

THE EXAMINER.

No. 151. SUNDAY, NOV. 18, 1810.

THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

Party is the madness of many for the gain of a few. SWIFT.

No. 147.

MEETING OF THE CORTES.

THE Cortes, it will be recollected, were to have assembled in March:—that season was late enough; and after all, the Cortes did not assemble till the month of September. The truth is, that the promises of Juntas and Regencies respecting this Meeting were nothing but so many temporary expedients to conciliate; they knew that a popular Assembly would enter into discussions very inimical to the views of their arbitrary dotage; they knew, in short, that it would take the power out of their hands, and therefore they were resolved that nothing but sheer necessity and the fear of losing their heads should compel them to give way to it. All the motives that influence weak and arbitrary men, who feel their interest and importance indissolubly connected with a corrupt system, united to put off this evil day; they trembled for their possessions, for their titles, for their superstition; above all, they trembled lest a legitimate Prince should never return to his throne, or rather, lest he should find at his return a limited power and ameliorated constitution, and be unable to enrich the saviours of his authority with the spoils of the people whom they had kept in chains for him. As dangers and distresses thickened, and as the few Spaniards who retained their freedom were gradually driven up into closer contact with these rulers, they saw that the farce could be kept up no longer; the mob even began to threaten; and at length the Cortes are assembled. Had the People begun to threaten at an earlier period of the struggle, the Cortes would have been earlier assembled; but late as the meeting is, with its petty circle of action, and its bare possibility of effect, it is allowed on all hands to be something.

This representative body is of course very incomplete, and what is worse, it is now too late to be otherwise. Its proceedings have hitherto been orderly and deliberate, quite enough so, indeed, to give us a good opinion of its temper, but perhaps, at a time like the present, somewhat too much so to raise any great hopes of Spanish enthusiasm. What marks at once, however, the complete difference between such an assembly and the past administration is, that it enters into the discussion of subjects, the very mention of which formerly produced the decree against the Press; such are the limitations of the royal power, the rights of the Spanish Americans, and the liberty of the press itself. At the

same time, it is by no means free from the worst leaven of the old system of things; the adherents of the old Court and its worst bigotries political and moral have got a strong party in it. A debate, in the course of last month, upon the freedom of the press, shewed us all the prospects, bad as well as good, which may be drawn from this meeting. In the course of the discussion, the most opposite opinions were broached, not only as resulting from an abstract view of the question, but as the consequence of the zeal or the indifference, the liberality or the superstition, the natural good sense or the gross habitual blindness of the respective members. Some of them talked with the rational freedom of Englishmen; others with the flippant vivacity of the French; and others were Spaniards of the old monkish stamp, who seemed as if they had slept in a cell ever since the reign of PHILIP II. and suddenly awaked to astonish the 19th century. Of the first class are the Senors ARGUELLES, OLIVEROS, and MUNOZ TORRERO, who studiously reprobate the late despotism and argue for the liberty of the press as the only real security against its return. These gentlemen seem to have no great affection for the priests. "Would to God," said MUNOZ, "it had never been said from the pulpits, that the Deity had inspired CHARLES IV. to place power in the hands of GODOY, when he gave him the Admiralty, and when the liberty of the press existed only for such assertions!" The majority of the assembly, though apparently inclined for the liberty of the press, do not seem capable of talking in this strain; and two or three furious bigots cut a figure in the debate, who can at any time rise up and by quoting the Fathers and the Inquisition throw stumbling-blocks in the way of discussion. One is startled to hear a question of civil liberty referred to the Council of Trent; but Senor MORALES does not scruple to quote the sentence of that assembly "against the liberty of printing even books which treated of politics and the *fine arts*," observing with as much ease as if he were settling a common-place truth, that the freedom of the press "was an affair of conscience, and ought to be decided by theologians and the holy fathers!" To this MORALES replies, that the Bull in question attached only to heretics; but OLIVEROS puts the matter in its proper light:—"In the first ages of the Church," says he, "there was a great cry for liberty of writing by the fathers themselves, and the most grievous persecution they suffered was the prohibition of their books by JULIAN." The most formidable personage however, in behalf of the national ruin, is one TAVAREDO, who is the representative of all the bigotry and ignorance in Spain, and does honour to his constituents: This worthy is a true shuffling corruptionist, and endeavours to hinder a debate that he does

not like, by moving previous questions, suggesting frivolous delays, and contradicting matters of fact. When compelled at last to meet the discussion, he broaches an Antijacobinism, compared with which BARRUEL seems enlightened, and Mr. BOWLES absolutely philosophic. He thinks that the question respecting a free press should be referred to the Universities, the Bishops, and the Holy Tribunal, who so much abhor the French;—that though liberty might produce illumination, the philosophers had filled the world with darkness;—that Spain had arrived at the height of its glory without a free press, that is to say, in English, that it was a great military despotism and very ignorant;—that it is much better to be rude and good, than knowing and bad, like the French;—in fine, that the liberty of the press is the "ruin of empires," and that liberty, by its very nature, is the parent of error.—To refute these melancholy drolleries is not worth the while of an English writer, who cannot speak, move, or look about him, without witnessing the contradiction of all the Spaniard says. The worst part of his speech on this debate was an assertion, which proceeding from so zealous an enemy of the French, and uttered with so much precision, ought to sink deeply into our ears; he tells us, that "of the ten millions of inhabitants in Spain, not more than a 100,000 are for an uncontrolled press;" and from this statement he even proceeds to assure the Cortes, that they would absolutely lose their credit by endeavouring to make their countrymen free!

In short, if the Cortes had been assembled some time back, there can be no doubt of the great good they might have effected; but this is only supposing, that Spain had been otherwise than what it is. Situated as the Cortes are, driven into the last hold of their country's independence, and even there pursued and polluted by the worst follies of the nation, they can neither do what they might formerly have done, nor will they really effect any thing important. A little good arises from the common-sense of some of their members, inasmuch as it helps to disseminate patriotic sentiments and to shed a partial radiance over the country's downfall. But this is all. The remedy comes too late for the disorder, and is obstructed even when it does come. The patient is insane, and tears open his own wounds.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

PORTUGAL.

Lisbon, Oct. 27.—Confidence is much restored here since our army has taken its position, which is strongly fortified. Our men are in excellent spirits, and very anxious to meet the enemy, whom they hope to defeat in a decisive manner. Reinforcements are daily arriving from Cadix, Gibraltar, and the Mediterranean, and together with the Portuguese, and about 10,000 men under Romana and O'Donnel, who have just arrived, our army consists of no less than 100,000 men; whilst the enemy, from the best

accounts, can scarcely bring from 50,000 to 55,000 into the field, and are every day diminished by desertion, and prisoners who are taken by our cavalry whilst foraging. No action seems likely to take place for the present, as Lord Wellington's policy appears to be to avoid fighting, but to suffer the enemy to waste away.

Nov. 3.—Our army still continues in its old positions; so does Massena. He yesterday made a shew of attacking us, but retired without doing any thing. His position is nearly as strong as ours, so that neither party likes to attack. General Farra's division of cavalry crossed the Tagus yesterday at this place for the Alentejo, which will prevent small parties going over, and be a great check on Massena there. We still hold Abrantes and Coimbra.

LETTER FROM LORD WELLINGTON TO DON MIGUEL PEREIRA FORJAZ.

"MOST EXCELLENT SIR,—Since the letter which I addressed to your Excellency on the 13th inst. the enemy has been employed principally in reconnoitring the positions occupied by our troops, and in fortifying his own. To accomplish the first object he has skirmished with the troops which form our advanced posts, and who have always behaved well.

"On the 14th the enemy attacked with infantry, supported by artillery, a small detachment of the 71st regiment, which formed the advanced guard of Sir Brent Spencer's division, near Sobral de Monte Agraco, and that for the purpose of covering a reconnoissance made by one of his parties. Our detachment having at its head the Hon. Col. Cadogan and Lieut. Col. Reynell, charged with the most distinguished gallantry, and compelled him to retire on the above-mentioned place.

"The whole of the 8th corps of the French army, and part of the 6th, arrived that evening on the plain near Sobral, and in consequence Sir B. Spencer's division was under the necessity of falling back from the advanced situation which it occupied.

"The gun-boats on the Tagus, commanded by Lieutenant Berkeley, and those with which Admiral Berkeley supports the right of the army near Alhandra, were engaged at the same time, and fired on the parties of the enemy employed in reconnoitring on that side, and were very useful.

"I have also the satisfaction of informing your Excellency, that the account which I transmitted in my former letter, of the 13th, relative to the march of two detachments of the troops under the command of General Bacellar, is since confirmed.

"Col. Trant arrived near Coimbra on the 7th inst. and immediately attacked the advanced posts which the enemy had without the city, which he cut off and prevented them from entering the city, against which he marched rapidly. The resistance the enemy made did not last long. He took 80 officers, prisoners, and 5,000 men, for the most part sick and wounded.

"On the following day, Brig.-Gen. Miller and Col. Wilson arrived at Coimbra, with the detachments under their command. They have since taken nearly 350 prisoners, soldiers who had straggled from their regiments during the march for the purpose of getting provisions.

"Colonel Wilson has since advanced with a party of infantry and cavalry to Condexa, and at the same time Brigadier-General Miller occupies Coimbra.

"A detachment of the garrison of Peniche, ordered out by Brigadier-General Blunt, has been equally successful, having taken 48 prisoners belonging to the enemy's rear-guard, and killing nine more than the number of the prisoners. Lieutenant-Colonel Waters, who has also attacked the rear-guard of the enemy, has made a number of Prisoners.

"The difficulties that the enemy experience in procuring provisions, owing to his having invaded the country without establishing magazines, and without adopting means for securing his rear, or his communications with Spain, have imposed upon him the necessity of allowing his soldiers to straggle to procure provisions; in consequence of which not a day passes without a number of prisoners and deserters being brought in.

"Every thing remains tranquil in the north of Portugal, ac-

ording to the last accounts I received. I have the honour to be, &c.

“WELLINGTON.”

“Head-quarters, Peronegro, Oct. 20.”

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LORD WELLINGTON, TO DON MIGUEL FORJAZ PERRERA, DATED HEAD-QUARTERS, PERONEGRO, OCT. 27.

“MOST EXCELLENT SIR,—The enemy continue to occupy the same position, in front of our army, which I mentioned to your Excellency in my former dispatch of the 20th instant. I nevertheless detached some troops to the side of Santarem, knowing that General Loison on the 23d had marched for the same place, with the division under his command, and it appears, according to the intelligence received from the commanding officer at Abrantes, under date of the 24th inst., that an enemy's corps of infantry and cavalry entered Thomar on that day.

“All the information received from prisoners and deserters, which have arrived at this army, concurs in constantly relating the miseries and difficulties which the enemy suffer, in consequence of the great scarcity of all kinds of provisions.

“They also state, that they were preparing materials for the construction of a bridge over the Tagus; but though we have a good view of that river from different points of the position which this army occupies, and officers and other individuals employed on the left bank of that river to observe the movements of the enemy, I have not been able to discover the place where this construction is carrying on, nor the part of the river to which it is to be applied, if it should be completed.

“The enemy likewise appear very anxious to obtain or construct boats, and with this view endeavoured on the 24th inst. to dislodge a party of ordenanzas from the post at Chamusca, in order to obtain possession of some boats that were there, but they did not succeed.

“On the side of Ramalhal Oleidas, the excursions of the enemy's detachments are so confined and checked, that he, in fact, possesses no ground in the country except that on which his army is posted.

“By General Silveira's last reports, dated the 17th inst., it appears that every thing remains quiet on the northern frontiers, nor had the said General received any intelligence of any troops having marched into Castile. The flying parties have become more bold and enterprising than they ever were. They formed a junction in the environs of Valladolid at the beginning of October, to the number of 1500 men, in order to take a convoy of money and contributions which the enemy had levied in the country; they proved, however, unsuccessful in this enterprize.

“I have the honour to remain, with particular consideration, your Excellency's most obedient servant,

“WELLINGTON.”

LETTER FROM COLONEL TRANT TO MARSHAL BERESFORD.

“Coimbra, Oct. 7, 1810.”

