

# THE EXAMINER.

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## THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

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

No. 137.

### ON THE CONDUCT NECESSARY FOR THE PRESENT TIMES.

THERE are political times in which great exertions are absolutely necessary; and nobody disputes, I believe, that the present is one of them. The only difference of opinion is with respect to the nature of the exertion. Mr. CANNING thinks that to undermine his friends in office and then to aim at them with pistols, are very good things towards success; and more than one person agrees with him. The PERCEVAL family maintain that nothing is necessary but their possession of riches and sinecures; which are certainly of use, inasmuch as they teach us to entertain a proper opinion of the said family. My Lord LIVERPOOL has been of opinion that the most energetic proceeding would be to march directly to Paris, which, bating the channel between and the armies of BONAPARTE, is, I think, unexceptionable. On the other hand, my Lords GREV and GRENVILLE laugh at these notions, and insist that nothing can save Europe but their possession of certain desks at which they may sit at their ease. In addition to this *sine qua non*, they hold however some very profound opinions. They think that as every body knows best whether he is honest or not, all persons in office, of their own body, should be the vouchers for their own integrity, and should every year sign an official document to this purport, "I, the undersigned, have examined myself with the greatest strictness, and find, to my perfect satisfaction, that I am unexceptionably honest." They think also, with regard to foreign politics, that the best place for a great effort on the Continent is Sicily; that the way to secure allies in Europe, and to shew a regard for freedom, is to go and fall on the Spaniards in South America; and that an infallible method to make BONAPARTE feel for his tyranny at Paris, is to give a blow on the face to the GRAND SIGNIOR at Constantinople.

These are all respectable opinions in their way, and will at least entertain, where they cannot persuade; but it is not by such opinions, whether gravely or merrily set forth, that a Constitution recovers its strength and a nation its superiority; it is not by corruption at home, by injustice abroad, and by folly every where, that Englishmen can again be what they have been,—that they can shew themselves disinterested in the midst of temptation, just in the midst of power, and rational in the midst of wars and passions.

There have been numberless opinions in politics since

government was a science; and many persons have been bred up to particular ways of thinking on the subject; some to this party and some to that, some to a carelessness about public virtue, and some to an utter disbelief in any such thing. But wherever and whenever such men and such opinions have prevailed in opposition to simple principles of conduct, governments and nations have been corrupted and the world has been deluged in bloodshed. It is in vain that the intriguers, who call themselves great politicians, tell us that *expediency* is better than *justice*; that it will not do to be always in high tones and principles; and that they who say the contrary are mere visionaries and declaimers. Virtue is against them; happiness is against them; all history is against them. Let them produce a bad man or a mere man of the world, in any period of society, who brought happiness to his country upon the strength of his wickedness or worldliness. Did ALEXANDER, did CESAR, did POMPEY, did CONSTANTINE, CHARLEMAGNE, CHARLES V., HENRY VII., or LOUIS XIV.? All these were great intriguers and great "politicians," but all their greatness, all their glory, all their political cunning, composed nothing but so much gilded poison for their subjects, and were not to be compared to the weak government of a PHOCION or a L'HOSPITAL. It is true, there have been men, not very scrupulous at all times in their policy, who have done a great deal of good to their countries, and of this description was our own BURLEIGH. But examine BURLEIGH's Ministry, and you will find that it was not when he was sacrificing his own principle, but when he was combating the bad principles of others and confounding the fine politics of our enemies, that he was doing real good. He did neither good to his country nor honour to himself when he was persecuting his rivals,—when he was frivolously occupied in bringing over French fashions for his mistress,—or when he was hastening, with a timor-serving want of feeling, the death of the wretched QUEEN of Scots. The very persons who argue against political scrupulousness, never fail to bring forward whatever they can discover of vice or criminal policy in the conduct of their enemies; and if you enquire into the origin of all the outcries of our Ministers against BONAPARTE, you will find that these politicians have not the face to attribute them to his talents or to his success, though his talents and success are the chief cause:—No; they tell you that it is because of his vices, of his ambition, of his usurpation; of his waste of blood,—in short, of his want of political honesty. This, it is true, is an excellent and very sufficient reason; I only wish it were the principal one in their hearts, and that it were advanced with a good conscience by the Extenders of Indian Empire and the Oppressors of Ireland: for, on the other hand, what does BONAPARTE say? What does he say against his enemies?



Why, even he dares not tell the world that he hates us for our power and our superior freedom: no; he tells them, that it is because of our ambition, of our usurpations, of our waste of blood,—in short, of our want of political honesty.—Thus it is, and thus it ever has been, that political obliquity serves no purpose but to harass mankind, and to give corrupt men an excuse for their wretched ambition.

