

THE EXAMINER.

No. 177. SUNDAY, MAY 19, 1811.

THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

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

No. 173.

DUKE OF YORK.

For some weeks past, there has been a strong rumour of the restoration of the Duke of York to the office of Commander in Chief,—a proceeding so utterly unnecessary, unwarrantable, and impolitic, that if the first impulse of a reasonable person was to be indignant at the report, the next was to laugh at, and to forget it. It has been revived, however, with so much confidence within these few days, and the ministerial Editors, in revenge for the late constitutional behaviour of the REGENT, seem to take such a malicious pleasure in repeating it, that it becomes every independent writer, to force his attention to the subject, and to omit no proper expression of his feeling respecting it, either of contempt for the report, if it is groundless, or of pity and reprobation, if it is authorized. One or two of the more respectable papers have already done their duty on this occasion; but the report was so directly contradicted at the time, that the others flattered themselves they were relieved from the necessity of advertising to it; and the Duke of York, it was supposed, would have felt himself relieved too. But his friends, in their excessive zeal to do him good, are determined, it seems, that he shall feel his punishment a little longer.

However willing the public may be to bury the faults of the Duke of York in silence, it is not possible for them to forget the circumstances that first developed his official conduct, and what sort of united voice it was that compelled him to vacate his situation. They can never forget the gross imbecility displayed in all his private actions; they can never forget the corrupt compliances and partialities with which, to say the least of them, he made the interest of the army secondary to that of a prostitute; they can never forget the disgusting and monstrous fact relative to Dr. O'MEARA, who by the assistance of this prostitute was to be made a bishop; and certainly, after all this, and after endeavouring to trick this very woman out of her allowance, they can never forget with what despicable expectation of belief,—with what fondness of a silly and degraded mind,—he advanced in the face of the public and contradicted all that had been proved against him, upon "the Honour of a Prince!"—The men who can voluntarily come forward and hold up such a person as one to whom not only kindness but retribution is owing, may well talk of differing with other people upon the subject of delicacy and public virtue! They can see nothing corrupt in rendering the public inte-

rest subservient to that of an abandoned woman:—they can see nothing unprincipled in opening to such a woman the doors of pulpits and church dignities;—they can see nothing foolish or impudent, particularly in times like the present, in attempting to contradict the most glaring facts upon "the honour of a Prince!"—No; and how should they? Their standard of virtue and good sense is evidently different from that of decent people:—their tastes are of a different cast; their intellects of a different pitch: and it would be hard to expect from them either sense or decency. But all this is no reason why they should think the REGENT of the same mind with themselves. If they see a congeniality of disposition in one prince, that is not sufficient reason for so desperate a proceeding as attributing it to another. The PRINCE, it is true, has had his follies and his vices also, but to the best of my recollection, he never publicly degraded himself as the DUKE has done:—of late years, it is even hoped and believed that he has proved himself worthy of his situation; and what he can have been doing just now to procure him the good word of these miserable creatures, it is impossible to discover.

If the only appearance of truth, then, which this report possesses, arises from what might be judged of the PRINCE by his past follies, the appearance of its want of truth arises from what may be judged of him by his present conduct; and therefore he will easily see what excellent reason his true friends have for hoping it to be groundless, and what a compliment they pay him in believing it so.—If, however, there is the least shadow of truth in it,—or if the PRINCE is only weak enough, or, as he may call it, kind enough to his brother, to sound the public feeling respecting him, let him judge between those who recommend the proceeding, and those who advise against it; and let him ask himself seriously, which of the two, in point of sense, integrity, independence, and good policy, ought to have most weight with him:—in a word, let him ask his own common sense, what possible good the restoration of his brother to office can do either to the Duke or to himself.

The Duke, we shall be told, did many good things in office, and ought on that account to be restored to an occupation of which he is fond. The good things I shall not dispute, such as they were; he kept the army, generally speaking, in good condition, and it would be a monstrous thing if an English Commander-in-Chief did not. This was only a part of his duty, and the rest he violated in a most shameless manner, by turning the stream of patronage and military reward through the hands of female prostitution:—that violation alone is sufficient to render him for ever unworthy of command:—and as to his love of business, there is plenty of very useful and needful occu-

pation which he might find in his library, if he has one,—plenty of excellent, admonitory tracts which he has evidently never read, or if read, never remembered;—but the public may apply to him what GANGANELLI said to his cook,—“I shall not risk my health and comfort purely to keep you in employment.”—So much for the interest of the Duke in this matter, not to mention the additional odium his re-instatement would bring upon him.—What advantage then has the Prince to gather from such a proceeding? Nothing whatever, but a similar odium. His Royal Highness can hardly fail to consider how very acceptable to him, at this moment, a just popularity ought to be; indeed, he must at this moment feel, how very acceptable it is. Whom then has he to please by the proceeding, and whom has he to displease? To please, he has the Duke of YORK, who does not know what he is about; the Ministers, who are justly obnoxious to himself; Mr. Fuller, the Punch of Parliament, who was the first to recommend the re-instatement; and the Morning Post, that consummation of all beautiful climaxes, who seconds the motion. On the other hand, to displease, he has the public at large, who certainly were against the Duke; the best friends of his own side in politics; the reasonable men all over Europe, who wish well to England, and who know the Duke's incapacity; and without exception, all the members of the House of Commons the most esteemed for their integrity and public spirit, all that important minority that voted without reserve against the Duke of YORK, including, among other sound, old English characters, the BURDETTs, the BRANDs, the WHITBREADs, the COKEs, FERGUSONs, MARTINs, OSSULSTONs, PARNELLs, HORNERS, HUTCHINSONs, LITTLETONs, WYNNEs, and ROMILLYs. Even if the Prince should not be influenced by any desire of gratifying the former set of men, a desire indeed which is inconsiderable,—and should only be inclined to re-justate the Duke of YORK from a wish to gratify his brother, it is not possible he could pass over the opinions and feelings of the men just mentioned: or that he should be blind enough to the merits of his own friends, not to be aware, that though the present Commander-in-Chief has little better claims to office than the late one, there are many excellent soldiers who would be an ornament to the situation. Family partialities, so delightful and so honourable when founded on mutual taste and virtue, are mere weaknesses under any other circumstances,—mere habits that ought not to stand in the way of comfort and self-respect. If the Prince Regent must copy the Pitts in some way or other, before he is freed from their services, let him, at least, copy the best part of their leader's conduct, and like Mr. PITT himself, refuse to injure the public welfare and reputation by putting his brother in situations for which he is unfit.—Surely he will do so:—surely he cannot but do so, if he is the same Prince who gave that noble answer the other day to a time-serving Minister.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

PARIS, MAY 5.—The *Moniteur* has published the following details of the operations in Portugal and Spain:—

ARMY OF PORTUGAL.—The army has continued its march; it quitted on the 23d March the route of Almeida, and proceeded upon Guarda—There it remained till the 28th, without seeing the enemy. It took the direction of Sabugal to traverse the mountain. The 6th and 8th corps had entered Spain. The General in Chief was at Ciudad Rodrigo, and the 2d corps, under General Regnier, was in front of Sabugal. On the 3d April the latter being informed of the approach of the enemy, made his dispositions accordingly, by taking a position on an eminence behind Sabugal, where he could observe the movements of the enemy and check them. The English had 23,000 men, and intended to get before Gen. Regnier on the road to Alfayates; Gen. Regnier, accordingly, made part of his troops fall back, and directed the Brigade Sarraz to remain on the eminence. It was soon attacked by the heads of the enemy's columns. The 2d light, and 36th of the line precipitated themselves spontaneously on the enemy, overthrew all obstacles, and pursued the enemy to their reserve. The English redoubled their efforts against the eminence. General Regnier brought up the 1st brigade of the second division to support the Brigade Sarraz. The enemy were constantly repulsed and mowed down by the artillery. The second corps, master of all its movements, retreated by *echelons*, in the greatest order. The enemy endeavoured to cut off the last echelon, which awaited its turn to quit the eminence, but the General of Brigade Sault, made a vigorous charge on the enemy's flank, that he drove them all back.—The 2d corps arrived the same day at Alfayates. Our loss was 200 killed and wounded, the enemy's 6 or 700.

CATALUNYA.—Under this head, the *Moniteur* mentions a plot to deliver fort Montju into the hands of the Spaniards—it failed—but it adds, they were successful at Figueras, which was surrendered to them for a sum of money. Five hundred Miquelets were secretly introduced into the fort at two in the morning. Baraguet D'Hiller and Gen. Fresnel attempted to invest the place, but before they could effect it, 1200 more Miquelets got into it.

THE NORTH.—The Marquisite having attempted to invest the small fortress of Lianes with about 5000 men, was attacked and defeated by Gen. Bonnet, who threw reinforcements into the fortress, and dispersed the troops under the Marquisite.—General Bonnet followed this success, and pursued the Spaniards to the very strong position of Puolo, from which he dislodged them, and compelled them to fly and abandon their wounded and about a 100 prisoners. The works carrying on at Santona advance daily to completion, and this post will very shortly be in a very respectable state of defence.

FRENCH ACCOUNT OF THE ACTION IN THE ADRIATIC.

[FROM THE MONITEUR.]

Lissa, March 14.

MONSIEUR.—In consequence of the command of your Highness, I embarked on board the frigate *Favourite*, at Ancona, on the 11th in the evening. The division under the command of Captain Dubourdieu, consisted of four frigates and two small corvettes, forming in all six ships, two of which belonged to the French, and four to the Italian navy.

At sun-set, on the 12th, we perceived the eastern point of Lissa. I proposed to Captain Dubourdieu, that I should land at Lissa with 300 men, which I had on board, in order to take a position. This, however, he refused, and the division remained the whole night in sight of land, in order to keep before the wind.

At day-break we perceived the English division, which consisted of a cut-down ship of the line, carrying only her lower deck guns, and three frigates. The *Commodore* immediately gave the signal to prepare for battle. As the *Favourite* sailed better than the other ships, she was considerably a-head of the rest of the division; however, at a quarter past seven, the order was given for the action to commence. Captain Meillebic said

to me—"Colonel, would it not be better were we to wait awhile longer and form our line?" I communicated this observation to the Commander, who, however, only replied—"This is the happiest day of our lives; two of these ships must be ours. We have the advantage of two frigates over the enemy, and we are as well manned as he is." Your Royal Highness must be aware that on board this ship I was nothing, and that I was now for the first time in an action at sea. I could, therefore, only concur with this brave Officer; and it is impossible to describe the courage which animated the crew of the Favourite.

A few minutes after eight, the frigate had got within gunshot of two of the enemy's ships, received their fire, and returned it with astonishing activity from both sides. The wind, however, fell off, and it became quite calm. We had been an hour and a quarter in action, and no ship of our division had joined us.

At a quarter past nine, Capt. Dubourdien said to me, "This is a glorious day, though I have been somewhat too rash: courage, however; our division will yet support us." Scarce had he spoken these words when a ball struck him, and severed him in two. About the same time the frigate Flora came into the line, and about half past ten the Couronne; and a half an hour later the Danae also joined. From this plain statement, your Highness will easily perceive how inconsiderate our manœuvres were.

As the Captain of the frigate and Lieutenant were killed, the command devolved on me; the Midshipman, Villeneuve, directed the manœuvres. About half past ten o'clock the masts of the Favourite fell by the board, and Mr. Villeneuve intimated to me that he could no longer steer the vessel. We were standing, at the same time, before the wind, close by the Island of Lissa; I gave orders to make for the land, took possession of several vessels, on board which I put my sailors, and the frigate was allowed to escape without interruption.

The Couronne having lost her masts, after the most obstinate resistance, was obliged to strike. The Danae, the Flora, and a corvette, ran during the night into Lessina. The English, in the utmost distress, took refuge in the island of Saint George, after they had set fire to the Couronne, and one of their own frigates. The cut-down vessel, after being wholly dismasted, ran against the rocks of the island, and in all probability must have been dashed in pieces. The result of this action is on our part the loss of two frigates. The loss on the part of the English is one frigate, and a cut-down ship of the line. It is certain, that if Capt. Dubourdien had wished to wait longer, and concentrate his division, this day would have been very glorious for the Italian Navy. The extraordinary zeal and abilities of this Officer would have achieved a two-fold victory. At all events, the Italian marines have covered themselves with glory, and acquired a fame that will be transmitted to posterity, by engaging and baffling the English with an equal, if not an inferior force, in spite of the skill and manœuvres of their Commanders. This merit will neither be overlooked nor unrewarded by his Majesty. Having once engaged us, they found no difference between the French and Italians. The Italian marine has merited the same praise, and it must be to England a source of much anxiety and disappointment, that the sailors of the Adriatic are not inferior to the French seamen.