“I feel great pleasure in informing your Excellency, that I have this day happily entered Coimbra, with the loss of a very few men either killed or wounded.

“In my letter of the 6th inst. I had the honour to inform you, that I intended to march to Mialhada in the course of that day, for the purpose of joining the corps that were under the command of Brigadier-General Miller and of Col. Wilson, and of combining an attack against this city; but when I arrived there, I was informed that these corps had been delayed by want of supplies in the country adjoining Busaco, which was entirely exhausted; and also, that their cavalry could not advance rapidly on account of the fatigue they experienced in their first marches.

“The only alternative that remained, in order to prevent the enemy from taking any means of defence in Coimbra, I being only three short leagues distant from that city, was to put myself in march for Coimbra with my own division alone, it being very probable that the enemy were ignorant of my arrival at Mialhada. I therefore began my march at noon. At a small distance from Fornos I fell in with a detachment of the enemy, and, beginning to fire, I pushed forward the cavalry to Fornos, and fortunately cut off their communication with Co-

imbra. This detachment surrendered after losing several men; and not meeting with any troops of the enemy, I ordered the cavalry to advance at a gallop; and that, crossing the bridge of the Mondego, they should take post on the road to Lisbon, for the purpose of cutting off all communication with the army; which was executed with great spirit and bravery by Lieut. Doutel; with the loss of only one dragoon killed. I ordered that the divisions of infantry should march towards the principal places in the city; in doing which they met with a resistance that lasted one hour. Our only loss was two killed and 25 wounded. A greater force of the enemy, which was stationed at Santa Clara, kept up an irregular fire for some time upon our cavalry; but the French officer who commanded it, when he observed that Lieut. Doutel crossed the bridge, proposed a capitulation; I was present at this parley, in which no other proposition was admitted than that the enemy should surrender at discretion, with the promise of being protected against the insults of the peasantry. The troops laid down their arms and retired.

“I have reason to believe that the number of prisoners exceeds 5000; of which 4000 are on their march for Oporto, including one whole company of the Emperor's marine guards. Three thousand five hundred muskets fell into our possession, nearly the whole of which were charged; from whence you may judge of the number of effective men.—I have distributed these arms among the Ordenanza of the country. We found no artillery, but we have taken a quantity of cattle and sheep, which the enemy had collected. There are about 8 officers among the prisoners, as well as I can judge. From the nature of the attack, your Excellency will easily perceive the difficulty that there was in preventing the soldiers and armed peasants from plundering the prisoners; and I am sorry to say that the latter committed some acts of violence, but I believe only six or eight French have been the victims of their resentment. I have to observe, that nothing can exceed the state of misery that prevails in this city. The enemy, not content with having plundered every part of it, and robbing every one they met, set fire to some houses, and have heaped up in the streets, in the greatest disorder, all the provisions that the army could not carry along with it; so that it could scarcely be expected, that above eight hundred soldiers, natives of this city and its vicinity, surrounded by their wretched relatives and acquaintances, could be patient witnesses of a scene of devastation in which their property was destroyed in so iniquitous and scandalous a manner. However, I beg your Excellency will believe that I did every thing in my power to protect the French that fell into our hands; and after the two first movements of violence, I succeeded in securing them against insult.

“As the corps of Brigadier-General Miller and Colonel Wilson will arrive here in the morning, I propose to leave one of my brigades, and to proceed with the rest of the division, with the prisoners, to Oporto; for the animosity of the inhabitants is so much excited by the recent passage of the French army, that I consider my presence absolutely necessary, and particularly in the districts between the Mondego and the Vouga.

“NICHOLAS TRANT.”

“Head-quarters, at Casal Cochin, Oct. 21.

GENERAL ORDERS.

“His Excellency Marshal Beresford is very much displeased, on account of the great number of Officers, who are absent from their corps, and declares that every Officer who remains absent without his express permission communicated by the Commandment of his corps, shall be considered as a deserter; and that in every instance where ill health is assigned as the reason of absence, unless it be attested on the examination of a military surgeon, such Officer shall be equally treated as a deserter.

MOZINHO, Adj. Gen.”

PROCLAMATION OF THE GOVERNORS OF THE KINGDOM OF PORTUGAL, AND OF THE ALGARVES.

PORTUGUESE.—The advance of the enemy's army, which, already weakened by want, and by its past losses, yields reluc-

tant obedience to the despotic orders of its Tyrant, announces to us the near approach of a battle. The numbers, the tried valour of the combined army, their formidable position and the impetuosity with which the troops call for the combat, all promise us a happy and glorious issue. The God of armies will bless our arms, and give us a complete victory. The governors of the kingdom, the Marshal, the army, and the whole nation expect it, and have every reason to do so. But it is necessary, that on this occasion you guard yourselves against false rumours, which may be disseminated by timidity or ill intention. Be not alarmed at the passage of troops, at the arrival of wounded, at the incessant rolling of carriages and other movements, which are the necessary consequences of the operations of war. Do not give credit to any accounts that are not announced by the Government, of whose frankness you have had so many proofs. It will take measures for punishing the ill-disposed, who have the audacity to scatter false reports, with the severity required by circumstances. Portuguese! calmness, confidence, obedience; and we shall be happy.—Palace of Government, Oct. 13.

[This is followed by another proclamation, informing those who wished to put their valuables in a place of safety, that they have appointed the ship the Vasco de Gama, and the Phoenix, for receiving money, plate, jewels, and other valuables; and that they may also deposit the same in any of the English ships of war stationed in the port.]

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

PAISLEY, NOV. 10.—A few days ago a track boat, from Paisley to Johnstone, was launched, and daily since it has been filled with parties of pleasure. To-day is a fair with us, and every lad and lass who could muster eight-pence must have a sail; about an hour ago, she landed at the basin, opposite Mr. Barclay's, with nearly 100 on board (for she is sixty feet in length), and as many were on the breast anxious to replace them, and who, in spite of all remonstrance, pressed in before she was clear of the former load; in consequence of which she upset, and plunged the whole, men, women, and children, into the basin, which is seven or eight feet deep of water. The scene to those who saw it was awful. Numbers were taken up; but numbers, too, have perished. A gentleman told me, he carried till he saw forty, all corpses to appearance; and I have just now heard that fifty-one have been dragged out; few of whom, it is dreaded, will recover. The Surgeons are doing what they can, and every apartment in Mr. Barclay's house contains some unhappy victim. The neighbouring houses have been thrown open; every one wears the countenance of dismay, afraid to enquire, lest some relative may have perished. One man, it is said, has been bereft of his wife and three children. Chats, with two dead bodies, are this instant passing my window.

DREADFUL INUNDATION.—A very heavy rain commenced in the neighbourhood of Exeter on Friday se'night, which continued until the succeeding night, accompanied by a strong gale of wind: the waters rose so rapidly that all the low grounds were deluged. The flood was three inches higher on the Exeter Quay than ever known before. Three vessels of large burden, were thrown completely on the Quay, and with much trouble and danger launched into the river a day afterwards; many walls were entirely thrown down, or carried away; several out-houses totally destroyed; the Monmouthshire regiment of militia, in coming from Honiton, were obliged to wade through the water up to their necks.—The Clarence coach from Plymouth, was entirely stopped about half a mile from Exeter. There were five gentlemen inside, three men and the coachman on the outside. This coach was drawn by six horses, with a post-boy; the waters being higher than the horses, they all swam with the coach against a strong current; but the postillion losing his seat, clambered up a hedge, the two leading horses immediately began to turn, which, the coachman perceiving, descended from his seat and cut off the harness, being up to his chin in the water; four of the horses swam off, but the other two were drowned. Six

passengers, after struggling with the water, got on a hedge, and from thence reached a neighbouring house. Another passenger taking a different course, remained under an high hedge nine or ten hours, till he was released the next morning. The empty coach was carried back by the stream, and stuck in a hedge.—At Dawlish, nine or ten new houses, with their furniture, were nearly demolished, and one swept into the ocean, the water coming down from the hills, burst forth with such force that nothing could withstand its fury. Mr. Tapper was awoken by hearing the water running through his house, but not considering any danger, remained within till Saturday morning, when, with his wife and child, he quitted the premises—which they had scarcely left when the roof fell in, and the whole house was drifted into the sea, with the furniture. The almshouses adjoining, which had stood the brunt of many a storm and tempest upwards of 100 years, was likewise demolished.—The beautiful canal at Dawlish, with the bridges, are so entirely destroyed, that not the smallest resemblance of its original form can be perceived. The damages sustained by one gentleman is estimated at not less than 10,000l.—About nine o'clock, on Saturday morning, the flood broke in upon Budleigh Salterton with a violence indescribable, and in the course of an hour swept completely into the sea two handsome houses, near the beach, together with a great part of the furniture.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Thursday, Nov. 15.

THE KING'S ILLNESS.

After waiting for some time, till the House became very fully attended,

The LORD CHANCELLOR stated, as on the last Meeting, the course he had pursued, and then said, "I am now anxious to restate, that his Majesty's indisposition has arisen from the pressure of domestic affliction, and that the Physicians now entertain a confident expectation of his Majesty's recovery, regard being had to his Majesty's time of life, and to his former state of health. This is the unanimous opinion (I am anxious to state their own words) not only of the Physicians first in attendance, but of those whose care has since been thrown around his Majesty, and is given with as much certainty as can be attached to prognostics upon medical subjects. The Physicians state, that they see in the present state of his Majesty all the symptoms of approach towards recovery, and none of the symptoms which indicate the delay of recovery. Under the circumstances which I have stated, I trust in God, from the favourable symptoms of his Majesty's indisposition, that there will be no necessity for the adoption of any proceeding to supply the defect of the Royal Authority; and I may be allowed to express my opinion, that the most delicate and proper mode of proceeding will be to adjourn for fourteen days. My Lords, it is with feelings of affliction for the indisposition of his Majesty, in which I am sure all your Lordships participate, that I make this motion, and, at the same time, in the confident hope, that at the expiration of that period no proceeding will be necessary."—His Lordship then moved an adjournment for a fortnight.

Lord MORLEY hailed with joy the pleasing prospect held out by the Noble Lord. As he conceived that no material injury could arise from the proposed delay, he cordially supported the motion.

Lord GREVILLE could with difficulty bring himself to agree to the motion. It was of the greatest importance that the principles of the Constitution should not be violated. The necessity under which they met should be proved by evidence; but, in the present case, they had merely the assertion of the Noble Lord on the Woolsack. In 1788, on a similar occasion, the facts relative to his Majesty's indisposition were laid before the House, as ascertained by an examination of the Physicians by the Privy Council; after which, a Committee of their own body ascertained the facts. He thought this precedent que-

cessarily departed from, though, for the sake of unanimity, he would not oppose the motion. As to the question, whether inconvenience would arise from the adjournment during the suspension of the Royal functions, Ministers must be the best judges, and upon them the heavy responsibility rested. He trusted there would be no necessity for further proceedings, and prayed to God for the restoration of his Majesty's health.

Earl STANHOPE thought that the necessity under which they met should have been proved; but he should vote for the adjournment, in order to give time for the attendance of the Members from Ireland and Scotland.

The LORD CHANCELLOR agreed with the Noble Baron (Grenville) that if any further proceeding should unhappily become necessary, it would be requisite to establish the facts, in consequence of which they acted, by evidence.

Lord GRENVILLE, in reply, observed, that he could not imagine a precedent more fatal to every principle of the Constitution than that of any Ministers daring to dispense with the Royal Authority, except when urged by the most pressing necessity. Beyond this, not a day, not an hour, should be lost, in supplying the natural defect in the exercise of the Royal functions, and in constituting a legitimate Parliament. He repeated his most ardent wishes for the recovery of his Majesty; but if that should not be among the blessings destined for the country, it was the solemn duty of Government, without delay, to take such measures as might lead to the renovation of the kingly office.

Lord LIVERPOOL said, that if any deviation had taken place from the course followed on former occasions, it could only be ascribed to the different circumstances of the case. On the former occasion, the Houses had met in consequence of a Proclamation to that effect, for the dispatch of business: but here, his Majesty's pleasure had been already declared in Council, that Parliament should be further prorogued.

