rev. J. Bennett, Rector of Sunningwell, Berks.

Lately, Peter Paulus, President of the Dutch National Assembly.

Lately, at St. Andrew's Scotland, the Hon. Mrs. K. Anstruther.

2. John Hatton, Esq. of Shropshire.

At the Hague, Countess de Weldezen, sister to Lord Howard.

At Wedmore, Somerset, by a church bell falling on him, Mr. J. Richards, School-master.

Last month, at Pisa, Capt. Leicester of the Navy.

3. Mrs. Herbert, late mistress of the White Horse Inn, Baldock, Herts.

Lately, at Falmouth, on her way to Lisbon, the Hon. Mrs. C. H. Hutchinson.

Lately, at Inverness, Major Munro, of the 68th Regiment.

4. The Reigning Dutchess of Deux Ponts, in her 31st year.

5. At Kilmarnock, Scotland, Mr. Muir, aged 86.

6. At Aberdeen, in the 77th year of his age, George Campbell, D.D. F.R.S. Edinburgh, late Principal and Professor of Divinity in the Marischal College and University of Aberdeen, and one of the Ministers of Aberdeen.

7. Mrs. Lewis, wife of Percival Lewis, Esq.

Mrs. Price, relict of Jonathan Price, Esq. of Salter's-hill, London.

8. Hon. Dr. Wenman, fellow of All Souls' College, his body was found drowned in the River Charwell, at Water Eaton, near Oxford. The manner of the accident is variously accounted for. Dr. Wenman was brother to Lord Viscount Wenman.

9. At Kedwelly, in South Wales, aged 79, the once musical and celebrated Morelli, who for many years led the Band at the Opera.

10. At the Hot Wells, Bristol, the Hon. Miss Langton, daughter of B. Langton, Esq. and the Countess Dowager of Rothes.

In St. Patrick's Hospital, Dublin, Nanny M'Daniel, at the advanced age of 106. She possessed her faculties to the last moment, and through life enjoyed an uninterrupted health. This Woman, when young, married a soldier, and attended his fortune in the field; where, on the plains of Fontenoy he fought for honour, and fell, leaving her a widow with two children. The humanity of her deceased husband's Colonel, enabled her and her children to reach Ireland. Here another soldier was her lot, who fell at the battle of Preston Pans, where she was present, and had a son also killed in the field, whose wife and child were in the camp. On her return to Dublin, she was appointed by the Governors a Servant in the Foundation of Dean Swift, and was the first person that ever slept in that Hospital, where she had remained ever since. The Governors had superannuated her some years, and supported her with decency and comfort to her final close.

11. Mrs. Ann Collins, of Hampstead, aged 63.

Mrs. Elizabeth Filcox, of Merriman's-hill, aged 91. Her husband died lately of the small pox, aged 72.

Mr. Huttley, formerly of the Bath Theatre.

12. At Clapham, J. Corneck, Esq.

13. The Lady of the Hon. Everard Arundel, Uncle of Lord Arundel of Wardour.

The Lady of Sir A. Edmonstone, Bart. of Argyle-street.

14. At his house on St. James's Parade, Bath, Major-General Hughes, one of the Colonel Commandants of his Majesty's Marine Forces, at an advanced period of life, after rather a lingering illness, universally respected, not only as a private character in society, but as a good officer, having served his country upwards of forty years. The General received his first commission from the late Admiral Forbes himself, when one of the Lords of the Admiralty, being a particular friend of the family.

At Hemmingford, Hunts, Mrs. Lucas, wife of C. Lucas, Esq. aged 32.

15. Suddenly, Mr. Bond, of Islington.

Suddenly, Mr. Thomas Bagnold, Jun. son of ---- Bagnold, Esq. late Brewer, of Westminster.

16. The Rev. Dr. Pengrove, Master of Pembroke College, Oxford.

John Eld, Esq. of Sleighford Com. Stafford, at the age of 92.

17. Lately, Dangeville, the celebrated French Actress.

18. At Church Linch, Worcestershire, Mrs. Turner, aged 110.

19. At his house in Queen-square, Bloomsbury, John Fryer, Esq.

At Southampton, E. Lilly, Esq. aged 82.

20. Lord Somerville, one of the sixteen Peers of Scotland.

At Bridgewater, on her way to Bristol Hot-wells, in her 19th year, Lady A. M. Montague, sister to the Duke of Montague.

21. At Pimlico, Mr. Yates, the celebrated Comedian, aged 83. He is said to have died worth 30,000l.

22. Dr. Harris, of Doctors Commons; the celebrated Civilian. He has left 40,000l. to St. George's, and 10,000l. to the Lying-in Hospitals, besides other great and similar bequests.