The division will set sail to-morrow, from Lessina, for Ragusa, in order to refit.

It is the opinion of all seafaring people, that if Capt. Dubourdien had kept his division together, we should have got possession of two of the enemy's ships, though the enemy had two cut-down ships of the line (*vaisseaux rasés*). However, without reckoning the two corvettes which we had more than the enemy, and the advantage resulting from their having these two reduced ships of the line, our frigates had each the advantage of 80 men, which enabled them to fire from both sides. The rashness and impetuosity of Capt. Dubourdien, however, lost every thing.

Your Highness will, without doubt, receive the highest pleasure from the good conduct of the seamen this day, though a

positive victory was not obtained; and their conduct is the more to be wondered at, as this is the first action in which the Italian Marine has been engaged, and which must gain them the favour and approbation of his Majesty. I have no doubt that the French Naval Officers will represent to the Minister of Marine the distinguished courage the Italian seamen displayed on this occasion.

Great as the error is which Capt. Dubourdien committed, his loss is much to be regretted. Never was officer more brave, or seaman more skilful. But the sight of the enemy hurried him into an imprudent temerity.

The loss of the English is immense. Half their officers, and a great part of their crews are killed.

Finally, the good disposition of the inhabitants of the coast of Dalmatia ought to be made known to your Highness. Vessels came from all the islands to our assistance, and the National Guards hastened to the coast, and offered us their support.

A. GIPSENGA, Col.-Adjutant.

PORTUGAL.

LISBON, MAY 5.—The siege of Badajoz goes on, while Marshal Beresford's corps at Menda and Almendralijo observe Mortier.—On the other side, Almeida is invested.—Regnier, with 1500 men, is in Almeida. No doubt great exertions will be made to relieve him.

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

On Friday week, the house of Mr. James, farmer, Lower St. Columb, Cornwall, who had been known to keep guineas by him, was broken into by three men, who very much cut and bruised the old man and his daughter (the only persons in the house), and having secured a pistol in his room, took from a box near his bed above one thousand guineas! Suspicion attaches to one man, who knew the house, and that there was a hoard of guineas in it.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

During the past week, the Vexatious Arrests Bill has been passed, the Royal Assent given by commission to the Slave Trade Felony Bill, and several others. Their Lordships have also been much occupied in the Berkeley and Cloncurry cases. On Friday, when Lord SIMMOUTH moved the 2d reading of his Bill to amend the Toleration Act, EARL GREY and STANHOPE strongly urged the propriety of allowing some time to elapse, in order that an adequate opportunity should be given to weigh the opinions of those numerous persons who objected to the measure.—The second reading was therefore postponed till Tuesday next, and the House adjourned till Monday.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Monday, May 13.

The Cinque Port Justices Bill, Irish Embezzlement Bill, Parish Apprentice Indentures Bill, and the Sugar and Malt Duty Bill, were read a third time and passed.

THE KING'S DISEASE.

Mr. WHITBREAD observed, that he had given notice of a motion respecting the recurrence of any such event as that in which the existing Regency originated. He wished to ask the Right Hon. Gentleman opposite, whether or not he had it in contemplation, before the end of the Session, to propose to the House either some permanent measure, or some measure that might be applicable to the interval between the two Sessions?

Mr. PERCEVAL replied, that he had no such intention.

Mr. WHITBREAD then gave notice, that on the 30th instant, he would move, That the House should resolve itself into a Committee on the State of the Nation, for the purpose of tak-

ing the particular object which he had mentioned into consideration.

THE BULLION REPORT.

MR. VANSITTART rose to propose his Resolutions, in opposition to those moved by Mr. Horner.—The subject having been already fully debated, little new was to be expected. He had examined with great attention the Report, and he was most decidedly convinced of the fallacy of its conclusions. To adopt it would only be the means of substituting a cumbersome circulation for one which cost nothing, and no effect whatever would be produced on the foreign exchanges. The measure was in fact impracticable: bullion was not to be got; and if Parliament compelled the Bank to adopt such measures, they would ruin commercial credit altogether. The Right Hon. Gentleman then took a view of the state of the exchanges, and gave it as his opinion, that it would be most satisfactory to the public, if the House would give a pledge that the Bank-note was, in their belief, for all legal purposes, equivalent to coin. This, in fact, was the great object of the Resolutions he had brought forward.

Mr. MAGENS contended, that the depreciation of Bank-notes had been fully proved, and that a check should be put to the system.

Mr. PATTISON was of opinion, that the Bank issues had not the effect on exchanges which was supposed.

Mr. H. THORNTON thought that the present system had led Government to too sympathetic a feeling towards the Bank. The present evils could only be accounted for by the great increase of paper currency. The Bullion Committee proposed that the Bank should open in two years. He would propose that even this should not be positively enacted, but left to the future consideration of Parliament. He thought that a moderate limitation of two years, and for these reasons collectively, he should vote against the propositions of his Right Hon. Friend (Mr. Vansittart).

Mr. CANNING observed, that the House was called upon to declare, for the first time, principles which found no support in history of the principles of the Constitution. Three of the proposed Resolutions, the 1st, 3d, and 15th, were of this extraordinary nature. The Right Hon. Gentleman might as well have introduced the state of the weather into his Propositions,—and perhaps with more logical precision, from its known influence upon corn.—(A laugh.)—On the third Resolution, which asserted that the Bank-note was held to be equal to the current coin of the realm, Mr. Canning observed, that this was taking for granted a position contrary to the fact, and upon which the public mind was so decidedly at variance. People might say that one party was wrong and another right; but it remained for the Right Hon. Gentleman alone to say, that there was no difference between them! The passage from Milton might well be applied—"Chaos umpire sits, and by decision more embroils the fray."—It was truly curious, when persons came for information, to have them told, "Oh, Gentlemen, you are all right; and what is more, you are all of one opinion!" (Laughter.)—He had never heard of an instance in which people collectively were pledged to believe propositions which they knew to be founded on false premises. Did the Right Hon. Mover conceive that if the House agreed to them, the character of the House would thereby be advanced? What symptoms had he seen of public opinion to induce him to the conclusion that they would adopt his notions of law and fact, as stated in those Resolutions? The Right Hon. Gentleman desired the House to go with him, like Galileo, who, having discovered that the earth moved round the sun, wished the people so to believe; the holy Inquisition, however, who could not be put out of their belief by Galileo, decreed that the sun moved round the earth. That was public opinion; and for maintaining a different opinion that celebrated man was punished. So the Right Hon. Gentleman wished the House to decree that paper was gold. Being of opinion that no good would result from the Resolutions, he should move, "That the Chairman do leave the Chair."

Mr. PERCEVAL contended, that there was nothing in the

state of our currency to give alarm at present; but if the system were departed from, every danger might reasonably be expected to arise. In the state of the world at present, it would be impossible to maintain our relations in Portugal, or to prepare for the exigency of affairs there, unless we were enabled to provide for the payment of our troops. Bullion could not be got but at usurious interest. The present state of the world was so unparalleled, that the charge of going against history could not be admitted to have any weight.

Mr. MORRIS opposed the Resolutions.

The House divided on Mr. Canning's Amendment, when there appeared—For the Amendment, 42—Against it, 80—Majority, 40.

Mr. VANSITTART's Resolutions were then agreed to pro forma, with an understanding that they should be discussed upon the Report.

Mr. WHITBREAD, in the absence of Mr. Grattan, gave notice, that his Right Hon. Friend would bring forward a motion on the Catholic Petition on the 31st of May.—Adjourned.

Tuesday, May 14.

BOARD OF CONTROUL.

Mr. DUNDAS obtained leave to bring in a Bill for making further provision for the Payment of Salaries to the Commissioners and other Officers of the Board of Controul; for authorising the Company, with consent of the Government, to restore Officers displaced by sentences of Courts Martial; and for authorising them to take up ships by private contract.

MILITIA.

Mr. RYDER also obtained leave to bring in a Bill to permit the interchange of the services of the English and Irish Militias. His plan was, that not more than one-third of either Militia should be sent from one country to the other at one time; that the English Militia should not continue in Ireland more than two years, nor the Irish in England more than three years at one time; that they should not afterwards be sent but in rotation; and that in no event should either be sent to the other country, but by an order from his Majesty. He also proposed, that they should have the power of volunteering, and that the Commanders should inform each regiment that their services were purely voluntary. This was the outline of the Bill.

THE BULLION REPORT.

Mr. G. JOHNSTONE entirely agreed with the Report of the Committee.

Mr. FULLER did not like the Report at all;—he thought it was all a humbug—one of the greatest humbogs that ever was put upon the country since the affair of the Duke of York.—There was no depreciation at all—he knew of none whatever. It was all the system of that base, cowardly faction, who were undermining the credit of the country—(Order, Order.)—Yes, that malevolent faction. He did not puzzle himself with these things. If the guinea was now worth 24s. why not say so at once? But let the country be firm: let its currency be kept up, and all will be well. Why should we not have a circulation of our own, that nobody would take from us? The people will take any thing for money: they would take tallow candles for change, if they would not melt in their pockets.—(Loud laughter.)—If we adopt this plan, we may for ever defy the enemy. If we only agree about it, we can make a circulation of any thing—of leather, or oyster shells. If we can only keep up credit for a year, we shall have Bonaparte on his knees at the end of it: that Tyrant will then despair of ruining us.—Mr. Fuller only wished he could see a Gentleman in the House;—(Laughter.)—He meant Mr. Sheridan,—that graet man—that able person—he would give him a hundred play-houses—for he always came forward when there was a riot or a mutiny—whenever the country was in danger, he took his party and spoke his mind. He (Mr. F.) wished he was there to speak: he would have put down the mean, conspiring set—(Order, Order.)—It grieved him to see the time of the House taken up: it grieved him to see so much labour and sweating about this Bullion Report. It would not, in the end, make a bit better figure than that nonsensical dispute between the Speaker and himself!—(Much laughter.)

Mr. C. ADAMS entered upon a history of the coin:—Gold, he said, had been considered the most precious metal, from its rarity, as well as from its ornament and use. It was the most ductile, the most malleable, the most beautiful of all metals; and it was besides—the most hard to be got.—(Hear, hear!)—The bullion was not the standard of our currency; Mint coin, and Mint coin only, was; and paper, as referable to such coin, was not in the smallest degree depreciated.

Mr. S. THORNTON disapproved of any departure from the present system.

Mr. MARRYAT, on the contrary, was satisfied that there was a manifest depreciation. In Ireland, there were two public prices—for paper and for gold.

Mr. W. SMITH enumerated many instances in which a difference was made to the amount even of twelve per cent. between paper and coin, and contended that these instances were undeniable proofs of two prices, and consequently of a depreciation of paper.

The resolutions were then read a second time.

Mr. HORNER then proposed an Amendment, which was negatived.

On the question that the resolutions be agreed to, a conversation ensued of some length as to the prerogative of the Crown to alter the weight and fineness of the standard coin, which the friends of Ministers maintained in the affirmative.—Mr. TIERNEY then moved another Amendment, which was also negatived.—Adjourned.

Wednesday, May 15.

Mr. BRAND postponed his motion for a Reform in Parliament, at the desire of his friends, till a future day. He could not exactly fix the time, but he hoped to do so early in the ensuing month.

Mr. MORRIS obtained leave to bring in a Bill to amend the 38th of the King, extending the powers of Justice of Assize. The object was, first, to enable the Judges to remand criminals to a particular jurisdiction for the execution of their sentences;—2d. to enable them to compel the particular jurisdiction to pay the proper expences. These were not to be compulsory on the Judges, but subject to their discretion.

The British Callico Bill was passed.

In a Committee of Supply, among other sums, were voted— for the Westminster Improvements; 14,000l.—Naval Asylum, 47,382l.—British Museum; 7999l.

Mr. ROSE stated, that by the improved regulations of admission into the British Museum; 29,000 were admitted in a season instead of 15,000 as before, and with liberty to remain in any of the rooms as long as they pleased.