Earl GREY said, that his Noble Friend (Lord Moira), had stated as a reason for his acceding to the motion, that no inconvenience to public affairs could arise from the suspension of the Royal Authority at present. In that sentiment he could by no means coincide. The functions of the Monarchy could not be suspended a week, nay, even an hour, without material inconvenience. The adjournment, therefore, should not be protracted an hour beyond the necessity of the case. There was no analogy between the circumstances in which the country was in 1788, the period of the former indisposition of his Majesty, and of the present times. We were then in the full enjoyment of the advantages of profound peace; now we had war raging on all sides of us. Let Noble Lords, too, consider the nature of that war, the rancour and activity of our principal enemy, the deep interests that were at stake, the momentous events that might be expected to occur, the necessity of providing for any defects or misfortunes that might arise, and he was persuaded they would agree with him that the adjournment should be as short as possible. Their Lordships were now met as one of the states of the realm, and it was incumbent on them to proceed with the utmost caution in ascertaining the facts both of his Majesty's indisposition and recovery, if the latter, according to the hopes held out by the Noble Lord, should fortunately take place. Although he could not accede to the motion for so long an adjournment, he should offer no amendment to it. Whatever course their Lordships may adopt, he trusted they would suffer no proceeding to take place that might by any possibility impair the Kingly Office.

Viscount SIMONDS observed, that whatever difference of opinion there might be on certain points, there was one in which they all coincided, namely, the deepest concern for the calamity which had occasioned the suspension of the Royal authority. With respect to the course of proceeding, it was his opinion that the proceedings of 1788 should be adhered to as closely as the respective circumstances of the two cases would admit.

The question was then put that the House do adjourn to Thursday, Nov. 29, which was agreed to.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Thursday, Nov. 15.

This House met pursuant to adjournment; and the Speaker having taken the Chair,

Mr. PERCEVAL stated, that the House was a second time assembled without any formal notification of his Majesty's pleasure. He felt it incumbent on him to offer himself to the attention, as no doubt they must feel anxious to know what information could be obtained, and also to be informed what measure it was in the contemplation of his Majesty's Ministers to pursue. He hoped, now that he should have the unanimous concurrence of the House in the motion which he should submit to them of adjourning for a fortnight, there was no necessity for his troubling them at any length upon the subject. Between that and the 29th much might occur, of which they would have an opportunity of taking advantage; and there now existed no public reason to induce them to alter the intention, which, before the indisposition, had been intimated by his Majesty of proroguing them to that period. On the former occasion of their assembling, such concurrence was well known to be the general wish of the House, unless some particular cause should arise to prevent it. But if there was any doubt then, that doubt must be completely removed now, from the circumstances under which they met. From the particular situation in which he stood, he had felt it his duty to proceed personally to Windsor on that morning; and he had the satisfaction to state to them, that all the Physicians had unanimously concurred in assuring him that his Majesty was in a state of progressive amendment; and that considerable amendment had already taken place. (*Hear! hear!*) Under such a cheering hope (*Hear! hear!*) an hope so flattering to the universal prayer of the nation (*Hear! hear!*), he felt himself justified in proposing to them an adjournment until the day to which the Royal Proclamation had prorogued them. He should conclude by moving, "that the House, at its rising, do adjourn till this day fortnight."

On the question being put,

Mr. WHITBREAD rose. No man in the nation participated more than he did in the general joy which the prospect of his Majesty's amendment must produce; nothing in the present calamitous state of the nation could be more beneficial than the King's complete recovery, and that it should be speedy as well as complete. But from the state of existing circumstances, considerations had arisen in his mind, and duties had arisen to the House, which did not seem once to enter into the comprehension of the Right Hon. Gentleman. The smallness of the former attendance had been alluded to: he for one was not present, for he did not know the House was to have met until the account of their having already met had reached him.—The Right Hon. Gentleman best knew whether or not there was time to have written letters to the Members, informing them of the urgency of the occasion. If letters had been written to any, also, he best knew; and if they had been written to any, why they were not written to all, he also could best answer (*Hear! hear! hear!*). If he had been in the House on their last meeting, he should then certainly have advocated in the motion which had been then made, there was then a necessity for it. But now they were assembled fully; and the King not being in a state to transact the public business, it was their duty to proceed to the best means of providing for the deficiency. The Parliament could not be said to be now assembled; it was only the two Houses that were assembled—it was not possible on their last meeting that any public act could be performed. Now, and now only, for the first time, the House might be said to be properly assembled; and were now ordered for the election of Members. If a particular necessity existed, as on that day fortnight, for their adjournment, he should agree to it; and now that they were met, that physical necessity ought to be recorded. What! ought it to be said, that in such a serious situation they met for a second time, and adjourned on the mere, unsupported, unrecorded assertion of the Chancellor of the Exchequer? Why was not a general Privy Council summoned, and the report of the Pay-

sicians submitted to them? (Hear! hear!). He was well aware of the delicacy of the subject. He would be the very last man to trench on the delicacy due to the King. The Right Hon. Gentleman had said, that it was the intention of his Majesty, originally, to prorogue his Parliament to the period now proposed. Would such have been his intention could he have had in his contemplation the sad calamity by which he was deprived of the power to perform the duties of his office? No; he would not pay his Sovereign so ill a compliment, as to suppose he would not, with such an anticipation, have enjoined his Ministers instantly to adopt measures for supplying the deficiency occasioned by a visitation, which, when it once occurred, it was impossible to say when it would cease. It had occurred before; but times were much changed since. They were not now in the situation in which they were placed in 1788. Now they were called upon to remain without an Executive Government in a time of great expense—a time of active war—mid difficulties innumerable, and under the expectancy of more!—It ought to be remembered also, in the comparison, that Mr. Pitt was then Minister. He did not wish at such a time as this to create any unnecessary party asperities; but could it be expected that those who had uniformly condemned both the present Ministers and their measures, would now remain content to submit to them the government of the country, without any controul or supervision whatsoever?—When this calamity befel the nation on a former occasion, it was a great negligence in the Legislature not to provide for any such serious contingency in future. Would they, then, under similar circumstances, fall into a similar error? Would they not endeavour to guard against the return of a calamity at a future time, into which they were now thrown without a provision? It was the bounden duty of both Houses not to suffer such an occasion to pass away—to adjourn only from day to day—and on the recovery of the King, the two Houses, he prayed God, the full Parliament, should provide against its recurrence. He could not conceal from himself all that had happened since 1788—he could not conceal from himself all the calamities which had befallen the country—he would pass by the inferior calamities which had befallen the King. But they had now deviated from the precedent of 1788. On that melancholy occasion, Lord Thurlow informed the Parliament that he had had an interview with the King himself. But now, the Chancellor of the Exchequer comes down and merely tells them, that, indeed, he had seen the King's physicians, and that they say an amendment had taken place! He did not even inform them, whether they had told him within what period his Majesty might in their opinion be enabled to proceed to business. Why was not the report of the physicians submitted to Parliament? Why were they not examined personally before a general Privy Council? Why was not the House of Commons treated even with common decency?—He could not see any objection on the ground of delicacy and respect to the feelings of his Majesty, as the present proceedings of the House were totally unknown to him. He therefore could not see any reason why Ministers should not make such a disclosure as would afford the House some parliamentary ground to act upon. Although he felt as much as any man the reverence and affection due to the person of the King; yet he also felt that a high reverence was due to the kingly office also; and that the people should not be accustomed to consider it unimportant whether the executive branch of the State were Allocated or not. His Majesty had a people who loved him, and whom he loved: but still he thought that some permanent provision should be made for the maintenance of the executive power, in case such difficulties should again occur. He did not, however, wish to distract the attention of the House, or to create any party jealousies; and therefore should content himself with entering his protest against the course taken by the Right Hon. Gentleman.

Sir FRANCIS BURDETT agreed in almost all the sentiments of the Hon. Gentleman who had just spoken; but he could not content himself with merely stating his opinion as a protest against that course proposed by Ministers, for he felt it to be his duty to divide the House upon the question. He con-

ceived that course to be so indecorous and insulting to the House, that he would betray his duty to it if he consented to any compromise. If he had had any notice of the meeting of Parliament on the last day, he should have felt it his duty to have attended in his place, and to have made some observations respecting the necessity of providing for the due maintenance of the executive power, without which there could be no legitimate Government in the country. It would be a dangerous thing, indeed, to teach such a lesson to the people, as to make them believe that the executive Government was merely a farce; that the kingly office was not necessary; and that all the functions of it might, without injury to the public, be discharged by the Ministers. There was no doctrine which could possibly bring the kingly office into greater contempt. What could be worse than placing the crown upon a cushion, and leaving all its prerogatives and attributes to the pleasure of Ministers? He felt, in common with all his Majesty's subjects, deep sorrow for the calamity with which he was afflicted—a calamity which had now visited him for the second time; but however much he felt for the man, he felt still more for the calamities, and perils, and dangers of the country. It appeared to him that Parliament had not received that information which in common decency ought to have been laid before them. The Chancellor of the Exchequer stated, that he had been at Windsor to-day, and had seen, not the King, but his physicians; and he did not even state that these physicians had given any opinion as to the time in which it was probable that his Majesty might be expected to recover so as to be enabled to carry on the business of the Government. He could not help now adverting to an Act which had been passed formerly by a very powerful faction with respect to the Prince of Wales. This Act rendered the Prince incapable of contracting the most trifling debt, or performing the most ordinary offices of life; and treated him in some degree like an infant or a lunatic. Now it would be a bad lesson to the people to see that a person whom a faction had bound up in such a manner, and stultified as far as in them lay, would still be competent even in their own opinion to uphold the executive Government in case the vacancy should continue longer. Such a change would be like stepping from the cradle to the throne. The same faction, however, seemed determined to pursue their course, whatever evil the country might suffer. He believed, however, that there was no honest man in the country, who could much longer submit to the state of anarchy in which the country was now placed for the want of its executive Government. He felt himself bound to take the sense of the House on the proposition which had been submitted to them. If the Ministers were resolved, at all hazards, to prolong to the utmost limit the tenure by which they held their places, they and others might do so; but he would not go back to the people to tell them, that after the Constitution had been suspended for a fortnight, he had voted that it should be suspended for a fortnight longer. A state of anarchy had existed sufficiently long; he would do what he could to restore to the people the Government of the Constitution.

Mr. TINGNEY said, that there was now no hope held out of a speedy recovery; and it would be a monstrous thing, when they knew that there was no executive power existing, to prevent the legislature, then assembled, from taking proper measures for supplying it. He saw no reason why the Physicians should not be examined. Such being the case, he must vote against the motion for adjournment, on the ground of no parliamentary reason having been stated to shew the necessity of it.

Lord A. HAMILTON felt himself imperiously called upon to vote against the adjournment proposed.

Mr. FULLER supported the motion. He certainly could not consent to leave the country without a Government; but it must be recollected, that the enemy could not now put a ship to sea, and that they were retreating from Portugal.

Mr. ROYDON said, the present Parliament must be considered in the light of a Convention Parliament; as it was well known, that no Parliament could legally or regularly act, unless they were brought together by the King; and, therefore,



meeting under the present circumstances, they should act only as far as necessity required. At present he felt extreme reluctance in complying with the resolution proposed; but still, as the reports of the physicians had been lately favourable, and as the people at large might consider it want of respect and affection to his Majesty if they did not adjourn under such circumstances, he could not oppose it. He should, however, ask the Right Honourable Gentleman, what objection he could have to adjourning for a week, instead of a fortnight?

Mr. CANNING said, that the House had a right to act, or to forbear from acting, as in their discretion they judged proper. If necessity should ultimately require that steps should be taken to supply the deficiency in the Executive, some time should properly be allowed before so important a step was taken.—Some time might properly be allowed to our personal respect and affection for our King: "*Spatium requiruntque doloris*:" before measures were taken for filling up his place in the State, unless such measures should appear of urgent necessity. He should agree to the adjournment proposed.

Mr. WYNNE thought, that if the physicians would give a prospect of his Majesty's speedy recovery, a short adjournment ought to take place.