For this reason, whenever a state has reached a certain point of corruption and has been in danger of losing its freedom and perhaps its life, the citizens who have come forward with professions of saving it, have been of two classes; first, those who, under the mask of necessity and with the intention of advancing their own personal interest, have pursued measures against its liberty; and second, those who, having no intention but to secure that liberty, have adopted a singleness and sincerity of conduct, and seized every opportunity to prove their disinterestedness. Of these two descriptions of men, the behaviour has at all times been suitable to the views. The interested and ambitious have done nothing but intrigue, and undermine each other, and obtain wealth and power, and waste the blood of their countrymen; the disinterested and unambitious, on the other hand, have been open in their dealings, plain in speaking and in acting, the enemies of none but the corrupt, seeking no riches, and never shedding blood but in necessity and with sorrow. Both classes therefore are soon known, even in times comparatively peaceable; the one by its political intrigues and expediences, the other by its complete independence and its struggle for law and liberty. And the world well knows,—that the former have often met with failure, which in such a case is sure to be ignominious, and have never made their country happy;—while the latter, if they have failed, have had a failure in itself glorious, and have sometimes been the saviours of their country.

The way therefore to be real patriots, and to do our best towards restoring the integrity of the Constitution, is plain before us: it is, to maintain, in every respect, a singleness of conduct, with one principle, with one object, with one undeviating line of action; a conduct, so shaped and set forth, that none but honest men will praise it, and none but the willful can mistake it. I do not mean austerity, or affectation of any kind, but a rational and manly resistance of every corrupt action or opinion, and a self-respect which will not contaminate itself. The austerity of monks and sophists is at no time virtue, and in this age it would be something beyond madness. Cato, walking through the streets barefooted, may have been, and was, a great patriot; but he would have been a more reasonable, not to mention cleaner person, with his shoes on; and would have done quite as much good to his country. In a word, our great political care, whether as writers, as speakers, as electors, or as private persons holding and recommending particular opinions, should be,—not to be worldly-minded. If we have respect for any man or set of

men, let us shew it, not by courting them or submitting to dictation, but by paying it to their virtues:—if any person professing to be our public friend is guilty of an action unbecoming his professions, let us instantly reprove it:—if we have profit before us and it wars with our conscience and independence, let us instantly give it up. Such conduct requires neither great talents nor great exertions, unless we have been absolutely educated in corruption, and then indeed the task is as difficult, as the conquest would be glorious. But such conduct, carefully pursued, as it ought to be, by those who call for Reform in the Constitution, is of all things calculated to bring over to the cause, not only proselytes, but the best kind of proselytes; and a body of such men, if there is an atom remaining of the old English solidity of character, must in the end be invincible.

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## FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

### FRANCE.

#### IMPERIAL DECREES.

Palace of St. Cloud, July 24.

Napoleon, Emperor of the French, King of Italy, Protector of the Confederation of the Rhine, Mediator of the Confederation of Switzerland, &c. &c.—We have decreed and do decree as follows:—

Art. 1. There shall be added to our Minister of Marine a Council of Marine, consisting of four Counsellors of State. An Auditor, or Master of Requests, shall perform the functions of Secretary General.

2. The Council of Marine shall assemble whenever the Minister of Marine shall convoke it, and at least once a week.

3. Minutes of Proceeding, taken by the Master of Requests, or Auditor, Secretary General, shall be transmitted to our Minister, Secretary of State, for our perusal.

On the 3d of August his Majesty issued the following Decree from the Palace of Trianon:—

1. There shall be only one Journal in each of the Departments, with the exception of that of the Seine.

2. This Journal shall be under the authority of the Prefect, and cannot be published but with his approbation.

3. Nevertheless, the Prefects may provisionally authorize in our great cities, the publication of papers containing advertisements in the nature of posting-bills, or hand-bills, relative to sales of articles of merchandise and immovable property; and Journals, treating exclusively of literature, the sciences, art, and agriculture. The said publications must contain no articles foreign to their object.

4. Our Ministers of the Interior shall, on the 1st of September next, make a Report to us upon the said Advertising Journals; the publication of which may be definitively determined.