The House went into a Committee on the East India Company's Petition, for liberty to raise two millions on bonds.—Leave given.

Mr. DUNDAS brought up the Board of Control Salary Augmentation Bill. He said nothing as to the Salaries of the Commissioners, but it was absolutely necessary to augment the Salaries of the Clerks in the President's Office. The expence of that Office had been confined to 11,000l. in 1793, and no augmentation had been made since. An addition of 3000l. only was wanted.

Mr. CREEVEY thought the Salary of the President might be augmented by diminishing the allowances to the Commissioners. He also stated, that Mr. Dundas and his father, Lord Melville, had between them 11,000l. a-year out of the public money.—The laborious office might be executed at a less salary in consideration of the sinecure.

Mr. PERCEVAL said, that pensions were granted sometimes with a proviso, that if the grantee came into a valuable office, the pension should cease. But that did not apply to the present case.

Lord FOLKESTONE stated, that the Chancellor of the Exchequer himself, much to his credit, had waived his salary for one office, when he took another much more lucrative.—The Bill was read.

Mr. W. POLE obtained leave to bring in a Bill, appointing Commissioners to superintend the Schools in Ireland. This was founded on a report made upon the state of these schools,

after a laborious investigation. He stated that every Clergyman in Ireland, on getting a living, took an oath to have a school kept in the parish. The way was, however, to give 40s. to a schoolmaster for this purpose, who might keep the school, or pocket the money without, as he chose. This required amendment.

THE BULLION REPORT.

The House having resumed the farther consideration of the Resolutions on the Bullion Report,

Mr. TIERNEY agreed in every respect with the Report, except as to the last resolution,—the remedy. But the counter-resolutions were so pregnant with mischief, that he deemed it his duty to propose an amendment. On the subject of depreciation, a paper had been put into his hands which threw considerable light on that point. The Right Honourable Gentleman had a deputation, some time ago, from several of the most respectable traders in London, when they stated that a great part of the evils which the commerce of the country was suffering were owing to the depreciation of the currency. They stated expressly to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that there was a depreciation, and that the evils of the low exchange was to be attributed to it. The paper was signed by the house of Wm. Mellish and Co. by Thornton and Co. by Sir Chas. Price, and by several of the most respectable houses in London. Whether that opinion was right or wrong, he would not say; but when it was expressed by a deputation from the most respectable houses in London, it was rather singular that a resolution should be brought forward, asserting that there was no depreciation in the public estimation. Paper was lessened in value by the price of gold rising above the price of the currency. Though he himself, for instance, in his individual dealings, might find no difference between guineas and paper, would any man say, in discussing the estimate of value, that paper was equally valuable with gold? It had been urged that this supposes the laws of the realm to be broken; but every day they were broken; and though this might be lamented, it could be no surprise. No human being could doubt, that if gold in bullion was more advantageous than paper, that bullion would be preferred to paper. Go to the bullion merchant, and see if the same quantity of bullion can be got for paper as for guineas. Supposing a person to have connection with Ireland, which would he prefer? How then could it be said that they were equal? On this subject he should say less, because nothing was ever more happily exposed and ridiculed than the proposition was by a Right Hon. Gentleman (Mr. Canning).—The late Lord Liverpool seemed to have written with a prophetic eye to some future Chancellor of the Exchequer, who should venture to maintain that we should have paper at home—that we might send all our money abroad. That respectable writer stated the danger of the idea, that we possessed the alchymy of turning paper to gold, and that we might export all our gold to those countries who did not possess that alchymy. He could not help speaking with disdain, when he heard a British Chancellor of the Exchequer maintain that such a system should be persevered in, not for safety, but for benefit, and for the more effectually carrying on foreign war. The resolution which he should propose would avoid the difficulty of the last resolution of his Learned Friend (Mr. Horner). It was impossible to say what would be the situation of the country at the end of two years; definite periods too could be easily enlarged, as there were already but too many instances of. The best thing, therefore, at present, was to declare that nothing could justify the restrictions but the public safety. His motion, therefore, was, “that it was highly important that the Bank restriction should be removed at the earliest period at which it could be done consistent with the public safety; and that, during the restrictions, the Bank should continue to act upon the principles upon which they acted previous to 1797.”

Sir JOHN SINCLAIR said, he had been called a proselyte; he had opposed the restriction in 1797 from a principle of public duty, conceiving it to be injurious to the public interest; having since changed his opinions, he now opposed with similar motives a new measure, which he was confident would be attended with the most ruinous effects. Notwithstanding all that

had been said in daily, in monthly, and in quarterly publications on this subject, his persuasions remained unaltered. He held that there were two sorts of currency, a metallic and a representative currency, the latter of which was applicable to all the purposes of the former, and to others beside. Bank money might be described as money issuing upon good security, and always returning in a limited time to the coffers whence it was issued, thus constituting an unobjectionable and perfect circulating medium. Would not paper make purchases of every description, as well as coin, at the present moment, and would it not go just as far, provided it was in sufficient quantity? The advantages of a paper currency he conceived to be these; first, That it might be increased according to the demands of circulation; 2dly, That it made us independent of foreign countries for our currency; and lastly, That it exerted a magical influence on all internal improvements, trade and manufactures. Loans were in consequence easily made, at low interest, in the midst of expensive wars, new roads and canals undertaken, and the spirit of enterprise universally diffused. (*Hear, hear, hear, from Mr. Perceval*). With one hand Great Britain appeared spreading cultivation over the land, and with the other extending foreign commerce, and defeating a foreign enemy. (*Hear, hear.*) Already was Portugal delivered, and he ascribed this glorious event to the abundance of our circulating medium.—Our modern Midases might dwell, indeed, upon the mischief of an excess of currency, and assert its existence in defiance of the clearest and most indisputable evidence. (*A laugh.*)—He would now mention three tests by which an excess could be judged; Did Bank-notes pass currently from hand to hand?—Were they received at the Exchequer? And did the circulation not exceed in amount the revenue? If these questions were answered in the affirmative, no excess could have taken place. Having made these remarks, he would now simply state a few facts. During four years our funded debt had only increased 12,000,000*l.* and since 1801, the whole increase of our revenue amounted only to 13,370,000*l.* (*Hear, hear.*) Was it possible then that men of common understanding could any longer assert that our resources were declining, or that there was any evil in our present system of currency? It was a saying of Frederick the Great, that it was a happy thing the systems of metaphysicians had no influence on the price of the quarter loaf; and in the same spirit he earnestly deprecated the adoption of the counsels of the Bullion Committee, whose reasonings, however ingenious, led to the most pernicious consequences. The greatness and welfare of a State were all comprehended in the preservation of its established religion, its established government, and its established currency. He must resist, therefore, any innovation upon the last, as one of the three important links of society.

Mr. MANNING defended the conduct of the Directors of the Bank of England, and denied that the Bank had any interest distinct from that of the public. Their paper issue was not regulated with a view to the raising of any excessive or unreasonable profit.

Mr. HUSKISSON apprehended that the Right Hon. Baronet had in his zeal for the paper cause let out considerably more than the advocates of paper could wish to have disclosed. He seemed not only to deny the evils of an excessive paper issue, but to hail it as another and most promising system of finance; and that, as for the vulgar prejudices in favour of gold and silver, they ought to be at once exploded or left merely to those modern Midases who would ruin the country in the fury of their speculations. This glorious paper system was to rescue us from all the horrors of gold and silver, which the Right Hon. Baronet had proved, by a quotation from a French pamphlet, must inevitably make "the poor miserable and the rich wicked and powerful." With regard to the 3d Resolution, he wished to know the meaning of the word "equivalent" in that resolution; was it the denominations were the same—of this there could be no question; was it that their intrinsic value was the same, or was it that they had the same exchangeable value? Are the two commodities interchangeable? No; then what was the meaning of "equivalent?" Standard was the measure of equivalency. If the Assay-master, the favourite witness,

Mr. Meale, was called and asked as to this point, he (Mr. Huskisson) should wish to put him two questions only;—first, "Are the dollars and crown-pieces equivalent?" and to this he would certainly answer, no. The second question would be—By what process can you make them equivalent? The only reply he could give to this, would be perhaps, a laugh—because the thing was impossible—they could not be made equivalent. It was absurd to talk of a standard when it could be traced only to a penal law. An equivalent in such a case could only be compared to the story of the Scholars, who complaining of the diminution of their commons, were desired to get a pair of magnifying glasses, through which to view their allowance. Such was the case with the dollars—Gentlemen had only to view them through a different medium, and they would perceive them to be larger one day than they had been the preceding.

Mr. S. THORNTON stated, that within these two days a banker had put into his hands 500 guineas in gold, requesting to have in exchange for them, from the Bank, tokens to the amount, at the rate of 5*s.* 6*d.* each; and a similar application had been made a few days before for an exchange as between guineas and tokens, to the amount of 300*l.* This was better than any reasoning, as to their value, could be supposed to be.

Mr. WILBERFORCE was satisfied that those would be found to be the best friends to the country who advised, that the present system should not be pushed too far.

Mr. BARING contended that the country was in such a fictitious state as to every part of political economy, that she could not go on with a circulation adapted to legitimate purposes. At the present, however, such was the state of the Continent, and of our trade, that it was impossible for us to bring back the precious metals into circulation. To talk in this situation, as a Right Honourable Gentleman (Huskisson) had done, of the Theories of Locke or Newton, was not more absurd than the reasoning of an Honourable Gentleman last night, who carried the House back to the days of Moses.

The House then divided.—For the Resolution, 79—For the Amendment, 24—Majority in favour of the Resolution, 52.

Mr. HORNER then proposed his several Amendments to the Resolutions of Mr. Vansittart, not with the view to any discussion, but that they might be entered on the Journals.

Mr. VANSITTART denied the facts asserted in Mr. Horner's Amendments.

Mr. HORNER was content that the matter should now rest on their counter assertions, which would thus appear opposed to each other on the Journals.

Mr. Hogler's Amendments to the several Resolutions were then put and negatived.

Mr. TIERNEY proposed his Amendment, but this was also negatived.

The whole of Mr. Vansittart's Resolutions being put and agreed to, the House adjourned.

Thursday, May 16.

The further consideration of the Report on the Grand Junction Canal Bill was opposed, but was carried, on a division, by a majority of 33.

IRELAND.

A Petition from the Irish Brewers, praying for an alteration in the Duties on Spirits, was, after some debate, referred to a Select Committee. It appears that the duty in Ireland is only 2*s.* 6*d.* per gallon, while in England it amounts to 8*s.* 9*d.* The consequence of which was, that, the price being low, the morals and health of the lower orders were much injured.—Sir J. NEWPORT said, that in Waterford a man could get intoxicated in the most brazen manner for 4*d.*

The Petition from the Irish Proprietors of Newspapers, praying for a repeal of the late Duties upon Advertisements, as being highly injurious to the liberty of the press, and not productive to the Revenue, was proposed to be referred to a Committee of the whole House. This motion was objected to by Ministers, who contended that a tax on advertisements could not injure the freedom of the press, and that the duties in Ireland were only two-thirds of the amount of those in England.—In Ireland, the tax is proportioned to the length of the Advertisement. In England, every Advertisement paid 3*s.* duty.

—Ministers said, that if the Irish preferred the latter mode, they had no objection to it.—On the other hand, it was contended that the Irish could not bear an equal taxation with England; that the duty should never have been imposed; that it did not increase the revenue, but only served to put down the press altogether; that no public paper could exist without Advertisements, and if they were heavily taxed, the injury to the press was apparent.—On a division, the motion was lost by a majority of 12.

Leave was given to bring in a Bill to authorize the Irish Judges to punish by hard labour and imprisonment persons sentenced to transportation, &c.—Adjourned.

Friday, May 17.

Mr. HOWARTH made his motion against the policy of exempting the property of Foreigners, invested in our funds, from the operation of the Property Tax.—He urged many cogent arguments against such indulgence: which were answered by Ministers, who contended that it would now be a breach of faith to tax such property. The motion was withdrawn; though Mr. HOWARTH pledged himself to bring the subject again before the House.—A motion for adjournment having been carried on Mr. Taylor's motion respecting Suitors in Chancery, the House adjourned till Monday.

TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

Admiralty-Office, May 14.