Mr. SHERIDAN said, that the adjournment now proposed appeared to him most reasonable and moderate, and he could not see how it could be objected to by any of those who believed that the King was getting better. As to the proposal of adjourning for a week instead of a fortnight, it was a suggestion that he would agree to if it were to produce unanimity.—Unanimity, however, would not take place, for an Honourable Baronet (Sir F. Burdett), who appeared hostile to any adjournment, had given notice that it was his intention to divide the House. When the Honourable Baronet, however, appeared to argue generally against the Executive being suspended for a day or an hour, he would wish to ask him what he meant to propose in the present case? Was he ready to propose the immediate filling up of the vacancy in the Executive? Certainly he was not. If the abstract proposition was to be taken in its full extent, any common disorder, any ordinary fever, which a King might have, would be a ground for proposing the filling up the vacancy in the Executive. If this was evidently absurd, it followed that Parliament had to exercise its discretion on the nature of the malady with which the Sovereign was afflicted. Although it was a most unpleasant subject to speak of, he must say that the Hon. Baronet was wrong in point of fact, when he said that this was the second time his Majesty had been visited with this affliction. There had been four instances of similar affliction, and four instances of his recovery. The physicians had now reported that his Majesty was in a progressive state of amendment, and he feared that Parliament proceeding to take any step at present would not tend to further his recovery. He knew that one of his Majesty's first enquiries (on a former occasion) after his recovery, was, whether any parliamentary enquiry had been made into his situation?—and that it proved the most gratifying thing to his feelings that no such inquiry had taken place.—(Order, Order.)—He was sorry to be out of order; but this, he presumed, he might be allowed to say, that by an adjournment for the time proposed, there was reason to think that all further discussion on this caldorous subject would be considered unnecessary, a circumstance which he knew would be highly gratifying to the House and to the country at large. Under these circumstances he should support the motion for an adjournment.

Sir SAMUEL ROMILLY said, that the Right Hon. Gentleman (Mr. Perceval) had not stated any satisfactory reason why that House should put it out of its power to assemble during a fortnight in case any emergency should occur to require the interference of Parliament. The only question, therefore, was, whether they, the representatives of the people, and the servants of the public, should be called together as they had been, adjourn from day to day, or deprive themselves of the opportunity of discharging their duty to their constituents; and that too at a period when they might momentarily expect to hear of great national calamities abroad,

or of some heavy public afflictions at home? Deprived, as they were at this moment, of the parental care of his Majesty, he did not think it right in them, as public servants, to put it out of their power to take any step during fourteen days to meet any emergency which might possibly arise.—It was upon this ground that he felt himself bound to oppose the adjournment for a fortnight, with a view, if that should be negatived, to support an adjournment for twenty-four hours. In doing this, he was persuaded, he was taking the most effectual mode of shewing his loyalty, his affection, and attachment to his Majesty; because nothing could so directly tend to support and strengthen the best interests of the Crown, than that, during a period when there was a possibility of the occurrence of great national dangers and disasters, that House should be ready to resort to such measures as the exigency of the case might require.

Mr. BATHURST agreed with the Right Hon. Gentleman opposite (Mr. Canning), that this was a question of discretion, and that it would be more becoming in them to forbear to take any step under the existing circumstances.

Mr. ELLIOT did not mean to express any doubt of the word of the Right Hon. Gentleman, or of the very respectable Gentlemen in attendance upon his Majesty; but that House ought to have some more authentic information as the ground of its proceeding. Under this impression, therefore, he should vote against the longer adjournment.

Mr. WILBERFORCE agreed that the House had then no alternative but to enter at once into the examination of the physicians, or to adjourn. He could not but entertain a decided preference for the latter alternative. In this impression he was strengthened by what had fallen from his Right Honourable Friend at the conclusion of his speech, which afforded reason to hope for his Majesty's speedy recovery. He concurred also in the adjournment, because no Honourable Member, with the exception of the Honourable Baronet, had stated that any step should now be taken to supply the functions of the executive. As to what had been said of the necessity of having more authentic information than that of the statement of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, he would remind the House, that they often took his and other Ministers' assertions as the foundation of their proceedings. On the whole, therefore, he should vote for the motion of his Right Hon. Friend.

A Division then took place—For the question of Adjournment, 343—Against it, 58—Majority 285. The House then Adjourned to the 29th instant.

TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTS.

- W. Banks, King-street, Cheap-side, linen-draper.
- R. Berridge, Islington, merchant.
- F. Cling, Clement's-lane, merchant.
- J. Easterby, Rotherhithe, rope-maker.
- I. Eyre, Charing-cross, trunk-maker.
- H. Lee, Halberton, Devon, shopkeeper.
- T. Lee, Portland-place, coach-maker.
- T. Mankin, Peckham, Surrey, coal-factor.
- H. May, Bristol, corn-factor.
- C. Poulton, Reading, cabinet-maker.
- M. Baynes and W. Bawtree, Blue Anchor-yard, Surrey, glue manufacturers.
- W. Rolfe, Lower Edmonton, victualler.
- W. Stacey, Fromley, Surrey, horse-dealer.
- S. Fourdrinier and W. Sale, Charing-cross, stationers.
- J. Tilley, Copthall-court, insurance-broker.
- P. de B. Toledado, Great Prescott-street, merchant.
- R. Winstanley, Jun. and Co. King-street, Cheap-side, ware housemen.
- W. Wood, High-street, Surrey, cooper.

SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

This Gazette contains an account of the capture of La Jeune Louise, a very fine French privateer schooner, of 14 guns and 35 men, which was very gallantly attacked and carried, in the Vlie Stroom, by a party of volunteers, in three boats, from the Quebec, under the First Lieut. Popham, seconded by Lieut. Yates. The boats had to pull against a very strong tide, and found the enemy fully prepared for the attack, closely surrounded by sands, on which they grounded. In this situation they received three distinct broadsides from cannon and musketry within pistol-shot, and, notwithstanding, they extricated themselves and boarded. The enemy contended the point on deck, in which the French Captain, Galien Lafont, a member of the Legion of Honour, was killed in personal contest by Lieut. Yates. The loss of the English amounted only to one man killed, one drowned, and one wounded.—Also the capture of the French schooner Le Venus, of 14 guns and 67 men, by the Curaçoa, Capt. Tower, after a disastrous cruise of 14 days, in which the Venus had not taken a single prize, but, in a two hour fight with an English vessel (supposed to be a packet) she had been completely beaten, had lost five men killed and had 14 wounded, with her sails and rigging much cut up.

BANKRUPTS.

- J. Gamon, Wateringsbury, Kent, innkeeper.
 N. Butcher, Windmill-street, Finsbury-square, butcher.
 A. Lura, Minories, haberdasher.
 A. Lauchester, St. James's-street, milliner.
 E. Roberts, Hammersmith, bricklayer.
 G. Scott, and E. Barclay, Fenchurch-street Chambers, merchant.
 W. S. Arnold, Prince's-square, Middlesex, carpenter.
 T. S. Williams, Liverpool, merchant.
 R. P. Moulson, Wigan, Lancaster, and P. Fawcett, Manchester, manufacturers.
 G. Williamson, York, shoe-maker.
 J. Stechert, Hanover-street, Hanover-square, tailor.
 W. Hawkins, Cheltenham, plumber.
 W. Beaumont, Crossland, York, cotton-spinner.
 W. Mathews, Stone, Stafford, boot-maker.
 F. Goodair, Manchester, merchant.
 J. Ditchfield, Manchester, cotton-manufacturer.
 T. Woodward and T. Relton, Straiford, Essex, dyers.
 S. and J. C. Bullard, Elmin, Isle of Ely, farmers.
 E. Westall, Hungerford, Wilts, tanner.
 R. Howell, Manchester, victualler.
 S. Sargent, Bath, china-man.
 J. Neave, Longham, Dorset, mealman.
 F. Shand, Liverpool, merchant.
 J. Smith, Totnes, Devonshire, coal-merchant.
 G. Francillon, Bartholomew-close, stock-broker.
 M. T. Cole, Hatton-Garden, copper-plate engraver.
 W. Milburn, Bishopsgate-street, merchant.
 J. Young, Bloomsbury, livery-stable-keeper.
 J. Curtis, Spring-street, Mary-le-bone, tallow-chandler.
 J. Brown, Manchester, builder.
 S. Viggins, Cloth-Fair, tailor.
 J. Peck, Lombard-street, stationer.
 T. Williams, Newgate-street, wholesale linen-draper.
 J. Johnston, Maidstone, woollen-draper.
 R. Johnson, Old Gravel-lane, baker.
 G. Haesckel, Gerrard-street, Soho, tailor.
 J. Laidman, Gravel-lane, hat-manufacturer.
 J. Smith, Newton, Lancashire, muslin-manufacturer.
 J. Salter, Brit', cardwainer.
 R., J. P., and J. Seaton, Pontefract, Yorkshire, bankers.
 C. Baker, Bristol, seedsman.

J. Risdon, Huddersfield, Yorkshire, top-maker.
 T. Bartlett and B. West, Waverworth, Surrey, calico-printers.
 T. Maynard, Mount Pleasant, Clerkenwell, horse-hair-manufacturer.
 J. Le Breton, Church-lane, Chelsea, mariner.
 J. Cooper, Plymouth, dealer and chapman.
 W. Messenger, Mitcham, Surrey, stone-mason.
 W. Edwards, Tooley-street, Southwark, victualler.

PRICE OF STOCKS ON SATURDAY.

3 per Cent. Consol. 66 $\frac{1}{2}$ | Opium 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ dis.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The subject mentioned by W. R—N will form the ground of the THIRD LETTER TO THE ELECTORS OF KENT, the 2d Letter to whom will appear next week.

The press of temporary matter prevents the insertion of several Letters, which will appear as soon as possible.

OBSERVATIONS on the TRIAL of Capt. MASON, and on the hard Case of RICHARD THORP, next week, if possible.

THE EXAMINER.

LONDON, NOVEMBER 18.

HIS MAJESTY'S disorder, which appears to have had a singular turn for the better during the late momentary meeting of Parliament, has again relapsed into restlessness and fever. The Bulletins of yesterday represent it to be worse than it has been hitherto; and as there is no security against relapse, that may produce a still greater deficiency in the Executive Power, and the Physicians have not yet been examined to state how far any prospect of amendment may be trusted, Sir FRANCIS BURGETT made an animated and constitutional speech last Thursday against a farther postponement of Parliament;—however, neither the Lords nor Commons thought fit to take any measures for the supply of the Executive Power, and the re-postponement took place to the 29th inst. The State is certainly in a singular condition: it has a head, and it has none; there is an Executive power by law, and none in point of fact; the person who fills it is incapable, and he who is capable is not allowed to fill it. This strange and melancholy situation of things was almost all that was wanting to complete the eventful state of the legitimate crown of Europe. The unfortunate King of Sweden has just arrived at Yarmouth: his weakness lost him his crown, and he comes into a country where absolute incapacity only seems to be an additional motive for keeping it on a monarch's head.

Dispatches arrived from Portugal last Friday, but what is very singular, they did not appear in the Gazette of last night. The loss however is nothing, for they contained no real information. It is now three weeks since the two armies have been fortifying and looking fierce in each other's faces. By those who make victories of flights, and prove that an enemy is lost as soon as he has driven his adversary to his last hold, this is sufficient proof that MASSENA can do nothing; and by the same impartial and consistent process of reasoning, it

is as great a proof that Lord WELLINGTON can do what he pleases. Till better dispatches arrive, all that need be said on this subject is, to repeat the name of Sir J. MOORE.

All the private letters from Portugal, as well as the public papers, continue to represent the French army as in the most perilous state, and to hold out positive assurances that they must either attack the British lines and be beaten, or immediately commence their retreat.—It is said to consist of only 55,000 men, while the allied force is estimated at full 100,000;—the French army is still, (it is over and over again asserted) in the utmost want of provisions, its deserters amount to 100 a-day, and it has an immense number of sick,—while the allies are plentifully supplied, are in the best spirits, have few sick, and no deserters.—Now, taking all this for granted, it must appear not a little singular, that such an army, in such a situation, has not long since been compelled, by the superior force of the allies, at least to quit the country, and not be allowed still to threaten its high-spirited and more powerful foe with an attack.—It will be as well also to observe, that if MASSENA, whose prudence and capacity have not before been doubted, be in this state of imminent peril, he has voluntarily chosen to put himself into it, for he has had full power, being the pursuer, to have stopped whenever he chose.—That the French army in Portugal is not as comfortable and as well supplied as if on the Imperial parade, is doubtless very true; but can it be supposed, that the people of Portugal and the allied army suffer no privations and undergo no difficulties? Such a belief would be absurd, when it is known, that besides the armies, there is the population of Lisbon to supply, increased as it has been by thousands of unhappy persons, who have been compelled by Lord WELLINGTON to quit their homes and accompany him in his retreat.