LIST OF BANKRUPTS.

April 2. ANTHONY Jeffery, late of Thornford, Dorsetshire, dealer. Richard Waring, of Bridlington, Yorkshire, grocer. Thomas Boardman, of Manchester, tallow-chandler. Thomas Lowe, of Shernyford, Lancashire, dealer. Edmund Godsall, the younger, of St. Dunstan's Hill, Tower-street, London. William Wright, of the New Road, St. Mary-le-bone, Middlesex, coachmaker. Joseph Bell, of Bunhill-row, Middlesex, watchmaker. Joseph Lythall, the elder, and Richard Lythall, both of Coventry, woolstaplers. April 5. Thomas Corbet, of Minchampton, Gloucestershire, clothier. William Parker, of Hereford, joiner. Edward Cashin, of London-Wall, merchant. April 9. Elizabeth Staples, Christopher Shaw, Moses William Staples, and Henry Guy, of Cornhill, London, bankers. Samuel Staples, of Cullum-street, Fenchurch-street, London. Christopher Shaw, and Thomas Shaw, of Southampton, bankers. William Thomas, of Stonefield, Oxfordshire, horse-dealer. John Cheltnam, of Brook-street, Holborn, liquor-merchant. John Smart, of Watling-street, London, warehouseman. John Cock, late of Deptford, Kent, cheesemonger. April 12. William Barker, of Rye, Sussex, wool-stapler. Foljambe Wood, of Barnsley, Yorkshire, linen-manufacturer. Edward Rutt, of Bermondsey-street, Southwark, wool-stapler. John Duce, of Birmingham, snuff maker. John Downing, of Shad Thames, Surry, sail-maker. John Everingham Harrison, of Nottingham, hatter. John Frushard, of the Strand, Middlesex, broker. Samuel Wodley, of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, dealer. William Worrall, of Manchester, Lancashire, inn-keeper. Walter Pingo, of Tottenham, Middlesex, scrivener. John Lincoln, of St. George's Fields, Surry, baker. James Shaw and John Young of Newgate-street, London, hatters. April 16. Elizabeth Bennett, of Tunbridge Wells, Kent, carrier. Mathew Judkin, of Leadenhall Market, London, salesman. James Kirk, of Gravesend, Kent, cooper. William Stewart, of Sloane Square, Chelsea, merchant. William Kerr, of Shepherd-street, May Fair, Middlesex, bit maker. George Bailey, of Bristol, dealer. John Lindsey, of Hoxton, Middlesex, tallow-chandler. Henry Lee, of Shoreditch, Middlesex, silversmith. April 19. W. Bent, of Paternoster-row, bookseller. W. Chapman, of Oxford street, stationer. T. Reeve, of Epsom, surry, taylor. G. Sinkler, of Kingston upon Hull, merchant. E. Harrison, the younger, of Leicester, money scrivener. C. Dalrymple, of Tower Royal, London, money scrivener. J. Kerr, of Bunhill Row, Middlesex, carpenter. T. Neale, of Dursley, Gloucestershire, dealer. R. Dimels, of Nottingham, hatter. April 23. J. Filby, S. Terry, and T. Filby, of St. Paul's Church Yard, Haberdashers. T. Knibbs and J. Hickson, of Ropemakers'-street, Moorfields, London, iron founders. J. Panton, of Newgate-street, woollen-drapery. J. W. Ward, of Temple Mills, Essex, callico-printer. J. Sequeira, the younger, of Bury-street, St. Mary Axe, London, merchant. R. Tyrrel, of Enfield, Middlesex, carrier. J. Mellor the younger, J. Mellor, and E. Mellor, of Woodale Town End, York, clothiers. T. Jones, of Maid-lane, Southwark, grocer. J. Turmeau, of villiers-street, Strand, jeweller. J. Merrifield, of Worcester, glover. A. Garland, of Bath, vintner. W. Wilkinson, of Newcastle upon Tyne, money scrivener. J. Ranken, of Soho Square, Westminster, wine merchant. April 26. Richard Hewlett, of Walcot, Somersetshire, builder. G. Fry, of Tottenham Court Road, Middlesex, hawk. Thomas Barker, of Lane End, Staffordshire, potter. Thomas Robert Bach, late of Worcester, glover. Thomas Cheshire, late of Manchester, cotton-manufacturer. John Davies, late of Wapping High-street, Middlesex, man's mercer. Antoine George Eckhardt, late of Sloane-street, Chelsea, Middlesex, paper stainer. Frans Frederick Eckhardt, late of Sloane-street, Chelsea, paper stainer.