Copy of a Letter transmitted by Sir Charles Cotton, Baronet.

His Majesty's ship *Ajax*, off *Elba*, March 31.

Sir,—In pursuance of the instructions I had the honour to receive from you on the 26th inst. for intercepting the frigates which had escaped from Toulon to the eastward, I lost not a moment in pushing through the Straits of Bonafacio, directing the *Unité* at the same time to go round by Cape Corse. On my rejoining her last night off this island, I was informed she had been chased during the day by the enemy's frigates, and that they were working through the Piombino Passage. All sail was immediately made in that direction, and at dawn this morning they were discovered, viz. *Emily*, 40 guns, *Adrian*, 40, *Dromadaire*, 20, a little to windward. From the short distance they were from the land, I regret we could only succeed in cutting off the *Dromadaire*, the rear ship; the other two narrowly escaped from Capt. Chamberlayne by running into Porto Ferrajo.

The *Dromadaire* is a very fine frigate-built ship, of 800 tons, sails remarkably well, and is only five months old; she was constructed by the French Government for the express purpose of carrying stores. Her cargo consists of 15,000 shot and shells of different sizes, and 90 tons of gunpowder.

She was commanded by a Lieutenant de Vaisseau, and her complement 150 men. From the report of the prisoners it appears they were bound to Corfu.—I have the honour to be, &c.
To Sir C. Cotton, Bart., &c. &c. R. W. ORWAY.

His Majesty's brig *Scylla*, within *Les Trjagos Rocks*, off *Morlaix*, May 8.

Sir,—I have the pleasure to inform you, being close in with the *Ile of Bas*, this morning, at half-past nine o'clock, I observed a man of war brig, with five sail under convoy, to leeward, which I immediately gave chase to; half-past eleven she came up and commenced firing at her and convoy; 45 minutes past eleven, finding we were within *Les Trjagos* and *Pontgalo Rocks*, and she was determined, if possible, to run on shore, obliged me to lay the *Scylla* on board her, then going eight knots; in two minutes afterwards we got possession, but not before her first Captain, one Midshipman, the Boatswain, and three seamen, were killed; one Midshipman and five seamen dangerously, and five seamen slightly wounded. She proves to be the French national brig *La Canonniere*, of ten 4-pounders, one 34-pound carronade, and four swivels; with a complement of 75 men, commanded by Mon. Jean Joseph Benoit Schilds, Ensigne de Vaisseau, out only two hours from *Perros*, bound to *Brest*. I think if we had been off the land she would not have

fired a shot at us; but with the hope of running her on shore, and being close to it, they fought hard, and I am sorry to say the *Scylla* had two seamen killed, one Midshipman and one marine slightly wounded. I was only enabled to get possession of one of her convoy, a sloop laden with wheat; the other four having got within the rocks and run on shore; indeed I was glad, from the shattered state of *La Canonniere*, and the wind and sea increasing, to get out from where I was with what I had.—In this little affair I have great satisfaction to mention that Mr. Speck, first Lieutenant, all the Officers and crew I have the honour to command, did all they could; I should be proud to have an opportunity where they could shew themselves to a greater advantage.—I have the honour to be, &c.

A. ARCHISON.

[A Letter from Capt. Talbot, of the *Victorious*, gives an account of the destruction of the *Leoben*, Italian sloop of war, of 10 guns and 60 men, bound to Corfu, with ordnance stores.]

BANKRUPTCIES SUPERSEDED.

P. M. Taylor, Liverpool, merchant.
J. Barnes, Little Banton, Cumberland; cotton-manufacturer.
R. Kelland, Sandford, Devonshire, tanner.

BANKRUPTS.

J. Amick, Old Bond-street, perfumer.
M. Berry, Barnsley, Yorkshire, grocer.
C. and W. H. Huffam, Limehouse, ship-chandlers.
R. Hunt, King's Lynn, Norfolk, tailor.
J. Jacobs, Waleot, Somersetshire, plasterer.
R. Keys, Skinner-street, victualler.
I. Robinson, Whitehaven, Cumberland, mercer.
J. Saffery, Canterbury, bookseller.
Z. Shaw, Dudley, Worcestershire, mercer.
H. White, George-street, Manchester-square, coal-merchant.
J. Whittle, Liverpool, tailor.

SAURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

Downing-street, May 18, 1811.

A Dispatch, of which the following is an Extract, was on the 15th inst. received at Lord Liverpool's Office, addressed to his Lordship by Lieutenant-General Viscount Wellington, dated Villa Formosa, 1st May 1811.

Having received intelligence from Lieutenant-General Sir Brent Spencer on the 27th April, two days after I addressed your Lordship last, that the enemy were increasing their force on the *Agueda*, I arrived here on the 28th. The enemy had on the 23d attacked our picquets on the *Azava*, but were repulsed. Captains Dobbs and Campbell, of the 52d regiment; and Lieutenant Eeles, of the 95th regiment, distinguished themselves upon this occasion, in which the allied troops defended their post against very superior numbers of the enemy. One Lieutenant (Lieutenant Pritchard) and seventeen soldiers were wounded. The enemy repeated their attack upon our picquets on the *Azava* on the 27th; and were again repulsed; and this day again they re-committed the banks of this river with eight squadrons of cavalry and three battalions of infantry. They did not make any attempt to pass the river; nor did they attack the picquets upon the bridge of *Mariaiva*. They have collected a very large force at *Ciudad Rodrigo*. Marshal Massena and the head-quarters of the army are at that place.

The river *Agueda* is not yet fordable for infantry; but is so for cavalry.

Sir William Beresford has taken up the position which I had proposed for him in *Estremadura*; but I have not yet heard that he had re-established the bridge at *Jurameuha*.

Admiralty Office, May 18.

Copy of a Letter transmitted by Sir Charles Cotton, Bart., Commander in Chief in the Mediterranean.

His Majesty's Ship *Amphion*, off the *Island of Lissa*, March 14, 1811.

Sir,

It is with much pleasure I have to acquaint you, that after an action of six hours, we have completely defeated the com-

joined French and Italian squadrons, consisting of 5 frigates, 1 corvette, 1 brig, 2 schooners, 1 gun-boat, and 1 xebec; the force opposed to them was, his Majesty's ships Amphion, Cerberus, Active, and Volage. On the morning of the 13th, the Active made the signal for a strange fleet to windward, and daylight discovered to us the enemy's squadron lying to, off the north point of the island of Lissa; the wind at that time was from the north-west, a fine breeze. The enemy having formed in two divisions, instantly bore down to attack us under all possible sail. The British line, led by the Amphion, was formed by signal in the closest order on the starboard tack to receive them. At nine A. M. the action commenced by our firing on the headmost ships as they came within range; the intention of the enemy appeared to be to break our line in two places,—the starboard division, led by the French Commodore, bearing upon the Amphion and Active, and the larboard division on the Cerberus and Volage; in this attempt he failed, (though almost aboard of us), by the well directed fire and compact order of our line. He then endeavoured to round the van ship, to engage to leeward, and thereby place us between two fires, but was so warmly received in the attempt, and rendered so totally unmanageable, that in the act of wearing he went on shore on the rocks of Lyssa in the greatest possible confusion.

The line was then wore to renew the action, the Amphion not half a cable-length from the shore; the remainder of the enemy's starboard division passing under our stern and engaging us at leeward, whilst the larboard division tacked and remained to windward, engaging the Cerberus, Volage, and Active. In this situation the action commenced with great fury, His Majesty's ships frequently in positions which unavoidably exposed them to a raking fire of the enemy, who with his superiority of numbers had ability to take advantage of it; but nothing, sir, could withstand the brave squadron I had the honour to command. At twenty minutes past eleven A. M. the Flora struck her colours, and at twelve the Bellona followed her example. The enemy to windward now endeavoured to make off, but were followed up as close as the disabled state of his Majesty's ships would admit of, and the Active and Cerberus were enabled at 3 P. M. to compel the sternmost of them to surrender, when the action ceased, leaving us in possession of the Corona of 44 guns, and the Bellona of 32 guns (the French Commodore), the Favorite of 44 guns on shore, who shortly after blew up with a dreadful explosion, the corvette of the enemy making all possible sail to the N. W., and two frigates crowding sail for the port of Lessina, the brig making off to the S. E., and the small craft flying in every direction; nor was it in my power to prevent them, having no ship in a state to follow them.

I must now account for the Flora's getting away after having struck her colours. At the time I was engaged with that ship, the Bellona was raking us; and when she struck, I had no boat that could possibly take possession of her. I therefore preferred closing with the Bellona and taking her, to losing time alongside the Flora, which I already considered belonging to us. I call on the officers of my own squadron as well as those of the enemy to witness my assertion. The correspondence I have had on this subject with the French captain of the Danae (now their commodore) and which I enclose herewith, is convincing; and even their own officers (prisoners here) acknowledge the fact. Indeed, I might have sunk her, and so might the Active; but as the colours were down, and all firing from her had long ceased, both Captain Gordon and myself had long considered her as our own; the delay of getting a boat on board the Bellona, and the anxious pursuit of Capt. Gordon after the beaten enemy enabled him to steal off, till too late for our shattered ships to come up with him, his rigging and sails apparently not much injured; but by the laws of war I shall ever maintain he belongs to us. The enemy's squadron was commanded by Mons. Dubordieu, a captain de vaisseau, and a member of the Legion of Honour, who is killed. In justice to a brave man, I must say, he set a noble example of intrepidity to those under him. They sailed from Ancona the 11th inst. with 2000 troops on board, and every thing neces-

sary for fortifying and garrisoning the Island of Lissa. Thanks to Providence, we have this time prevented them.

I have to lament the loss of many valuable officers and men; but in a contest of this kind it was to be expected.—[Here Capt. Hoste passes an eulogium on his brave officers and men.]

I enclose a statement of the enemy's force, together with a return of killed and wounded in the squadron, and deeply lament they are so great. I have the honour to be &c.

WILLIAM HOSTE.

To George Eyre, Esq. Senior Officer.

List of Killed and Wounded.

Amphion—15 killed, 47 wounded.

Cerberus—13 killed, 44 wounded.

Active—9 killed, 26 wounded.

Volage—13 killed, 33 wounded.

Total—50 killed, 150 wounded.

Officers Killed and Wounded.

Killed.—Messrs. Hayes, Spearman, George, and Davey, Midshipmen.

Wounded.—Captains Hoste and Moore; Lieutenants Dunn, Crumpton, Haye, Meares, and Knappman; Messrs. Barnard, Farewell, Hoste, Waldegrave, Butbane, and Goode, Midshipmen.

English Squadron.

Amphion, W. Hoste, Esq. Capt., of 32 guns and 254 men.

Active, J. A. Gordon, Esq. Capt., of 38 guns and 300 men.

Volage, P. Hornby, Esq. Capt., of 22 guns and 175 men.

Cerberus, H. Whitby, Esq. Capt., of 32 guns and 254 men.

Total, 124 guns—879 men.

French Squadron.

La Favorite, Monsieur Dubordieu, Commandant de Division, Capt. Dellamalliere, of 44 guns and 350 men; burnt.

Flore, M. Peridier, Captain, of 44 guns and 350 men; struck, but escaped.

Danae, of 44 guns and 350 men; escaped.

Corona, M. Pasquilago, Captain, of 44 twenty-four pounders and 350 men; taken.

Bellona, M. Dudon, Captain, of 32 guns and 224 men; taken.

Caroline, M. Baratavick, Captain, of 28 guns and 224 men; escaped.

Principe de Augusta brig, Bologne, Captain, of 16 guns and 105 men; escaped.

Schooner, of 10 guns and 60 men; escaped.

Schooner, of 2 guns and 37 men; escaped.

Xebec, of 6 guns and 70 men; escaped.

Gun-boat, of 2 guns and 35 men; escaped.

Troops embarked, 500.

Total—272 guns, 2655 men.

[This Gazette contains also a Letter from Capt. Buller, of the Cambrian, off Rosas, stating that the fortress of Figueras surrendered to the Spaniards on the 10th of April;—that St. Phillon and Palamos were taken possession of by the Cambrian and Volontaire on the 12th and 14th, the guns all embarked, and the batteries destroyed. It appears that the garrison of Figueras, consisting of 200 Frenchmen and 400 Italians, having quarrelled, the latter opened the gates to the Spaniards, who put every Frenchman to the sword.—After this, 2000 Spanish troops took full possession of this important place, and the French, in an attempt to retake it, lost 700 men.]