A Captain DUBOUDIEU gives a flourishing statement in the *Moniteur*, of an expedition against the Isle of Lissa. The result of it is said to be nearly one hundred vessels burnt and taken!—The Captain says, “that he had three frigates, two corvettes, and two brigs under him, and that three British frigates, a corvette, and a brig, declined an action with him!”

The Amazon, 38 guns, Capt. PARKER, has arrived from off Corrua.—The accounts by her are, that the expedition which sailed from that port against Santona had failed, owing to a heavy gale of wind, in which the fleet were dispersed; one Spanish frigate with 700 troops was wrecked and all hands drowned. The Narcissus was totally dismantled in the gale and has been towed into Plymouth.

Letters were received on Friday from Dunkirk to the 13th, and from Ostend to the 12th inst. with some French Papers, containing little news of interest, and nothing respecting the transactions in Portugal. BONAPARTE was expected to arrive at Dunkirk on the 6th; but the object of his journey is not alluded to in the letters. The exportation of corn had been prohibited throughout France.

The Cortes having proceeded to vote upon the project for the Liberty of the Press, the result was made public, and the votes being collected, the political Liberty of the Press was sanctioned by a majority of 70 to 32 voices.

An accomplished young Lady in Huntingdonshire, has brought an action against a Reverend Divine, a Fellow of Cambridge, for a breach of promise of marriage.

The sum of 600l. is stated to have been given to JEFFERY, by the friends of Captain LAKE, as a compensation for the hardships he suffered in being put on shore on the desolate island of Sombbrero.

The Princess Charlotte packet, Capt. KERR, which arrived at Falmouth on Friday week from Lishou, had an action at one o'clock the same morning, off the Lizard, with a French schooner privateer, which she beat off. The crew and passengers fought nobly, but they suffered severely from the galling fire of the enemy's musketry. Mr. M'COOMBE, a passenger, and R. MARRACK, a seaman, were killed; Capt. KERR, and Mr. HUTTON, the Mate, slightly wounded; C. BATHORN, a seaman, lost an arm; and J. HAMILTON, ditto, slightly wounded.

MILITARY FLOGGING.—An unfortunate man of the name of Greenway, a private in the 2d regiment of Tower Hamlets militia, has twice been visited with the punishment of whipping since May last, for desertion and unsoldierlike conduct. For one offence he received 400 lashes, and for the other 300;—and the last punishment was inflicted before his back had recovered from the dreadful effects of the first lashing. On Wednesday week he was seized in the street and made prisoner, on the suspicion that he was again about to desert. The unhappy man, in a kind of phrenzy, ran up to a cart which was passing, and put his leg under the wheel, which was so much hurt that he is now a patient in the regimental hospital.—When will this impolitic and savage system terminate!

DEATH OF FRANCIS BARING, Esq.—An Inquisition was taken on Thursday, at the house of Mr. RAY, in Charles-street, Berkeley-square, on the body of FRANCIS BARING, Esq. who shot himself at his house, No. 48, in the same street, on the preceding day. Especial care and secrecy has been observed to keep the proceedings of the coroner's court private. The deceased was a Nephew of the late Sir FRANCIS BARING; and it appeared by the testimony of two witnesses, that he had been subject to great despondency for several months, arising, as it was supposed, from pecuniary embarrassment. Having sent out his valet to order dinner, Mr. BARING locked himself in his dressing-room, and a report of a pistol alarmed two female servants in the House. Two neighbours, Messrs. ROBINSON and RAY, broke into the room and found the deceased lying on his face dead; a ball having entered his forehead, which shot away part of his head. He had a pistol in each hand, and one was found loaded.—Verdict, *Insanity*.

A passage in a Correspondent's Letter (in last week's Paper), has been much misunderstood. It neither said nor insinuated that the several persons named were ruined by Sir RICHARD PHILLIPS's failure. All that could be reasonably inferred from it was, that they had been hurt and harassed by the Bankrupt's very culpable proceedings.—One of the Gentlemen named was Mr. COOPER, and those who know him need not be told, that whatever inconvenience he may suffer from the conduct of Sir RICHARD, the word “ruin” is very far indeed from being in any way applicable to his affairs.

THE LATE MR. CHARLES GRIGNON.—On Saturday week the remains of this venerable artist were deposited in the vault under the chapel at Kentish Town.—Messrs. W. SHARP, SCOTT, MIDDIMAN, WARREN, and several other engravers, attended his funeral, as a tribute of respect to his talents as an artist, and his moral worth as a man.

On Wednesday a General Meeting of the Magistrates of Middlesex took place for the purpose of electing a Governor of the House of Correction, in the room of Aris, dismissed. Aris was, however, proposed to be admitted a candidate for the place again, but there being no other supporters than the mover and seconder, his name was withdrawn. The ballot then commenced:—when closed, and on casting up the numbers, there appeared for William Adkins, 73; Samuel Hamilton, 16; Henry Webster, 11. Adkins was duly elected—118 Magistrates were present.

A Country Attorney, desirous of satisfying his curiosity, on Tuesday last paid a visit to the Fives' Court, in Martin's-street, Leicester-fields, where a Sparring Match took place for the benefit of *Richmond*, and another *Black ruffian* of the name of *Molineux*, who is matched to fight the Champion of England, *Tom Cribb*, on the 18th of December next, unless prevented by our *vigilant Police*.—The Legal Gentleman had not been in the place five minutes before he was hustled by some well-dressed men, and robbed of his watch, &c. worth twenty-five pounds, notwithstanding there were a number of the Bow-street Police-Officers present.

A Constant Reader submits to the serious consideration of the Magistracy—how far it is decent to permit a set of ruffians, pickpockets, and blacklegs, to assemble almost every week, for the purpose of exhibiting *Sparring Matches*?—N. B. From 2s. 6d. to 5s. are demanded for admission.

The deposed King of SWEDEN has arrived in England from the Baltic: as he has traversed the Continent by permission of the FRENCH EMPEROR, it appears most likely that his "escape," as it is termed, has been winked at by the wily Despot.

TRIAL BY JURY.—The sixteenth Anniversary of the Acquittal of T. HARDY, J. H. TOOKE, and others, is to be celebrated on Thursday next, at the Crown and Anchor Tavern, when Alderman WOOD takes the Chair.

ARUNDEL CASTLE.—A wag, in the last *Monthly Mirror*, says that his Grace of NORFOLK, when at Arundel, employs his whole time in making "very expensive but tasteless alterations in the Castle. There is no room that one would walk out of another to see, except the *salle à manger*; and the painted window, which cost 5000*l.*, there forms the attraction. Here we have a picture of Solomon in all his glory, and the Duke has bountifully lent him his *head*; but it does not appear that Solomon has made any return *in kind*!"—(The head of the wise sovereign is a portrait of his Grace.)

There are two engraved Portraits of the late amiable Princess. One from the accomplished hand of CANNON, after a spirited Miniature by ROBERTSON; the other delicately engraved by AGAR, after a tasteful Miniature by Mrs. MEE, in the possession of the Duke of SUSSEX. The former interestingly expresses the languor of the fair invalid; the latter depicts the handsome features and form of the Princess, before disease had "fed on her daisy cheek." They are both pleasing ornaments for the parlour or port-folio.

During a very fine Solo on the Violin, at one of the Oratorios, a Countryman, who had obtained admission to the gallery, exclaimed:—"Lord, lord, what a while that man is tuning his fiddle!"

THE KING'S ILLNESS. MEDICAL BULLETINS.

"Windsor Castle, Nov. 11.

"His Majesty is still a little better this morning than he was yesterday."

"Windsor Castle, Nov. 11, 1810, nine o'clock, P. M.

"His Majesty has a little more fever this evening than he had in the morning."

"Windsor Castle, Nov. 12.

"Although his Majesty has passed the night with very little sleep, yet he appears in no respect worse than he was yesterday."

"Windsor Castle, Nov. 12, 1810, eight o'clock, P. M.

"His Majesty has had some hours sleep in the course of this day; and upon the whole appears better than he has been since the commencement of his illness."

"Windsor Castle, Nov. 13, 1810.

"His Majesty has had little or no sleep in the night, but continues as well as on the two preceding days."

"Windsor Castle, Nov. 13.—Eight o'clock, P. M.

"His Majesty has had a little fever, but is rather better."

"Windsor Castle, Nov. 14, 1810.

"His Majesty has had some sleep, and is rather better this morning."

"Windsor Castle, Nov. 14, Nine o'clock, P. M.

"His Majesty is still better to-day, and appears to be in a state of progressive improvement."

"Windsor Castle, Nov. 15, 1810.

"His Majesty is much the same to-day as he was yesterday."

"Windsor Castle, Nov. 15, Nine o'clock, P. M.

"His Majesty has a little increase of fever this afternoon."

"Windsor Castle, Nov. 16.

"His Majesty has had some sleep in the night, and his fever is again a little abated."

"Windsor Castle, Nov. 16, 1810.

"His Majesty has a little increase of fever this evening."

"Windsor Castle, Nov. 17.

"His Majesty has had a restless night, and has, upon the whole, been more feverish for the last two days."

"Although the attention which his Majesty has paid to business, within the last few days, has been the cause of some return of fever, we are most cordially rejoiced at stating, that every account concurs in representing his Majesty as likely to be soon completely restored to his affectionate people!"—*Morning Post*, Nov. 17.

SIR R. PHILLIPS AND MR. COBBETT.

To sympathize with misfortune is so natural and honourable a feeling, that the merit of the object is always a secondary consideration with it; and indeed, as the great masters of the stage have long since taught us, a certain degree of frailty doubly excites our commiseration. Virtue undeservedly afflicted is the noblest sight; but suffering error is the most pitiable, and goes nearest our hearts. It is absolutely necessary however that this error should really suffer, before we can suffer with it; it is absolutely necessary that the object of our sympathy should discharge the claims on himself, before he can make any upon our tenderness and respect. Where this is not the case, we become indifferent, or at best our pity is turned into a common-place regret for the stubbornness of human nature;—if the object carries his folly still farther, and persists in his errors out of mere vanity, or a worse desire to retrieve his losses by putting an impudent face on the matter, we begin to resent what we otherwise might have pitied;—and lastly, if to these errors and obliquities, he

should add the crime of involving others in his ruin, and yet persist, after all, in keeping up a tone of confident falsehood, merely for the sake of maintaining what he chooses to think a certain worldly importance, we despise the vanity and grow indignant at the insolence; want of success then becomes a just punishment for want of feeling and common honesty; and all persons who have a regard for candour, decency, and integrity, take a proportionate interest in exposing a conduct which is the reverse of all three.