BANKRUPTCY ENLARGED.

J. Macauley and J. Oldfield, Liverpool, merchants, from May 21, to July 9.

BANKRUPTS.

H. Rugely, St. Ives, draper.

A. Lowe, Croydon, cutler.

J. Ellis, Swinton-street, Gray's-inn-lane, scavenger.

H. Pasley, St. Martin's-court, St. Martin's-lane, jeweller.

H. Withers, Bath, haberdasher.

J. W. D. Guest, Kingston-upon-Thames, grocer.

H. Charlton, Oxford, dealer in corn.

W. Morris, Gracechurch-street, victualler.

- R. Hockey, jun., Horsington, Somersetshire, cheese-dealer.
 G. Larandon, Margate, wine-merchant.
 H. Coates, New Sarum, apothecary.
 J. Pitman, North Barrow, Somersetshire, cheese-merchant.
 J. Oram, Cricklade, Wiltshire, cheese-factor.
 G. Gilchrist, Liverpool, merchant.
 J. Fotheringham, Liverpool, merchant.
 J. Rowlandson Hodgson, South America, merchant.
 C. Quinclet, Liverpool, broker.
 W. Wignmore, Narrow-street, Limehouse, biscuit-baker.
 J. Young, Strand, apothecary.
 J. Laxton and J. Hillier, Pool, Dorset, linen-draper.
 W. Cooper, Minories, silk-mercer.
 R. Ford, Bristol, rope manufacturer.
 A. Haley, Horton, Bradford, Yorkshire, cotton-manufacturer.
 W. Gowthan, Moulton, Lincolnshire, grocer.
 S. Secar, St. James's-street, confectioner.
 T. Amsinck, Tarnham-Green, merchant.
 W. Harre, Bow-Common-lane, Mile-End, merchant.
 C. Beckwith, Huddersfield, Yorkshire, innkeeper.
 B. Corf, Liverpool, butcher.
 J. and J. Brown, Kingston-upon-Hull, merchants.

PRICE OF STOCKS ON SATURDAY.

3 per Cent. Consols.....65

Many Communications are delayed, owing to the pressure of temporary matter.

THE EXAMINER.

LONDON, MAY 19.

Portuguese news, which has languished so much since the retreat of the French, promises to become highly important in the course of a few days, if it be true, as reported, that Lord WELLINGTON, in a letter dated the first of May, has led the Government to expect a battle between him and MASSÉNA. The Frenchman, he thought, would do every thing in his power to relieve Almeida; or that at any rate, the surrender of that place would be delayed by his exertions for a fortnight to come. MASSÉNA is represented to have been reinforced, but his army, we are told, still amounts to *no more* than 32,000 men, including 8000 cavalry. This "no more," however, is no mean force for such a battle as a skilful Commander would chuse to risk; but Lord WELLINGTON is every way prepared, and a glorious result may be expected, if his Lordship is as skilful in battle as he is before it,—in immediate operation as in deliberate planning. To give additional animation to the Allied Army, the Spaniards, it seems, have had an important piece of success in an unexpected quarter, the province of Catalonia, where the strong fortress of Figueras has been retaken from the enemy.

A report has been brought by a vessel from France, of an attempt of some of BONAPARTE'S emissaries to seize and carry off the King of PRUSSIA. The King, it is said, was advertised of the plot, and it failed. What BONAPARTE may want to do with this Prince, which he cannot achieve in the regular way of diplomacy, is not very perceptible. He has had enough of odium and trouble arising from his outrageous attacks on individuals, and

it can hardly be his policy to hinder any of the profound plans which two such heads as those of Russia and Prussia might be supposed to engender. His passions however are masters even of his policy: he has a vindictive meanness about him, and altogether a pettiness of feeling, which all the important events of his life have not been able to overcome; and the KING of PRUSSIA might have been doomed to suffer the captivity of FERDINAND or the assassination of D'ENGLHEIM, for some little offence against his pride,—perhaps for a paragraph in the Prussian Gazette.

The official Dispatches of the capture of the two frigates of the enemy, and the burning of one, were published in last night's Gazette. It has been one of the most brilliant actions fought during this war.—A fourth frigate struck, but stole off. Captain HOSTE was wounded, though not severely; but the number of our killed and wounded was very considerable.

The Gazette of last night also contains Dispatches from Lord WELLINGTON; but they are of little interest, beyond proving that MASSÉNA has commenced offensive operations.

In those parts of Portugal which have been lately occupied by the French troops, and in Lisbon, disease has since been making dreadful ravages.

An American Gentleman who left Bayonne on the 29th ult. states,—That during the three weeks previous to his departure, very large reinforcements had passed through Bayonne for the French armies in Spain, together with immense supplies of every description. This Gentleman had frequent opportunities of conversing with French Officers, and they all concurred in one general sentiment—THAT NAPOLEON WOULD RATHER SACRIFICE HIS CROWN THAN ABANDON HIS DESIGNS ON THE PENINSULA. A very general opinion prevailed that the Emperor himself would take the command.

Our army in Portugal, including Portuguese, stands us in above *twenty-four millions per annum*.

The Dissenters of all classes are very properly exerting themselves to prevent any innovation upon the Act of Toleration. Lord SIMONDS'S Bill, however well meant, is both absurd and impolitic.

On Friday the LORD MAYOR, accompanied by the Recorder, the Sheriffs, &c. &c., went to Carlton House as a deputation from the Corporation of the City of London. Soon after their arrival, they were introduced into the presence of the PRINCE REGENT, where the Recorder read the Address of the Corporation, voting his Royal Highness the Freedom of the City, and praying to know when he would be pleased to receive the same.—His Royal Highness, in answer, acknowledged his sense of the honour intended to be conferred upon him, and his attachment to the Corporation. At the same time, expressed his regret that the spirit of the Constitution prevented him from receiving it, owing to the office he held of PRINCE REGENT. They were all most graciously received, and invited to partake of a cold collation.

The General Meeting of Friends to Parliamentary Reform, intended to be held on the 29th of May, is postponed to the 3d of June.

"There is a most extraordinary trial coming on in the Court of Common Pleas, *BOLTON v. the QUEEN*, for 44,000*l.* a charge made for instructions given to the PRINCESSES in writing, drawing, &c. Her MAJESTY has entered the plea of *Assumpsit*, and also the Statute of Limitations. These have been replied to, and the case will probably be tried in the Sittings after the Term. Mr. BOLTON also brought a charge against the Princess ELIZABETH for 12,000*l.* but her Royal Highness has been advised to file a bill in equity against him."—*Morning Chronicle*.

Mr. DRAKARD.—*It is not true*, as stated in Mr. COBBETT'S *Register* of Wednesday (copied from the *Courier*) that Mr. DRAKARD, in his affidavit, had said, that in opposing the popular doctrine respecting Parliamentary Privilege, he had "left himself open to the fury of the Mob." The affidavit contained no such words, nor any thing that admitted even of such a meaning.—The *Stamford News* had been charged with taking the popular side in every question, with a view to "filthy lucre." Mr. DRAKARD, therefore, was called upon to shew that this was a slander, and he instanced a case in which he had differed with the opinion held by Sir F. BURDETT, of whose general conduct and motives, however, he expressly declared he highly approved.—The *Courier* was the only daily paper that gave a false report of the affidavit, and it is to be lamented that Mr. COBBETT should select his account, for the express purpose of commenting upon it, from a journal, which he is in the constant habit of proving is scarcely ever entitled to the smallest credit; more particularly, too, when his comments tend to the injury of a man of worth and principle, who is suffering in the cause of humanity: On the subject of the affidavit there are some Observations in the *Stamford News* of Friday last;—and those who are anxious to hear the truth, and to do justice, will do well to peruse them.

On Tuesday the remains of RICHARD CUMBERLAND, Esq. were removed from his residence to the Collegiate Church of St. Peter, Westminster, in the following order—

THE HEARSE,

With the usual Attendants,
Four Mourning Coaches, drawn by four Horses each, containing his Relatives and Friends,
Men with Staves.

Six Gentlemen's private Carriages closed the procession. On their arrival at Poels' Corner, the different Officers in their robes, together with the Dean, and the Chapter Clerk, his son, belonging to the Abbey, escorted the corpse into Church, chanting the choir for the burial of the dead, and proceeded to the grave near the shrine of GARRICK; and on the Officers resting the corpse, the company were conducted to the pews; after which the Dean read an Eulogium on his departed friend, with great feeling and emotion, descanting on his literary attainments, and the excellent qualities with which he had been possessed.—The funeral service being ended, the body was deposited in the ground; when the company got into their carriages, and proceeded slowly to their respective homes. Several of the performers belonging to the Theatres attended the ceremony.

THE KING'S ILLNESS.

MEDICAL BULLETIN.

Windsor Castle, May 11.

"His Majesty continues much in the same state as last week."

FINE ARTS.

ROYAL ACADEMY EXHIBITION.

132: *The Scene of Boccaccio's Tales*, T. STOTHARD, R. A. represents a company of young men and women regaling in an elegant pleasure ground. Their hearts appear soothed to a complacent feeling by the sequestered scenery around them, and to enjoy still more the influence of the tender passion; in their exchange of assiduous and endearing attentions. This is a subject highly favourable to the display of those graces of form and attitude which so eminently distinguish Mr. STOTHARD'S pencil. It is to be regretted that his pencilling, his drawing, and general execution, are often, as in this piece, so careless, unfinished, and unworthy of his tasteful conceptions.

A humorous Scene. D. WILKIE, R. A.—There is scarcely any incident or object in familiar nature but what will gratify when copied by the hand of a master. The circumstance of its being rendered with spirit and truth will of itself please; independently of any thing particularly striking in the object itself, and a stable or a pig is interesting from the hand of MORELAND or WARD. But when familiar objects are the vehicles of lively or serious emotion, when they exhibit the workings of the heart in the various pursuits and occurrences of life, they confer a degree of pleasure that is exceeded in the enjoyment of Art only by the loftier impressions of the Epic Muse: Such are the paintings of Mr. WILKIE. They delight all observers; the most common for the consummately accurate representation of the forms and colours of objects; and the best educated by his distinctly exposing to the eye the inward movements of the soul. The scene before us describes a girl eagerly endeavouring to recover her cap and cloak from a man, who, in the volatility of his spirits, has amused himself by putting them on himself: He is dancing a retreat from her with so mirthful a feeling at his grotesque aspect, that it must be stoical apathy indeed that is not excited to sympathetic risibility. The other various constituents of familiar-life painting are as perfect as the delineation of the character. Richness, delicacy, and spirit in the touch has scarcely ever been equalled, never surpassed. An exquisite tone of light, shade, and colour, pervades the piece. It possesses great depth; having great strength of light on part of the figures, and is mostly of a sober, neutral tint. The flesh is nature's liveliest hue, and forms a fine study for that most difficult of all objects to represent: The carnations in that of the girl are blended with the sweetness and delicacy sometimes seen in a fair female, where the white and red are tenderly intermixed and enlivened by veins of blue. The judgment of the painter is as evident in the flesh of the man. His face is suffused with red, as well by the enlivening glow of wine to which such an ardent merriment-maker is evidently attached, as by his blood-stirring action and laughter. A lively writer in the *Morning Herald* regrets the injury done to Mr. WILKIE by the early praise which he says has been lavished upon him, in ranking him with TESTERS. For myself, I cannot perceive what injury has been done by praising a painter who has attained a higher degree of excellence than has yet been exhibited by any master that ever lived in Mr. WILKIE'S department. GERRARD DOW and TESTERS, who, I believe, are esteemed among the first, if not the first, in the portraiture of common life, never surpassed our Caledonian Artist in the colouring; chiaro scuro, and the va-

rious beauties of execution. In the drawing of the human figure, and in force and precision of character, they were manifestly inferior. The best of the Dutch painters never brought a subject so completely home to its climax as Mr. WILKIE has in the *Payday*. They detailed a subject in some of its parts with great energy of look and action, and with some suitable accessories; but they did not depict it with so comprehensive and complete a feeling. The rays of their genius diverged to a large segment, but did not irradiate to the entire circle of an action or passion. The forms painted by the Dutch Artists seldom possessed any grace of proportion, but were such as presented themselves every where around them, with little or no tastefulness of selection. It is enough to say that they were merely Dutch. But Mr. WILKIE's figures, though not the elegant archetypes of the most perfect in nature or of the antique, yet are greatly superior to the Dutch. They are well-proportioned English. Praise is frequently the stumbling-block of youthful genius; but not of that first rate genius which is eagle-eyed in the discernment of its defects, and modest enough to confess them, perseveringly industrious in their correction; and never thinking with inferior minds, that it has reached perfection, still goes on ardently in the conquest of new difficulties, in the attainment of fresh excellence. To such, praise is the nourishing aliment that feeds it in its growth to maturity, —and when I see such an union of industry and genius as is exhibited by Mr. COLLINS in the class of Familiar Disc, and by Mr. LANE in that of History, I do not fear any ill result from bestowing on them deserved eulogium, by pronouncing them already equal to many masters of established reputation.