Of these vices and of their subsequent punishment, Sir RICHARD PHILLIPS, a well-known character, has chosen to be the epitome and the example. The trade of bookselling, so perfectly respectable when it shews a liberal spirit worthy of its alliance with literature, has been more than proportionably disgraced with a succession of quacks, who have at different periods attracted the public disgust. A hundred years ago, in the persons of the CURTIS and OSBORNES, these men grew rich by using the names of popular authors and by indecent publications, in which they drove a traffic, that is now confined to the lowest hucksters;—as the times grew more delicate, and the fine arts began to be in every body's reach, the tide of indecency turned in favour of scandalous magazines, full of dashes, stars, and initials, and "ornamented" with portraits of persons celebrated for their intrigues either political or amatory; this was followed by the publication of histories and bibles in subscription numbers, "superbly embellished,"—a mode of entrapping the unwary by a shew of cheapness, with which Sir RICHARD is by no means unacquainted;—at last, when the general diffusion of letters had raised the booksellers both in wealth and in the mercantile rank of society, he who wished to become richest in the most imposing manner, aspired to the character of a splendid patron, and the opportunities he had of satisfying the demand for useful knowledge were rendered subservient to every species of literary quackery. Enabled by the nature of his profession to acquire a credit for the love of improvement, it is the quack's business to urge this continually by way of puff: in the mean time, he retains in his pay as many useful writers as he can bind to his assistance either by their poverty, their simplicity, or their accordance with his views; these gentlemen take his bills sometimes, and his dinners oftener; he tells the public that they are the finest of writers, and they proclaim that he is the first of booksellers; he deals extensively and professes to deal more so, first for the sake of getting on, and afterwards perhaps for the sake of getting off; he makes all the persons about him feel that he is their master, in order to keep up his dignity; and he makes them wait his leisure for payment, because there are fifty others who "would do twice as well for half the money;" in fine, when he wants to get rid of any one of them, he has only to add one more insult to a weight already intolerable, and thus, without taste, without public spirit, without liberality of any kind, he contrives to make what is called a figure. All this did Sir RICHARD PHILLIPS, and he became a Knight! But alas, to be vain, puffed up, and fond of shew, is not the way to secure the gains of trade;—all this was Sir RICHARD PHILLIPS, and he became a bankrupt!

It is not my intention, much less my inclination, to wade through all the stories told of this man and his impostures. Were I to do so, I might call this paper the

Commissioner instead of the *Examiner*, and fill it with nothing else. The readers crowd upon me with their disclosures: one of them sends a brief list of iniquities, that "not an anecdote may be lost;" another calls for Sir RICHARD's fulfilment of his promises; a third refers him to certain matters well known to him and his conscience; a fourth wonders what the Knight can possibly have to say for himself; and a fifth pathetically represents that he has four bills of Sir RICHARD's amounting to a hundred pounds, of which he would gladly get rid for *half the money*. Add to these the circumstances and persons mentioned in the letter of a "Bookseller's Collector," which appeared in the last *Examiner*, and one would think that the hardest impudence, conscious of such a number of weak places, would have long ago ceased to defy exposure. But vanity, which was destined to exalt our book-maker to a knight, was also destined, as Mr. COBBETT said, to be "the undoing of *this gentleman*." It was in vain that all the trade, and all the town, knew him well; it was in vain that his brother booksellers shook their heads at him, the lawyers their wigs at him, and printers' journeymen their fists at him; it was in vain that his authors were ridiculed, his piracies visited with injunctions, his bills returned, his character and his associates ruined. He persisted to the last minute in his impositions; to the last minute he made his publications subservient to the most nauseous quackeries; took pains to tell the rising generation what a great bookseller he was and how many sheets of his paper would reach round the world; recommended his compilations by the names of well known writers, duly screening himself from law by the alteration of their Christian names; established a kind of bill-manufactory, an absolute paper currency of his own, which he paid, like a true statesman, with more of the same kind; in short, did every thing and any thing, rather than lay down his state, repent, and grow decent. Thus, puffed and puffing, with no ears but for his title, no eyes but for his own contemplation, and no remorse but for beef-steak,* "this gentleman" went on pertinaciously gazing on his looking-glass, heedless of the many dirty ways into which his self-gratification led him, and taking the direct road to the precipice that had long ago bespoken him for the crows. At length he appears, "with all his blushing honours thick upon him," in the Gazette; and now it might be expected that he would shew a little decorum—a little sense of his vices and his situation. Not so; the quack advertisements still appear by the side of their worthy friends the HUGGERS and SOLOMONS; the Knight sees the bubble of his credit burst for ever; but his impudence is of a firmer material, and rebounds in the face of those who cast it to the ground. As he still talked therefore of his thousands and ten thousands, and put a bolder face upon the matter as the time of his examination drew nearer, those who knew his character thought proper to give him a gentle hint, that it would do no longer; and of this description of hint was the paragraph, which appeared in the *Examiner*, and which set the Knight raving about going to law. The writer intended nothing more than this; and nothing further perhaps might have been said upon a subject, which

* Sir Richard's scruples respecting animal food are as well known as his want of scruple in every other matter. He once saw a calf or an ox killed, and has not been able to endure the smell of meat ever since; he therefore took to devouring men instead of mutton, and must be allowed to have displayed a pretty good appetite.

brings one in contact with such a person; but the extensive injuries which he has inflicted give it an importance beyond himself, and if the exposure cannot relieve what has been done already, it may hinder much of what the Knight has in contemplation. Sir RICHARD knew this well, and fell into a becoming passion. He published a letter in an Evening Paper, and it is to be observed, that though this letter afterwards appeared in other papers, it was altered in one material circumstance. In the original publication, the paragraph was stated to be "as false in point of fact as it was obviously diabolical and cowardly in spirit;" but in the subsequent copies, whether Sir RICHARD was aware that he could not go to law with such words in his mouth, or from whatever other fear his cooler moments might suggest, the latter sentence was omitted; and he modestly contented himself with stating that the statement was "false in point of fact." Of this assertion the reader, by this time, can form a very proper estimation; nor is Sir RICHARD's late re-appearance before the Commissioners at all calculated to make it a job the more respectable. At the second meeting of creditors he was shown a bill on an Irish stamp for 500*l.*, and asked whether or not it was drawn at Cork, as it purported to have been, or in other words, whether he could swear as to the fact of it's having or not having been drawn in London? Sir RICHARD answered, that "he had a violent suspicion it was drawn in London:"—(let the reader fancy the looks of the company—) the Commissioner however could not accept this suspicious answer; but he urged in vain; the Knight confessed that O'Sullivan, the drawer of the bill, was in London at the time of it's being drawn, but still could only entertain a "violent suspicion," and begged for time. The suspicion, I have no doubt, was violent enough to choke him. The truth is, that he and O'Sullivan transacted these matters at his own desk in Bridge-street, where an accommodation paper-mill was continually going, and these two were the very BRADSHAW and FLETCHER of that useful style of writing.

Yet this is the impostor whom Mr. COBBETT comes forward to panegyricize, and whom he professes to think an injured, fine-spirited, and patriotic man, ruined by his "over-enterprise!" The Knight may have been over-enterprising, but unluckily he has been something beyond that; and if honourable appellations are to be given to such conduct as his, they should justly be bestowed upon the lives of a number of other personages, who finish their career in a still more elevated manner than Sir RICHARD. Mr. COBBETT thinks the Knight a sensible man also, but laments that his sense has not taught him the folly of vanity:—People think Mr. COBBETT a sensible man, and with much better reason, but they lament also, that Mr. COBBETT's sense has not taught him candour, self-recollection, and a decent regard for truth. He takes pains to shew us that he sympathizes with Sir RICHARD, and there can be no doubt that he sincerely does so, and for two very powerful reasons; 1st. because he feels that much of the Knight's character, in point of bravado and meanness of spirit, resembles his own; and 2d. because he would willingly aim a side blow at a Journal, which has exposed him for these very qualities, and which he dares neither to answer nor to attack openly. With this writer, who by his late proceedings has shewn himself a mere demagogue, turbulent, pretending, and unprepared to stand by his own cause, my work on

the present occasion will be very short. I pass over his wretched evasion respecting his not having seen Sir RICHARD "for years past," that is to say, when you come to sift the matter, for nearly three years; but when he says that "it has not fallen in his way to have any communication with Sir RICHARD," he must be reminded that in 1808, in his 14th vol. p. 403, he says, "The last day I had the pleasure of seeing him, which was in February, I parted with him in Fleet street with these words:—God bless you, PHILLIPS, and preserve you from the honours of a knighthood."—This contradiction has little to do with the main point, Sir RICHARD's character; it only shews the habitual negligence with which Mr. COBBETT speaks of matters of fact, and the little scruple he feels at making the most sweeping assertions. But what follows, in his late Register?—He proceeds to say, "But I did know him, and all that I ever knew of him was good." He then bestows some praises, with which to a certain degree one is by no means disposed to quarrel, on Sir RICHARD's *Monthly Magazine* and his publication respecting Sheriffs; and after venturing on some pleasant fictions, that will make literary people smile, about Sir RICHARD's patronage of talent, and the respect, "too peculiar to himself," with which he has always treated literary men, concludes in the following lively strain:—"To endeavour to pull down such a man; to degrade and vilify and put in the very dirt such a man, is natural enough to all those who hate public liberty, and who hate talent and the press for liberty's sake!" These, of course, are the *Examiner*, and all such Reformists, who dare to stand by their cause without admiring the vulgarity and time-serving of it's disgracers:—but let us turn over a few pages of the Register, and we shall see our Harlequin with another countenance: speaking of Sir RICHARD's conduct on the trial of Sir JOHN CARR's action against HOOD and SHARP, he has the following passages:—"Many circumstances have since come to my knowledge, which certainly do exhibit Sir RICHARD in quite another light than that of a man who would wish to see the principles of freedom cherished in England." Vol. XIV. p. 395.—"I really did not expect to see a prosecution of those whose low and malignant envy such honours are so well calculated to set in motion; much less did I ever expect to see in Mr. PHILLIPS a spirit of persecution against his brother booksellers and the press in general."—The reader can want no more on this subject, neither will Sir RICHARD and his panegyrist, if they are wise. Condole with each other they may in private, but they had better say nothing further in public. Mr. COBBETT's best plan is to stick to his exposures of the *Morning Post*, a paper which he may attack without blushing and without fear; and as to Sir RICHARD, his only remaining business should be to satisfy, as much as in him lies, the growing demands of his conscience and the still more importunate ones of his creditors. So much for this BAYARD of Bridge-street, this "Knight without fear and without reproach."

TO THE PUBLIC IN GENERAL,

BUT MORE PARTICULARLY GENTLEMEN VERSED IN COMMON LAW.

QUESTION I. Can a professional Gentleman who (by a verbal agreement with the present Secretary of the Army

Medicine Board) engaged to serve in that department for a limited period, and to proceed to Portugal, he detained in the service on his return, after an absence of twelve months, thereby fulfilling more than was verbally stipulated?

2. Does legal authority extend to this Gentleman, a temporary Hospital-mate (as such he agreed to serve), in compelling him to remain in the service, contrary to his wish, to the disadvantage of his prospects, and to the injury of his health, independent of obliging him to return on foreign service again, he holding no commission or warrant under the crown, nor bound by any written testimony or otherwise, to remain in the service longer than he may think proper?

These questions being replied to, the public will hear from me again, with the candour and spirit that ever accompanies true honour. A TEMPORARY HOSPITAL-MATE.
Hilsea Depot, Nov. 15, 1810,

SIR R. PHILLIPS'S BANKRUPTCY.

The second meeting of Creditors under the Commission of Bankruptcy issued against Sir Richard Phillips was held on Saturday week at Guildhall. A bill for 600l. held by Messrs. Fourdrinier and Co. which had been drawn on Sir Richard by Mr. O'Sullivan, of Cork, was presented for the purpose of being proved under the Bankrupt's estate. As it was on an Irish stamp, Mr. Courtney (the Commissioner) thought it right, before the validity of the Bill was allowed, to enter into an investigation as to the place in which it had been drawn; and he inquired of Sir Richard, "whether he could swear as to the fact of its having or not having been drawn in London?"—Sir Richard answered, "that he had a violent suspicion it was drawn in London; but he wished to waive giving a direct answer, until the meeting which would take place on Saturday next." Mr. Courtney informed him, "it could not be permitted to lie over; he must have a categorical answer, as a 'violent suspicion' would not justify him in rejecting the bill." Sir Richard again stated, "that he had a violent suspicion the bill had been drawn in London; his reason for not swearing to the fact at that moment was, that he had a counter bill, for a similar sum, coming due on the same day, by inspecting which, and examining the entry in his ledger, he would be able to speak most positively. His clerk, also, who was not present, he believed knew as much about the note as he did." Mr. Courtney inquired, "whether, at the time the note was dated, viz. Oct. 6, 1809, Mr. O'Sullivan was in London?" Sir Richard answered, "that he believed there were eight or nine persons then standing round the table who could swear that he was. He had come to town in July, and did not depart till the January following. He (Sir Richard) had claims on the estate of O'Sullivan to the amount of 10,000l. The present transaction had been purely a matter of accommodation."—Mr. Courtney observed, "that Sir Richard's demand on the property of Mr. O'Sullivan had nothing to do with the bill before him, which had got into the hands of a third party."—Sir Richard, in conclusion, stated, that as the assignees of O'Sullivan had refused to permit a number of bills of a similar description being proved under his (O'Sullivan's) commission, it would be a robbery on them (meaning Sir Richard's creditors) to admit the validity of the same description of securities. The final consideration of the bill was postponed.