122. *The Reading of the Will concluded*, E. BRAD, — describes the effects of surprise, disappointment, and joy, produced by an attorney on his finishing the reading of a Will to various groupes of persons, the chief of whom are a naval officer and his family, two rakish sportsmen, and an old woman. The naval officer is the chief inheritor. He is pleasantly conversing with his father on the fortunate occurrence. His wife and daughter are ejaculating gratitude to the Supreme Disposer of Events, and his youthful son, with a thoughtlessness natural to his age, is regardless of the important communication, and is playing with a dog. The rakes, who are devotees of the whip, are in a frenzy of mortification at their expectations being blasted. One of them, who is aged thirty in years, but three-score in constitution, is going away, execrating the memory of the testator. The other has just arrived in haste, booted and spurred; his boots splashed with mud, and exhibits in his face as evident reasons as the former for his being disinherited. His face tells the disgraceful tales of his debaucheries, and like that of the infamous Roman Dictator, Sylla, is "mulberry peppered with meal." He sits biting his nail and stamping his foot, in a storm of rage at his disappointment. In the expression of these groupes consists the well-conceived moral of the picture, shewing the opposite results of virtue and vice. It would, however, have added much to the value of the performance, had Mr. BRAD given his naval officer a gentlemanly air. Nevertheless, in the general conception and execution, the painter has forcibly told his story, but for want of that vigour of touch, and delicacy of finish and of colour, so indispensable to the display of high excellence in familiar-life painting, he does not carry his subject so com-

pletely home to our feelings and taste as Mr. WILKIE. Mr. BRAD has considerably improved in his colouring and effect, which are more rich, forcible, and harmonious than formerly.

Mr. BONE intends to indulge the Amateurs with a few days longer sight, at his house, of his beautiful Enamel of *Ariadne and Bacchus*, after TITIAN.

THEATRICAL EXAMINER.

No. 93.

HAYMARKET.

THIS Theatre opened for the season last Wednesday with Mr. TOBIN's Comedy of the *Honey Moon*, one of those excellent pieces of imitation, which promise original talent, and which may be regarded as specimens of an originality just leaving its school. In the present state of the drama, the death of Mr. TOBIN, in the prime of his life, was certainly a public loss; and it is an insult both to his memory and to the attachment shewn it by the town to withhold from us any relique of that tasteful writer. Yet it is said that Mr. SHERIDAN, who accuses the town of so much want of taste, and is so gallantly indignant on behalf of Miss BAILLIE, is in possession of a comedy called the *Faro-Table*, left by this gentleman for representation, and containing a severe satire on the *vice of gaming*. It is justly to be regretted that Miss BAILLIE's tragedies should not succeed on the stage; but by the success of Mr. TOBIN's *Honey-Moon* we see that the public taste is at least not so incapable of improvement in comedy as in tragedy; and before Mr. SHERIDAN ventures to be indignant against public faults of any kind, he should shew good cause why he withholds Mr. TOBIN's satire from its fashionable objects, and more particularly, why he himself, when modern plays are presented to his inspection, does not disdain to add a scene now and then by way of improvement, quite as wretched as the author himself could have made it.

There was much "novelty" in the representation of the *Honey-Moon*, though of a very discordant description. With the exception of Mrs. GRIBBS in *Juliana*, and of Mr. ELLISTON, who has returned hither after six years' absence, in the *Duke Aranza*, all the performers, I believe, were new to London. Of these, four at least promise to remain new, as far as any attention will be elicited towards them; and in order to escape a detail quite as painful to critic as to actor, it will be sufficient to say that they are not at all fit for a London theatre, being as unassuming a set of walking sticks as ever stood against the houses at Whitehall. The ladies were much better. The name of the *Violante* I do not know, and am not sure whether she has not performed here before; but she is by no means deficient in dry humour or in a conception of arch gaiety, and might become a pleasant actress, if she could get rid of a certain uncouth ambling and protrusiveness in her motions, intended, I dare say, for an elegant undulation, —a certain billowy kind of movement, —but certainly more oppressive than seducing. A Mrs. BARNES, from the York theatre, obtained a good deal of deserved applause in the part of *Zaira*; and if she is as young as she appears, may be considered as a very promising actress. Her song to *Captain Rolando*, though given with the feeling that generally accompanies good sense in a female performer, was not worth much; but her acting was both delicate and skillful; and she managed particularly well that gradual declension of the voice at the close of tender

speeches, which is so lovely a touch of modesty when natural, and so proportionally displeasing when given affectedly. Criticism will take an interest in this lady's progress.—Mrs. GRASS, in the proud and stately heroine, acquitted herself much better than was expected from the parts which she usually occupies; but still the gentility of Miss DUNCAN was wanting; and the best touches in the performance were sure to be those in which the feeling was most vehement, and therefore least refined.—But the most grateful novelty of the evening was the re-appearance of Mr. ELLISTON on a stage worthy of his genius. One might have thought that he would have brought away with him some of the vulgarity of his new subjects in Saint George's Fields, but his *Duke Aranza* was the same accomplished gentleman as ever,—his humour the same finished dryness, his gallantry the same emphatic tenderness. What pity is it, that such an actor, instead of studying his own proper walk and elevating as much as possible the character of the higher stage, should suffer his ambition to degenerate into the poor vanity of treading a theatre of pantomimes, where he who is little elsewhere may become great, and he who is great is sure to become little.—For such is the just view of his freaks at the Circus, unless indeed they are to be traced to a still poorer motive of lucre,—as if a good competence and good fame were not better for a man of genius than a degradation of his talents into money-getting. At the first rise of the curtain, our Circus Manager delivered an Address written by Mr. COLMAN, and abounding with such nonsense as this:—

In various scenic battles, staunch and stout,
After old Drury was, like Troy, burnt out,
I, as *Æneas*, driven to the Strand,
Soon cross'd the water which was close at hand.
Then Surrey Chieftain grown, at mighty risk,
I fought with fury—near the Obelisk.
'Tis wonderful the triumphs which were won,
Last year, by great Field-Marshal ELLISTON!
"Fight boys," I cried, "St. George, with three times
"three!"
"His brick and mortar fields, and victory!"—

With a great deal more about his soldiers yearning to see him again, and his brother General, the French Emperor. It is wonderful, that in getting these lines by heart, Mr. ELLISTON never suspected that the writer was laughing at him. Let him be assured that the persons, who flatter him in these vagaries, are his worst enemies, whatever may be their motives, and whether employed in writing prologues for him, or in sending drivelling letters to this paper about its cruelty and want of justice.—*Want of justice!*

THE OPERA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR,—The lovers of good music have at last been relieved from the dull repetition of the productions of PUCITTA, TRENTO, GUGLIELMI, and others, who have so long strove, with too much success, to suppress those operas of sterling merit, which would have exposed the poverty of their invention, and consigned them to merited oblivion. These pretenders to science have hitherto succeeded too well in their endeavours, from the want of a Manager of taste, who could judge for himself, and

feel a pride above submitting to their leading strings; but Mr. TAYLOR possesses none of this feeling;—his mind appears devoid of all relish for the elegant arts;—poets are to him far less interesting personages than bailiffs, and the only music than can affect him is the discordant clamour of his duns. When managers and composers are without taste, we can look with anticipation of pleasure to the principal singers alone, who sometimes possess judgment in selection; but even here expectation has been disappointed, since Madame CATALANI's arrival in England.—Her powers are nearly confined to a wonderful voice and rapid execution, which, unrestrained by musical knowledge, have run wild and indulged in every extravagance that false taste could adopt. From her ambition to outshine others, she prefers the works of those servile composers, who, depending for their existence on her smiles or frowns, are ready in all respects to conform to her will, by keeping the rest of the performers in the back-ground, and rendering the accompaniments of the orchestra too insignificant to share with her the admiration of the audience. In this hopeless state of affairs Madame BERTINOTTI, with a zeal that cannot be too much praised, has revived the opera of *Così fan tutte*, one of the most masterly works of the great MOZART. To convey by words an idea of the electrical effect this music produces is impracticable, and to recommend any particular compositions to the notice of those unacquainted with the opera, would be useless, where the whole is one collected mass of excellence. It is only by hearing such music that an adequate conception can be formed of the exquisite beauty and variety of the airs, the uncommon richness of the harmony, or the genius displayed in the accompaniments, which sport through all the mazes of the science; at one time flowing with a calm solemnity, and at another bursting forth in modulation as unexpected as inspiring.

Extremely difficult as MOZART's compositions are to execute with effect, the performers were generally, and I must say contrary to my expectation, fully adequate to them. Nothing like the singing of Madam BERTINOTTI has been heard at the opera for some years, as it left nothing to be wished for. It was, as it has not always been lately, perfectly in tune, and given with feeling that evinced a proper estimation of MOZART's merit. No meretricious ornaments were added, but every grace was introduced in its proper situation, and executed with a precision that no other singer but Mrs. BILLINGTON could equal. The rest of the performers, as if by inspiration, exerted themselves beyond their usual efforts, with a success commensurate to their zeal. Signors NALDI and TRAMEZZANI acted as well as sung with more than usual spirit, and Signor CAUVIN executed his songs with peculiar pathos, and an elegance of ornament that did great credit to his taste.

Owing to some inharmonious disputes between the performers and the manager, the repetition of the opera has hitherto been prevented; but it is hoped that the public will not ultimately suffer; nor, after enjoying the works of MOZART, be turned back to their old insignificant acquaintance, rendered doubly tedious by the contrast. H. R.

IMPRISONED PRINTERS AND TIMES NEWS-PAPER.

SIR,—Desirous of contributing my humble mite towards obliterating any stain that might be attempted to be

thrown on the memory of a deceased friend, as well as to refute insinuations calculated to prejudice myself and fellow-sufferers in the estimation of the public, I hope that you will insert an observation or two on a paragraph in the *Times* Newspaper of Saturday, the 11th instant, relative to the death of MALCOLM CRAIG. After announcing the melancholy event, and alluding to a general Petition of the Compositors, the paragraph goes on as follows:—

“Another Petition for his individual liberation was thought of last week, to which the Prosecutor’s signature would have been readily affixed, provided it might contain a clause expressive of the Petitioner’s regret for the offence committed, and correcting the falsehoods and misrepresentations contained in the former one. This was unfortunately declined by the Petitioner, on the plea, as stated by his friends, that any concession would separate him from, and degrade him in, the estimation of his fellow-offenders. At this time the Petitioner was not thought in any danger. On Monday last, however, his complaint returning, a new application was made to the Prosecutor, to subscribe a Petition still containing no acknowledgment of contrition for the offence; and a day elapsed before his friends could, it is apprehended from fear of offending the other Prisoners, be induced to bring a Petition, in which, according to the established form of such papers, any contrition was expressed for the misdemeanour committed, at which time the Prisoner was too ill to affix his name to it. Under these circumstances, however, a Surgeon’s certificate being obtained by the Prosecutor, stating the danger in which the Prisoner was, it was immediately subscribed by him, together with a prayer for the liberation of the sick man to whom it related. The Secretary of State, in consequence thereof, sent an immediate order for his release, of which he was unhappily in too reduced a state to avail himself, and died, as we have above stated, on Thursday: the delay in signing a Petition expressive of regret for his offence, and consequently the continuance of his confinement, being entirely owing, as it is apprehended, to the influence which was exercised over him by those who are suffering upon the same account.”