FUNERAL OF THE PRINCESS AMELIA.

On Tuesday the remains of the Princess Amelia were interred in St. George's Chapel. A solemn silence pervaded Windsor during the whole of the day. Between the hours of six and eight in the evening a great many carriages drew up at the principal entrance to St. George's Chapel. The principal mourners

came in these, and among them several of the Royal Dukes. The Ladies generally wore long white veils, but many appeared in black ones. Most of the Gentlemen wore white ribbons on the right shoulder.—At eight the procession moved from Augusta Lodge precisely in the manner and form described in our last. The servants of the Royal Family came first on foot. After these, four trumpeters on white horses appeared slowly advancing, playing at the same time "the Dead March in Saul." They were followed by a detachment of the Royal Blues, to which succeeded the Body, in a plain hearse, drawn by eight horses. The hearse was followed by a carriage, in which were the Prince of Wales and Duke of Cambridge. The second carriage contained the Countess of Chesterfield (chief mourner) and her attendants. The carriages of the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Cambridge, each drawn by six horses, followed, and closed the cavalcade.

The procession moved slowly to the south entrance of Saint George's Chapel. A temporary porch had been there erected, lined with black cloth. Arriving there, eight Yeomen, who walked by the side of the hearse, took out the coffin, and bore it on their shoulders into the Chapel, placed it on tressels near the altar, and retired. The Chapel wore a very gloomy appearance, the floor being covered with black cloth, and the pulpit and desks hung with the same. The altar was covered with black, and two flambeaux were placed on it. The grooms, trumpeters, and servants filed off at the outer door, and the Body was received by the Pages of the Royal Family, the Dean and Prebendary, and the Choir, and the procession then moved on in the order which had previously been concerted, and which we gave at length in our last. The Choir, with burning tapers, walked before the coffin, singing as they advanced. A Page also preceded the Body, bearing the coronet of the Princess Amelia on a cushion of black velvet, trimmed with gold.

The procession passed up the middle aisle, and the Body being placed on the tressels, the Chief Mourner seated herself at the head, and the dressers and attendants ranged themselves on the sides. The stalls on each side of the Chapel were occupied by his Majesty's Ministers, the Nobility and Gentry. On the right side of the altar we observed—

Lord Chesterfield, Marquis Wellesley, Col. Taylor, Count Munster, Earl Milton, Earl Courtown, Earl Mansfield, Bishop of Salisbury, Mr. Dundas, Earl of Westmorland, Mr. Yorke, Earl Harrowby, Mr. Ryder, Earl Liverpool, Dr. Marsham, Earl Hurcourt, Lord St. Helens, Lord Rivers, Rev. Mr. Northey, Earl Aylesford, Marquis Abercrombie, Earl Bathurst, Major Price, Earl Camden, Colonel Desbrow, Lord Walsingham, Lord G. Thynne, Marquis Cornwallis, Lord Eldon, Lord Mulgrave, Dr. Goodhall, Rev. Mr. Ryder, Rev. Mr. Digby, Mr. Perceval, Rev. Mr. Jay, Lord Boston, Lord Arden, Duke of Montrose, and Lord J. Thynne.

Just below the seats occupied by his Majesty's Ministers, the Grooms of the Bed-chamber, and her Royal Highness's Physicians, took their seats. The seats on a line with those last mentioned, at the lower end of the Chapel, were filled with the Master Canons and Lay Clerks. In front of these were Dressers and the Choir, and on a line with them the Equerries of the Royal Family.

At the lower end of the Chapel those of the Royal Family present took their stations in their respective stalls. The Prince of Wales sat to the left of the entrance. The Duke of Clarence was seated on his left, the Duke of Cumberland on the left of the Duke of Clarence, and the Duke of Cambridge to the left of the Duke of Cumberland. To the right of the entrance the Dukes of York, Kent, and Sussex were seated.

The anthem concluded, the funeral service was read by the Dean of Windsor from the sufferance stall. An appropriate dirge was then sung, and the body was deposited in a temporary vault, where it is to remain till Cardinal Wolsey's Chapel is finished. At the conclusion of the ceremony, Sir Isaac Heard, King at Arms, pronounced the following words:—

"Princess Amelia, aged 27, sixth daughter of his Majesty George the Third, King of Great Britain, to whom God grant long life, health, and prosperity."

Nothing could be more awfully impressive than the whole of this melancholy spectacle. The grief so naturally felt for an amiable Princess, thus prematurely snatched away, seemed redoubled at that moment which was to consign her remains to moulder in the tomb. While the mournful office of rendering "dust to dust" was performing, the pensive air of sorrow, and the sympathising tear, wherever the eye was turned, presented themselves to view.

The anxiety of the public to witness the performance of the sad rites, caused a considerable number of persons to assemble at the door of the Chapel between four and five in the afternoon. The door was thrown open to those who had obtained tickets at about six, and the north aisle was immediately filled. The whole was over by eleven o'clock, when the procession returned as it went.

LAW.

COURT OF KING'S BENCH.

Monday, Nov. 12.

On an application to the Court, in the case of a Bankrupt, indebted in 13,000*l.* to the Bank of England, for leave to justify for 14,000*l.*, Lord ELLENBOROUGH observed, that it was now in contemplation of the Judges to make a rule, which would take away the necessity of similar motions in future. The rule would probably be declared in a few days; and its object was, that when a debt amounted to more than 1000*l.* the bail should not be held to justify for more than 1000*l.* above the debt.

THE KING, v. J. G. JONES.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the judgment of the Court against the defendant.

After Lord ELLENBOROUGH had read the minutes of the trial, stating, that the defendant had been convicted of having published three libels on Lord Castlereagh,

Mr. Jones addressed the Court.—He felt so strong a sense of the indulgence which was granted in the permission to address the Court, that he would be peculiarly scrupulous of trespassing on its decorum. He did not mean to impeach the verdict as false, or fallacious. He trusted that if any thing should tempt him to exceed the bounds which he had prescribed to himself, it would be imputed to his inexperience—to his standing alone—to his being without advice or Counsel. He was sure the Attorney-General would not use the privilege of his high office to press upon an individual, but would rather interpose to shield him from the consequences of his inexperience. He did not doubt that the Jury were perfectly honest; even if he did not think so, he would rather suffer, than by doubting their verdict send abroad a principle which would unshrink all respect for justice in the land. He might have hoped for another species of consideration in the Court, if he had but the good fortune to have been defended by a Counsel who would have followed his instructions, and read the affidavits which had been prepared to defend the character of the British Forum, of which he had the principal conduct. He did not wish to use the common cant of persons in his situation, or hope to make the sentence lenient by idle protestations of sorrow for his offence: but he must be allowed to say, that he actually believed the statement made by Mr. Finerty, in the *Morning Chronicle*, to be true in every part. He found it a public document in a public print. It stated broad facts: the act of a Minister to a British subject. It charged Lord Castlereagh with an act of tyranny, equal to the transportation of an innocent individual. It still was only resting on the authority of the Attorney-General (he begged pardon for the observation) that the order had not originated with Lord Castlereagh. It was even admitted, that when his Lordship had found the original order without effect, he issued one for having Mr. Finerty arrested at Walcheren. That charge was now at an end. Mr. Finerty, by withdrawing his plea, had acknowledged himself guilty of the libel. But at the British Forum there was nothing in the debate which could be construed into private hostility to the Noble Lord. The

discussion was free and open. Every one who pleased might take part in it. Even in the wording of the question every chance of acquittal was given. It was the fortune of the defendant to open the debate on that occasion. He had commenced by reading some extracts from the *Morning Chronicle*, not offering himself as their voucher, but leaving that to the credit of Mr. Finerty. It was the custom in those societies for the opener of the debate to reply at the end. The defendant did not avail himself of this privilege, which would have been of course eagerly adopted by one who had personal malice to his Lordship. The assembly examined into the charges, and debated them. The defendant was now brought before the Court for the vote of that assembly, which he merely registered from his connection with the Forum. He was not even present to hold up his hand, and vote when the question was put.—Much calumny, and many evil reports had gone abroad on the nature of Debating Societies; but if their real nature was permitted to be explained to the Court, they would be seen in a far different light. The defendant, on casting his eyes round the Court, could see many gentlemen who had attended those societies, and delivered their sentiments with honour to themselves. There were even some, who, he might say, had risen to the top of their profession, and yet who had laboured in those schools. It was impossible that Lord Castlereagh could suppose personal enmity to lurk in the breast of the defendant. He did not know the Noble Lord. He had had no intercourse with him. He was a stranger to his person; he should not know Lord Castlereagh if he were in the Court. But what was the noble prosecutor's conduct? When the defendant was in prison, for an offence committed in another place, Lord Castlereagh fastened this indictment on his back: and scarcely was the defendant permitted to return to his wife and family—scarcely was he permitted to breathe the open air—scarcely to reinstate his affairs, and feel the enjoyments of liberty—when he was again assailed by this prosecution. It might have been more honourable for the noble Lord, not to have pushed his vengeance so far. It might have been more feeling to have remembered the heavy punishment under which the defendant had just suffered, and not thought that the character of such a man as Lord Castlereagh required to be cleared by the vindictiveness of a criminal prosecution. It might have, perhaps, better become the noble prosecutor to have considered, that in the present time of public exigency, all men ought to be conciliated to the service of the State. The defendant was probably not capable of rendering any very effectual service, but he flattered himself he could render some. At all events, he felt that he should sleep sounder in the cell to which the sentence of the Court might consign him, than the noble Lord could on his "bed of roses," or his bed of down. The defendant concluded by saying, that he would not shrink from the sentence of the Court; but made that appeal for mercy which it might not be unbecoming in him to ask, or for the Court to grant to him.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL said, that he was still so perfectly ignorant of the valuable services which Mr. G. J. Jones could render to the State, that he was not prepared to say that Lord Castlereagh should have sacrificed justice to them. Lord Castlereagh came before the Court complaining of a serious wrong which he had received; and the Court would support his right to all that justice could give. But there was also a right set up on the part of Mr. Jones. And what was that right, which was prefaced with so much pomp as the privilege of a British subject? Why, nothing more than the trifling concession that Mr. Gale Jones, having seen a paper in the *Morning Chronicle*, insulting and defaming a man in high authority, had a right to take the libel for granted. The next step was, that he had a right to summon a tribunal to try Lord Castlereagh on an indictment found by the Grand Jury of the *Morning Chronicle*. Before this exquisite mockery of a Court of Justice, Lord Castlereagh was summoned, to defend himself against having, as an English Minister, transported Mr. Peter Finerty, and as an Irish one, sent a Mr. Orr to execution.—Before this tribunal the gentle Lord Castlereagh (the epithet was contemptuous, if it was any thing) was called in the name of British Justice: and what was he to meet there, if he ap-

peared to plead his cause. Perfect impartiality, of course. No; but all that the malice and folly, the ignorance and hostility, of every man who could pay a shilling, might be pleased to heap upon him. "I cannot," said the Attorney-General, "enter into the views which the conductor of the British Forum may be pleased to entertain of it. But I say, from the spirit which this action develops, that it must be a scandalous, infamous assemblage. It professed to take the question merely as it was to be found in the *Morning Chronicle*; but it only adopted the subject to aggravate and spread the original charge. There was, in even the wording of the question, as it was posted up in the streets, a gross libel. Shall it be permitted in this country, that any man shall summon an assembly to discuss the conduct of another, and that he shall be proposed in the first instance as liable to be declared infamous and a traitor? Is this to be endured?"