With respect to “the plea, as stated by his friends,” &c. I must beg leave to observe, Sir, there was but one friend (a Gentleman of undoubted veracity), actually employed in soliciting Mr. W.’s interference, and to prevent misrepresentation, he made the following minute of the proceedings:—

MINUTE.

“On Thursday, May 2, I applied to Mr. Walter for his recommendation of a petition to Government in behalf of Malcolm Craig, stating, upon the authority of Dr. Box, that a liberation from confinement was the only chance that remained for his recovery. Mr. W. refused his recommendation, unless Malcolm Craig would consent to make affidavit to the particulars of the conspiracy in which Mr. W. said he was engaged, and likewise subscribe a declaration contradicting the representations made in a former petition prepared in behalf of the whole of the Compositors imprisoned, which, Mr. W. said, were incorrect in point of fact.—A stranger to the business, I requested Mr. W. for the sake of humanity, to waive a discussion I was so unprepared for, and to assist me in obtaining that relief which the condition of the unfortunate man so imperiously required; and to satisfy Mr. W. that his case was not exaggerated, I presented him on the same day with a certificate from Dr. Box confirming the statement I had made.—This did not induce Mr. W. to depart from his former resolution of requiring, as a condition of his interference, a disclosure of the circumstances of the conspiracy: but he desired me to wait upon him next day to receive a final answer. When I waited on Mr. W. next day, I found him confirmed in his determination to abide by his former proposals; and after the most urgent solicitation, the utmost I could procure from him was a vague promise, that if from the representation of Dr. Box, at any future time, he might be thought to be dangerous

state, he would recommend his liberation.—On Monday following, Dr. Box having called on Mr. W. declaring the dangerous progress of the disorder, a Petition was drawn up in hopes of receiving Mr. W.’s recommendation. At a late hour on Monday evening that Petition was brought to me with marginal corrections, which, I was informed, were made by Mr. W. and which expressed the Prisoner’s sorrow for the indiscretion of his conduct: I copied this Petition*, and did not omit the expression of contrition recommended in the corrections. I waited on Mr. W. about ten o’clock next morning, but was told by his servant that I could not see him till near one. On examining the copy which I had made, Mr. W. observed that his amendments were not precisely in the same order in which he had inserted them, and refused to give any assistance until the former Petition was literally transcribed; it required an hour or two to do this; but I lost no time in returning with it in the form which he had desired. After waiting some time in Mr. W.’s house, a person came to me on the part of Mr. W. desiring the corrected Petition, and the Copy which I had made. After being detained about 40 minutes, the same Gentleman returned to me, and observed, I had still made an error in transcribing the Petition by inserting the words *helpless children* instead of *infant children*, the expression employed in that from which I took the Copy; and that Mr. W. would not recommend it by his signature until the Petitioner had subscribed it himself, together with a witness. I informed this Gentleman, that the Petitioner being at intervals insensible, it was uncertain when, or if ever, his signature could be procured. This gentleman left me for a short time, and returned with the information that a Mr. Stokes had the Petition which Mr. W. was willing to subscribe.—This was the last transaction with Mr. W. in which I was immediately concerned.—While in search of Mr. Stokes, I found he had been during that interval at the prison, attempting to procure the Prisoner’s signature to the Petition with which Mr. W. had entrusted him, but which was found impossible from the condition of the prisoner, he being incapable, from weakness and derangement, of either attending to its nature, or even subscribing his name.—Upon

* Copy of a Petition, as corrected by Mr. Walter, from one presented to him on Monday, May 6, 1811.—(The paragraphs within inverted commas are Mr. W.’s insertions.)

To the Right Honourable Richard Ryder, his Majesty’s Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department.—
The Petition of MALCOLM CRAIG, a Prisoner in his Majesty’s Gaol of Newgate:—

Most humbly sheweth,

That your Petitioner was convicted at the Old Bailey Session held for the City of London in the month of October, 1810, of a Misdemeanour, but judgment having been repited by the Court, he was in the following Session sentenced to be imprisoned in his Majesty’s Gaol of Newgate for the space of nine months.

“That your Petitioner is heartily sorry for the offence which he has committed, and which has thus rendered him amenable to the laws of his country, against which he is seriously resolved never to transgress in future.”

That your Petitioner for several years previous to his unhappy imprisonment had enjoyed but an indifferent state of health, having been subject to repeated attacks of a bilious complaint, which from the want of pure air and other privations incident to a prison, has lately increased upon him, attended with symptoms of the most alarming kind, which is confirmed by the annexed Certificate of the Surgeon to the Prison.

“That your Petitioner begs leave further to state, that he has a Wife and three helpless Children involved in the distress brought on by his indiscreet conduct, and aggravated by the dangerous state of his health.”

Your Petitioner therefore humbly implores that you will be pleased to take his unfortunate case into your merciful consideration, and your humble Petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

the application of Dr. Bar, Mr. W. afterwards subjoined his recommendation to mercy to his Certificate, and it was this Petition and Certificate that was pending at the time of the Prisoner's death."

The candid reader will perceive by the above Minute what conditions were required of the deceased only seven days previous to his dissolution; and it is scarcely necessary to point out the impossibility of a man subscribing to such conditions, while he was unconscious of having committed the crime alleged against him: nor is it probable, Sir, after an attentive perusal of that document and the annexed Petition, that he will attribute the delay in signing a Petition to be entirely owing, as the paragraph more than once apprehends, to an influence exercised over the deceased by his fellow-sufferers (indeed few men were less susceptible of such an influence); but with all deference I will venture to apprehend, he will conceive the paragraph to have been dictated by that persecuting spirit, which would unwillingly desert its victim at the grave.—Your very obliged humble servant,

T. W.

LAW.

COURT OF KING'S BENCH.

Monday, May 13.

CRIMINAL INFORMATIONS.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved for a rule to shew cause why a Criminal Information should not be filed against Messrs. Ross, Hurley and Laurence, Printers, at Canterbury; for a libel, published by them in a work called *The Whim*, reflecting on the character of Mr. Pout, Mayor of Canterbury. The Affidavit of Mr. Pout shewed him to have been an auctioneer and upholsterer, and that he was elected Mayor of Canterbury, and sworn into office in December last; shortly after which time there appeared in the work in question, a poetical article, which it was impossible to read without seeing that it referred to the Mayor of that town. The publication thus commenced:—

"Let Catalas, in rich plebeian pride,

"O'er midnight brawls and broken lamps preside!"

And then, alluding to the prosecutor, and describing him, says,—

"This haughty slave, this overhearing cur—

"I once remembered an Upholsterer."

And again,—

"This pride of fools, of honest men the jeer,

"I once remembered e'en an Auctioneer."

Rule granted.

THE KING V. PHILLIPS, ESQ.

Mr. DAMPIER moved that the rule in this case, which called on Mansell Phillips, Esq. M. P. to shew cause why a Criminal Information should not be filed against him, for a libel, of which he was the author, reflecting on the conduct of the Bishop of Derry, which appeared in a Newspaper published at Swansea, called the *Cambrian*, should be made absolute.—Rule made absolute.

THE KING V. RICHARD BLACOW, CLERK.

The defendant was brought up for judgment, which he had suffered to go by default, on a criminal information, for a libel upon Mr. Charles Fairclough, of Liverpool.—A very long affidavit by the Prosecutor stated, that he had been married to his present wife upwards of 16 years; that he had two children by her, a son and daughter, of the ages of 14 and 13, that he resided at West Darby, near Liverpool, of which parish the defendant was curate; that about five years since he had placed his son under the defendant's care as a tutor, in consequence of which very great latimary took place between the parties, and he lived for months together at the prosecutor's house; that he had frequently lent him money; that his wife and he being dissatisfied with the defendant's system, determined to send the son to a public school; that the defendant came to the prosecu-

tor's counting-house, and desired that his account might be made out; and up to this time nothing had ever been said prejudicial to the character of his wife; that a Mr. Brook being present, the defendant took the prosecutor into a private room, and said, he felt himself bound to disclose to him the manner in which his wife lived; and told him, that she admitted a young man of the name of Taylor to come to his house at all hours; that he had ruined his wife by over-indulgence; and that he could tell him a story which would make his hair stand on end; and that he then said, if he would let the boy come back to him, he would keep him for nothing; that the prosecutor being in a bad state of health, the defendant had a great influence over his mind at that time, and prevailed on him to let the boy return; but afterwards, on consulting with his wife, they re-determined that the boy should go to school; that soon afterwards the defendant again came to the prosecutor's counting-house, and the defendant told him, that since he was determined to take the boy from him, he would disclose to him all his wife's infamous conduct, and said, that five years ago, while she was taking a lesson from her music-master, the defendant observed some indecency towards Mr. Bailey, the master; that they talked of some person who kept a mistress, and she said she liked him the better for it; that she was young herself and would take her fun as she liked it; that she was in the habit of receiving presents from young men, and visits at improper hours; he added, that if the boy was allowed to remain with him, he would keep all this a secret; but if the boy was taken away, he would expose it to all the world, &c.; that the defendant having at that time great influence over the prosecutor's mind, this made a great impression on him, and he afterwards communicated it all to his wife, who said that he had been the dupe of a wicked man; that he sent for his son, and all further communication between him and the defendant ceased; that he first wrote to the defendant, telling him, that if he persisted in his calumnies, he would take other means to prevent him; that the defendant returned for answer, that what he had stated was the fact, and it was a duty he owed to himself and his children to take some effectual notice of it; and on the 1st of Feb. 1810, and at subsequent periods the prosecutor was extremely shocked at receiving various letters from the defendant, containing repetitions of his calumny against his wife, and that he advised with two friends upon them, who recommended him to shew them to his wife; that his wife was a woman of the chastest habits, of an excellent family, had always conducted herself with the greatest regularity, and that he and his children had always found her a most excellent wife and mother; that Mr. Bailey, the music-master, had always conducted himself with the greatest propriety; that Mr. Taylor never came to his house without his knowledge; and that the prosecutor's peace of mind was so much affected by these calumnies, that he was obliged to call in medical aid.—A short affidavit by Mrs. Fairclough stated, that she had read those letters, and denied the assertions which she was charged to have made, and the whole story which had been fabricated against her.—In another affidavit the prosecutor stated, that the defendant sent letters containing similar calumnies to Mrs. P.'s sister, who was gone to the West Indies.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH asked whether there was any affidavit by Mr. Bailey, the music-master?

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said not; but that he would be very thankful to have an opportunity of putting in such an affidavit.

Judgment was postponed until the additional affidavit should be procured.

Thursday, May 16.

PROVOCATION TO DUELLING.

Waller Williams, Esq. was brought up to receive judgment, for endeavouring to provoke a Gentleman of the name of Stark to fight a duel. It appeared that both parties were Officers in a regiment of volunteer cavalry on the borders of Wales, and that the trial took place at the last Assizes for the County of Hereford, where the defendant was found guilty. After hearing a variety of affidavits on both sides, it was at length arranged that the apology, which the defendant originally proposed, should be accepted, and each pay their several costs.

LIVERPOOL THEATRE.

Two young men, of the names of *Myers* and *Green*, were brought up to receive judgment for being aiding and assisting in the H. P. riot in the Liverpool Theatre; but the prosecutor, not pressing the case, and many circumstances appearing, which entitled the parties to consideration, they were severally discharged upon recognizance to appear, if called upon.

EXTORTION.

Three persons of the names of *Phillips*, *Barfoot*, and *Eason*, who were convicted at the last Assizes at Maidstone, were brought into Court to receive judgment. It appeared that *Phillips* is a revenue officer, and that the other two are extra men. In July last a person coming to town in a post-chaise was stopped in the neighbourhood of Blackheath by the prisoners; that on stopping the chaise they said they were revenue officers, and must search it for contraband goods (the person in the post-chaise had landed from the *Wellesley East Indiaman*). They found a package containing some Bandana handkerchiefs, which they seized; and they also seized the carriage and horses, and directed the driver to proceed on towards town. It was then about five o'clock in the morning. They had not, however, proceeded far, when they stopped the carriage, and *Barfoot* took four guineas, and 34 dollars, from the prosecutor, and allowed the chaise, the prosecutor, and the Bandana handkerchiefs to proceed. The three defendants walked off with the money, but were apprehended in two days afterwards.

The Court then passed sentence on *Barfoot*, who, having been ten months already confined, was sentenced to 14 months, and *Phillips* and *Eason* to two years each in Maidstone gaol.

SWINDLING.

A man of the name of *Johnstone* was sentenced to two months imprisonment in the gaol of Lancaster, for obtaining five guineas, from a person of the name of *Gundry*, for pretending to procure his son's release from one of his Majesty's ships of war.

Friday, May 17.

BURDETT v. THE SPEAKER.

The further argument on the demurrer in this cause came on to be heard this day.

Mr. ATTORNEY GENERAL began by stating, that all that learning and ingenuity could do, had been done by his Learned Friend, Mr. Hulroyd; and one very considerable advantage he derived from the delay which had taken place, was, that it would enable him to compress into a very small compass those topics which he had to urge in reply. It was admitted that this was an action of trespass against the Right Hon. C. Abbott, as Speaker of the House of Commons, for issuing the warrant under which the defendant was imprisoned; which warrant he was directed to issue by the House, who had found the defendant guilty of a contempt in publishing a defamatory libel on the House. This was, therefore, an action of trespass against an Officer of a Court of competent Jurisdiction, for disobeying the orders of that Court. How it could ever be considered that such a person could be liable to an action of trespass, he could never conceive. It was a clear principle of law, that an Officer obeying the orders of a Court of competent jurisdiction, could never be guilty of a trespass. If it could be doubted, *Bushel's case* was an authority in point. Lord Hale had there said expressly, that no action would lie against any such Officer: and this was so, whether the judgment of the Court was correct or erroneous. Was it ever heard that any action of trespass was ever brought against an Officer, even when the party had been discharged by Habeas Corpus?—He defied any Lawyer to produce authority to shew that where a party was entitled to his discharge by Habeas Corpus, that there he was also enabled to maintain an action of trespass.—That the House of Commons has a right to commit for a contempt, is admitted universally; and it is equally true that they are sole judges of their privileges, and their judgment cannot be impeached in any other Court. But it may be said, that they may act capriciously—they may choose to consider matters, indifferent in themselves, as breaches of privilege—they may commit a man for wearing a green coat, or because they do not like his face. In answer to this, he had to say, it was not decent so to argue the question. It was not to be presumed,

that those to whom the Constitution had trusted this power would so abuse it.—Put the case of a Court of Law:—If the question were, whether a certain party had an estate for life, or an estate in fee, and all the facts proved an estate for life, the Court might determine against the law, that it was an estate in fee. Nothing could prevent the Court from so determining, if they were determined to do it against all law; but it was not to be supposed in this case, any more than in the case of the House of Commons, that they would so abuse the power entrusted into their hands for salutary purposes. Was there the man breathing, who had even picked up all his knowledge from Newspapers and Coffee-houses, who would deny that the House of Commons had a right to commit for an insult upon itself or its proceedings? The thing was not to be doubted, because it was denied by some; since there were those malignant spirits in existence, who would deny the plainest truths, if the denial could produce serious mischief. He would only cite the case of the *King v. Almon*, where the Judges most distinctly laid them down:—If the power did not exist of punishing immediately for contempt, but the remedy was what, on this occasion, he would call the tardy operation of the law, all the mischiefs would follow, resulting from a want of power to command respect in the Courts, and they and their decrees would most undoubtedly fall into neglect and contempt. And if this power existed in the common Courts of Judicature, would any one deny, that it did not belong to the House of Commons, which was a Court of paramount dignity? Had the policy of our ancestors left them so unprotected? There was not a text-writer, not an historian, not a lawyer, who had not all distinctly shewn that they possessed this power. Lord Coke had stated them to be a House of Judicature. The Reports and the Journals furnished a series of instances where they had exercised this right.—He had thus shewn the right to exist from principle, from authority, and practice. His Learned Friend, who certainly had contrived to give his argument a most imposing appearance, had cited a great number of cases to shew that the Courts of Law took cognizance of the privileges of Parliament. True they did so; in many cases they must of necessity do so. But the proposition was not general. In some cases they had jurisdiction, but not in all. Whenever the privilege of Parliament occurred incidentally or collateral, then they of necessity took cognizance of it. The Attorney-General then cited a series of cases: *Sir Nicholas Throckmorton's*, *Brass Crosby's case*, *Murray's case*, the *King v. Flower*, &c. and read the judgment of the Court in all these cases, in which it was held that the committal by the House of Commons for a contempt, was sufficient ground of detainer against the parties praying to be released. He had now adverted to so much of his Learned Friend's arguments as bore upon the question.—What remained was only as to the mode of executing the warrant. It was found that the Serjeant proclaimed aloud for what purpose he came. But, said his Learned Friend, there is no instance of breaking open an outer door, except where the King is a party. But the true way of putting the proposition was, whether it was the assertion of a public or of a private right. The law in case of private wrong will not suffer the outer door to be broken open; but in the vindication of a public wrong it does. It was so held by Justice Coke, by Dyer, by Foster; and it is so held in *Sevaine's case*, as reported by Coke, who says, the door cannot be broken open unless in the Queen's case, or for a contempt. If therefore it can be done in the case of a contempt committed against a Court of Law, surely the House of Commons, which is a superior Court, will not be degraded in its right below a Court of ordinary jurisdiction. There was also another case, *Brig's case*, in which it is stated, that in an attachment for a contempt, the Sheriff may break the outer door. It had been suggested, that perhaps this might be founded on a breach of the peace; but he had caused diligent inquiry to be made at the offices, and he found that this attachment issued in a civil case. He had thus referred to the opinions of the Judges of the law, confirmed by a stream of authorities; and the result he trusted was, that the Court would think there ought to be judgment for the defendant.

Mr. HOLROYD briefly replied to the several observations made by the Attorney-General, still maintaining the principle which he had originally supported for the plaintiff.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH thought this was a matter altogether of great import, but great as the import was, it was not necessary to consume any more time upon it. If a doubt of any kind remained on his mind, a further day would be allowed for discussion; but, in truth, his mind was completely made up thereon.—This, said his Lordship, is an action of trespass, (here his Lordship repeated the whole of the proceedings), and to the plea of justification the plaintiff demurs; and the points that arise for discussion are three:—First, Whether the House of Commons has authority in cases of breach of privilege to commit. Secondly, Whether, having that authority, it is well executed. And, Thirdly, Whether the means used to exercise that authority are justifiable by law.—On these points his Lordship observed, that all that was urged in respect to Sir Orlando Bridgman, and all that was advanced concerning Thorpe's case, did not apply to this. The 49th of Henry III., gives the Parliament distinct privileges, and before that time even, and down to the present day, this right had been exercised. Their privileges are inherent in the Legislature, and cannot be taken from them. Ferrar's case, Compton Dyer's case, Wentworth's case, and Hall's case, all justified the power in the Commons. But that which put it beyond the reach of controversy, was the Statute of the 1st of James I. chap. 13, which expressly gave Parliament the power of committing for breach of their privileges. Even Lord Holt laid it down in the case of Ashley and White, as it was also laid down by him in the case of the Queen and Paley. In Shaftesbury's case, the like doctrine was held, and was not by Lawyers doubted. His Lordship then noticed the several cases from the earliest times down to the case of the King and Flower, where, although the Courts had refused the writ of Habeas Corpus to persons so committed, yet those persons were never told by the Court so committing them, that though they were refused their writ, yet that they might bring their action for the refusal; no one would ever expect such an absurdity. Brass Crosby, although committed by the Commons, and being refused his Writ of Habeas Corpus, never thought of bringing an action against any of the Judges who refused him; and he was refused it in all the Courts.—The next point then was, if the House has the power, has it in this case been well executed? He thought it had. The warrant against Sir Francis was in the nature of an attachment for contempt; and in all cases of attachment, the Officer executing it has a power to break the outer door, if refused admittance. In short, in every point, and every way in which he had considered the subject, he was of opinion that the action could not be sustained, and that the plea of the Defendant was a good plea.

Mr. Justice GROSE and Mr. Justice BAYLEY concurred; Mr. Justice BAYLEY adding, that in the case of the King v. Paton, in which Lord HOLT differed from the rest of the Judges, he did not deny the right of the House of Commons to commit for a contempt; but they having stated a fact on the face of their warrant, which he thought did not amount to a contempt, he thought the person committed entitled to be discharged.—Judgment for the Defendant.

ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

MR. EXAMINER,—If you are not already acquainted with the fact, you will be shocked to hear, that Mr. Platt (in whose behalf you so generously interceded in your Paper of the 21st ult., put an end to his existence, about a fortnight ago, by cutting his throat;—he was observed for some time back to have been in a desponding state; but being bouyed up, no doubt, with the prospect of a profitable Concert, at Willis's, (which, I understand, did but just clear his expences) and poverty still clinging to him, he formed the resolution of freeing himself from those accumulating evils with which this unfortunate man was surrounded.—Your constant reader,

T. C. F.

On Tuesday week, a Court Martial was held on Lieut. Benjamin Kelly, of the Cyane, for beating, in a most dreadful and cruel manner, Robert Clayton, a seaman of the same ship.—The charge having been in part proved, he was sentenced to be dismissed from the ship, and placed at the bottom of the list of Lieutenants.

A few days since, a seaman, belonging to a ship of war, wrote to his wife in the neighbourhood of Nightingale-lane, East Smithfield, that he was on his return home, and would see her in about a fortnight. He accordingly reached home on Sunday evening, about five o'clock, and on opening the door of the room where his wife lodged, he discovered her and a man drinking tea together, when he immediately drew a large clasp-knife out of his pocket, and inflicted a mortal wound in the abdomen of the woman, of which she instantly died. He then proceeded towards the man, but he fortunately made his escape. The offender has been apprehended, and committed for trial.

A man of the name of Granger fell from a second floor scaffolding, in Oxford-street, on Wednesday, and was killed on the spot. He has left a wife and thirteen children.

Sunday evening about seven o'clock, the Pale Beer Brew House, lately occupied by Mr. Phillips, in Ossulston-street, Somers's Town, fell down with a tremendous crash. Fortunately no person was passing at the time.

A man of the name of Stables has been committed for extorting a 1*l.* note from a lady in St. James's, by falsely charging her with having been at a bagnio. The prisoner was secured on calling a second time for money.

A young woman of the name of Seafold was killed by a fall from the Telegraph, one of the Bath coaches, on Tuesday. She had the care of two children on the Telegraph, her mistress being an inside passenger, and one of the children being in the act of falling off, she saved the child, but over-reaching herself, fell on her head, and was killed on the spot.

MARRIAGES.

At St. James's, Mr. Robert Butler, to Mary Anne, second daughter of John Richardson, Esq. of Bury-street, St. James's.

On Sunday, Mr. Henry Leo, the singer of the new Synagogue, Leadenhall-street, to Miss F. Levy, of Mitre-court, Aldgate, after a courtship of 25 years.

DEATHS.

At Paris, a short time since, Georgianna, the only daughter of Caroline, Countess of Melfort, aged 17.

On Monday week, Rear-Admiral Graves, of Peatrice-House, near St. Austell, Cornwall.

On Wednesday week, at Henbury, Dorset, the Countess of Stafford, widow of the late Earl, and since of Horace Churchill, Esq.

On the 7th inst. at Keswick, Cumberland, Henry William Bonbury, Esq.

Monday morning, after a tedious illness, Felix M'Carthy, Esq., author of several pamphlets upon subjects of temporary interest.

On Tuesday evening, of the gout in his stomach, Anthony Ashley Cooper, Earl of Shaftesbury. His Lordship was born 17th September, 1761; and in 1786, married Barbara, daughter of the late Sir John Jebb, Baronet, by whom he has left one daughter, Barbara, born in 1788. His Lordship having died without issue male, he is succeeded in his titles by his brother, the Hon. Cropley Ashley Cooper, Clerk of the Deliveries in the Ordnance, and one of the Representatives for Dorchester, now Earl of Shaftesbury.

On Friday week, at Spetsbury, Dorsetshire, Louisa Georgina, eldest daughter of the Hon. John Talbot, and niece to the Earl of Shrewsbury.

On Wednesday, in Bedford-square, Peter Cazalet, Esq. Suddenly, on Thursday morning, at Hampstead, Mr. Lacey, gardener to Mr. Carlisle, in the act of wheeling his barrow.