[The ATTORNEY-GENERAL here read extracts from the libels, calling on Lord Castlereagh to appear, and defend his conduct before an outraged and insulted people.] One of them summoned him and his adherents "to meet the country, face to face, and vindicate his character from everlasting infamy and disgrace."—"Is this," said the Attorney-General, "the language of impartiality? Is this the spirit of justice?—The defendant summons my Lord Castlereagh to a meeting, where he or his friends would be made to attend, to defend his conduct before an insulted and outraged people." Lord Castlereagh does not attend; and he is of course to be declared infamous, by the pure, conscientious, impartial tribunal of the British Forum. Mr. Jones admits that he has no cause of enmity against Lord Castlereagh. What, then, is the object of the meeting?—a combination to pull down the character of a public man. Will your Lordships say from the Bench that this is extortion? Will your Lordships say, that after Lord Castlereagh's character has been settled by the orators at the British Forum, it either compensates or extenuates the injury, that Mr. Jones feels it to be right to discuss the merits of the noble Lord, and that, therefore, he may practise the same right, as often again as it suits his will and pleasure? [Here Mr. Jones said, he did not insist on the right, and hoped the Attorney-General would not press upon him on that ground.]

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL proceeded.—"Well, my Lords, one part of the defendant's speech went on the argument, that there is less guilt in copying the published libel than in fabricating it. That may be true or untrue, according to the case. But in this case there is more. The defendant must have known the very expressions in which his paper was worded, to convey a gross libel; yet he spreads the libel—he makes it the subject of debate—he gives it virulence, and point, and publicity. He had no enmity against Lord Castlereagh. No, he only volunteers in the cause of defamation. He rests his belief of the facts in Finerty's letter on the credit which he was in the habit of giving to the statements in the *Morning Chronicle*. I hope that this will be a lesson to the proprietor, not to suffer such false statements to appear in future. Another extenuation of Mr. Gale Jones's is, that he has committed another offence, in another place, and has been punished for it. I did not state to your Lordships the third placard. It says that not a hand was held up in favour of Lord Castlereagh; though it also says that several persons spoke in defence of his character. This was all to be expected in such an assembly. The friends of Lord Castlereagh were of course subdued by the weight of evidence and argument on the opposite side.—Mr. Jones says, he has been already in prison four months, and that it was cruel to pin a second indictment upon his back.—My Lords, the present indictment was prepared when the former transaction was not a week old. But this is not material in any sense. It rests with your Lordships, whether his first offence is to take part in washing off his second. May it not be still more expedient to stop for a while the traffic of an experienced trader in crimes, and see how far justice, true and genuine justice, may amend his propensities? This person, my Lords, ought to be punished—punished if his conduct arose from enmity to Lord Castlereagh—punished if it proceeded from more general motives, which cannot be suffered abroad

without danger, or checked with too much activity and decision."

Lord ELLENBOROUGH.—"Let the defendant, John Gale Jones, be committed to Newgate, and brought up for sentence on this day fortnight."

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL then moved for judgment against Peter Finerty; but an affidavit being read by Counsel, stating that the defendant was delayed on his passage from Ireland, and was expected in town every hour, the Attorney-General consented to delay the motion for a reasonable time.

Tuesday, Nov. 13.

SIR F. BURDETT, BART. v. THE SERJEANT AT ARMS.

Mr. Serjeant SHEPHERD came into Court at an early hour this morning to shew cause against the rule obtained for putting off the Trial at Bar in the above case, until the demurrer should previously be argued in that of the same Plaintiff against the Speaker.

The Learned Serjeant entered into a great variety of observations, with a view of shewing the urgency of proceeding to the above trial before any arguments were heard, or any judgment pronounced, on the demurrer, contending that the plaintiff had a right by the practice of the Court to shape out his own course of proceeding. After being heard for a considerable time against the rule,

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL rose in support of it. He argued that as a matter of law was raised by the plaintiff himself, it was fitting that the Court should previously determine upon that before they proceeded on any thing that had to do with matter of fact. He did not impute any species of wilful delay to the plaintiff, but he contended that he might have joined issue upon the demurrer, so as to have the question of law settled last Term.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH said, the Court, in pronouncing the Rule, would consider how the purposes of justice would be best served, and even what would be most beneficial for the parties themselves, even though they did not themselves desire it. If the Court in this case were first to try the issue before the question of law was disposed of, they would afterwards have to hear the question of law argued, as the Learned Serjeant had declared he should move to that effect. Supposing that question were to be determined in favour of the plaintiff, there would then result the necessity of another inquisition of damages; for could the Jury assess contingent damages in case the law or the legality of the warrant should be with the plaintiff? In every view in which the case presented itself, it was most convenient that the demurrer should have the priority of hearing.

The other Judges unanimously agreed with his Lordship, and the three Rules were made absolute.

Wednesday, Nov. 14.

This day Mrs. Dogherty appeared in Court to exhibit articles of the peace against her husband, Mr. Hugh Dogherty. In her affidavit she stated, that she was married in 1802, when under age. In consequence of that circumstance, and of the brutal conduct of her husband, she was now seeking a divorce in the Ecclesiastical Courts. In Trinity Term, she had exhibited articles of the peace against her husband, in consequence of which he was bound to keep the peace for one year. Mr. Dogherty was soon after put into the King's Bench Prison, and detained there till he was let out on the Insolvent Act. The deponent, from that time forth, took every precaution to conceal herself from her husband, from a just fear of the ill-treatment which she would be likely to receive from his known habits: but on the 16th of October last, as she was sitting at dinner with some of her family in Hatley-street, Cavendish-square, she saw Mr. Dogherty looking in at the window. Conjecturing that he had some purpose of violence, she ordered the door not to be opened; on which he climbed over the rails, got down into the area, and by breaking in the kitchen window, entered the house. He proceeded up stairs, and opened the hall-door for some persons whom he brought with him. He next came into the parlour, and demanded that the deponent should go with him into a coach, which was at the door. This she refused, in great terror, and when the

force which Mr. Dogherty attempted to use was resisted by her friends, he went away swearing he would have her, and abusing her father in the grossest language. On the 18th of October he came again, at eleven o'clock at night, and insisted upon getting in. On being refused, he climbed the lamp at the door, and continued to pour the most abusive language on the defendant's father. Mr. Dogherty remained about the house till three o'clock in the morning. Some evenings after, he returned with a great number of persons, apparently with the intention of forcing into the house. When he was refused admission, he swore that all this was the work of her (the defendant's) d—d scoundrel of a father; that if any one came out, he would "have their hearts' best blood; he would tear their livers and souls out." In consequence, he was given in charge to the Police Officers. Mrs. Dogherty left town immediately, for the purpose of being under her father's protection at Bury. She was drenched with rain, from her having been obliged to wait two hours in the road for a coach; and she has ever since continued in a state of extreme terror and agitation. From the consequences of the ill-treatment she had already received, and from which she had reason to expect from her husband's character, she considered her life in danger, and now prayed the protection of the Court.

Mrs. Dogherty then appeared, and took the usual oath.—She is an interesting young woman, pale and very delicate. She seemed to take the oath with great alacrity, and left the Court immediately after.

MANDAMUS AGAINST THE BISHOP OF LONDON.

Mr. WARREN applied for a Rule to shew cause why a writ of mandamus should not be directed to the Bishop of London, calling on him to shew cause why he did not grant a licence to the Rev. Richard Povah, authorizing him to act as Morning Lecturer in the Church of St. Bartholomew, near the Exchange, in the City of London, the said Richard Povah having been duly appointed in the situation of Morning Lecturer in that church. Mr. Povah had applied to the Bishop for his licence, when he was answered that the Bishop would not grant it, having been informed that Mr. P. had been known to preach against infant baptism. This Mr. Povah denied, and claimed the liberty of facing his accuser, which was refused him. Afterwards, it was objected that his testimonials were not sufficient, when Mr. Povah gave in additional testimonials from the Rectors of St. Clements' Dunes, St. Matthew, Shadwell, and another. The answer then given was, that the Bishop had long since made up his determination, after consulting with legal advisers, to whom he had communicated more documents than Mr. Povah was aware of; and he now rested his objection on Mr. Povah's general unfitness. "I do not approve of him as a fit person, and this I am ready to maintain."

Lord ELSBOROUGH said, the Court thought it fit to pass before they granted a Rule in such a case as this, being totally without precedent, or rule of any kind to go by. They should inquire into the subject, and if they found any case applicable, they should let the Learned Counsel know.

The Rule was ordered to stand as originally drawn, and the Court agreed to consider of it.

On Friday, Lord ELSBOROUGH informed Mr. Warren that the Judges, on the ground of law and precedent, were unanimously of opinion that the Rule should be granted.

ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

The widow of a butcher, named Hughes, with a numerous family, hung herself on Sunday, at her residence in Fitzroy Market. She was found suspended by one of her children, and by medical aid was brought to that state which has hopes of recovery.

A Swindler has recently practised several frauds on the children's maids who frequent St. James's Park. The fellow is exceedingly well dressed, and pretends to be deeply enamoured of the poor girl whom he selects for his imposition. He next proposes marriage, and appoints a day for their nuptials; but

previously borrows as much money as she can spare, to purchase the wedding ring, and afterwards leaves her to lament her folly and credulity.

One of the most calamitous events which, perhaps, ever occurred in Cork, took place about ten o'clock on Saturday fortnight. A cabin, situated at the corner of Malachy's-lane, in which a quantity of gunpowder had been deposited, suddenly blew up, and destroyed six other contiguous cabins, with the unfortunate inhabitants. The shock was felt in most parts of the city, and immediately drew an immense crowd to the fatal spot, when they discovered a most heart-rending spectacle, a number of cabins destroyed, others in flames, the unfortunate survivors endeavouring to escape from the smothering and burning ruins, and nothing but terror, distress, and dismay, displayed upon every countenance. All that night and next morning every exertion was employed to clear the wreck, and to extinguish the flames. The spectacle of the dead and mangled bodies, when extracted from under the ruins and rubbish, was shocking in the extreme. Some half burnt, others deprived of their limbs, which were afterwards found at a distance, mangled and scorched; and to add, if possible, to the calamity, several of the unfortunate women who suffered were pregnant. The cause of this dreadful calamity is supposed to have originated from the act of drying some powder, which a labourer of the name of Ellard, who worked at the Powder-Mills of Ballincollig, succeeded in purloining from that manufactory, until it accumulated to such a large quantity, as to produce these dreadful effects. Thomas Ellard, the supposed cause of the calamity, had one of his thighs torn off in a dreadful manner, and died as he had reached the South Infirmary. His wife, and 14 other persons were killed, and there are others in the Infirmary, of whose recovery scarcely any hopes are entertained.

On Wednesday an investigation took place at Worship-street Office, relative to Mr. T. Clarke, an auctioneer, residing in Old-street. It appeared that the deceased was a collector of taxes in the parish of St. Luke. On Monday evening, the 5th inst. he left his house, promising to return to supper, and directing one of his men to attend on him at seven o'clock next morning. He, however, did not return. His hat and waistcoat have been found in a clay-field at Hoxton, from which it is concluded that he has been murdered; and a reward of 50*l.* is offered for the discovery of the murderer.

MARRIAGES.

On Friday inst. at St. Ana's, Soho, by the Rev. James Gibson, David Uwins, M. D. of Aylesbury, Bucks, to Miss Jane Gibson, of Carlisle-street.

DEATHS.

At Stanmore, on the 10th inst. aged 55, the Rev. Thomas Clark, M. A. Prebendary of Hereford.

A few days since, at Walmers, near Deal, aged 73, Rear-Adm. Keeler.

At Preston Pans, Rebecca Gallaway, aged 92. She lived to see 128 of her children, grand-children, and great grand-children.

Suddenly, on Wednesday evening, in Charles-street, Francis Baring, Esq. second son of John Baring, Esq. of Mount Radford, near Exeter.

On the 31st ult. at Belfast, Mr. Huskirk:—he left the following among other directions to his Executors:—"It is my particular request, that as little money as possible be expended on the funeral: my fixed opinion being, that whatever is so spent more than common decency requires, is worse than lost; it is a robbery on the surviving part of the family. Let my coffin be of plain deal, painted either black or oak colour, which you please, with no escutcheons, except the two with handles at the end—neither name nor age on it—no bearse—no headstone—no scarfs—no gloves—no spirals, tobacco, or pipes—all these are utterly vain and useless."

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