Paris, Aug. 17.—Last Wednesday his Imperial Majesty being seated on the Throne, surrounded by the Princes and great Officers of State, the Deputies of Holland were presented to his Majesty, and their President, his Excellency Admiral Verhuel, delivered the following speech:—

Sire.—Your very faithful subjects of Holland, the Members of the Council of State, of the Legislative Body, of the Deputies of the Land and Sea Forces and the Deputies of the City of Amsterdam, have the honour of presenting themselves at the feet of your Majesty's throne, respectfully to declare the sentiments of admiration, confidence, and obedience with which they are animated. The Dutch people, Sire, known in the



pals of history by the exploits of their heroes, by the spotless character of their statesmen, and the exertions made by them to obtain and maintain their independence, are still possessed of a strong recollection of the virtues of their forefathers. The great events which Europe has witnessed in the course of the present century, have completely changed the political supports and relations of States; and the independence, for the attainment of which our ancestors sacrificed their property, their blood, and all that is most dear to men, from the pressure of circumstances, could not but undergo certain restrictions. At length, united with the first nation in the world, called by the greatest Prince in the universe to share in the favour which his exalted genius and paternal solicitude liberally bestows on his happy subjects, and of which Holland has already obtained so many proofs, the Dutch continue to flatter themselves that, by their loyalty, their obedience, and their inviolable attachment to their Prince and Father, they shall deserve the protection of a mighty, generous, upright, and benevolent Government."

His Imperial Majesty returned the following answer:—

Gentlemen, Deputies of the Legislative Body, of the Land and Sea Forces of Holland, and the Gentlemen Deputies of my good City of Amsterdam—For these 30 years you have experienced many vicissitudes. You lost your liberty when one of the greatest officers of the Republic, forced by England, employed Prussian bayonets to interrupt the deliberations of your Councils. It was then that the wise Constitution handed down to you by your forefathers was destroyed for ever. You formed a part of the coalition, in consequence of which French armies conquered your country—an event which was the unavoidable consequence of the alliance with England. After the conquest a distinct Government was formed, yet your Republic formed part of the Empire. Your strong fortresses, and the principal positions in your country, were occupied by French troops; and your Government was changed according to the opinions which succeeded each other in France. When Providence placed me on this first throne of the world, it fell to my lot to decide for ever the fate of France, and of all the nations which compose this vast Empire; to bestow on all the signal advantages which arise from firmness, consistency, and order; and to destroy the baneful consequences of irregularity and weakness. I put a period to the wavering destinies of Italy, by placing the iron crown on my head; I annihilated the Government which ruled Piedmont; by my act of mediation I justly appreciated the constitution of Switzerland, and brought the local circumstances of the country in unison with the safety and rights of this Imperial Crown. I gave you a Prince of my blood for your ruler; this was intended as a bond to unite the concerns of your Republic with the rights of the Empire. My hopes have been deceived, and on this occasion I have shewn more forbearance than my character generally admits and my rights required. I have at length put a period to the painful uncertainty of your future fate, and warded off the fatal blow which threatened to annihilate all your property, all your resources. I have opened the Continent to your national industry; the day shall come when you are to conduct my Eagles to the seas celebrated by the exploits of your ancestors; then shall you shew yourselves worthy of yourselves and of me. From this moment till that period all the changes that take place in Europe shall have for their first motive the destruction of that tyrannical and irrational system which the English Government, unwindful of the pernicious consequences which arise therefrom to its own country, has adopted, to outlaw commerce and trade, and subject it to the arbitrary authority of English licences.—Gentlemen Deputies of the Legislative Body, and of the Land and Sea Forces of Holland, and Gentlemen Deputies of my good City of Amsterdam, tell my subjects of Holland, I feel perfectly satisfied they possess the sentiments they profess for me; tell them that I doubt not their loyal attachment, and depend on their heartily joining their exertions to those of the rest of my subjects to re-conquer the rights of the sea, the loss of which five coalitions incited by England have inflicted on the Continent; tell them, that in all circumstances they may reckon on my peculiar protection."

#### OFFICIAL INTELLIGENCE FROM SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

##### GALLICIA.

On the 29th July, General Count Serras attacked the fort of Senabria, in which there were 3000 Spaniards. This post is important, because it commands the entrances into Portugal, and shuts up the communications with Galicia. Lord Wellington had enjoined the Spanish Governor to make an obstinate defence. The Governor replied, "My Lord, you require me to shut myself up in the fort of Senabria with my 3000 Spaniards, on an assurance that you will relieve me. You told the Commandant of Ciudad Rodrigo, that if he held out 20 days, you would come to his relief. He held out for twice that time, and you did not keep your word. It is then evident that you intend to do nothing for unhappy Spain. In order to foment divisions in it, you hold out hopes of assistance to it that are never realized. The French being provided with heavy artillery, it will be impossible for me to make a long defence. Notwithstanding, I will shut myself up in the fortress, and bury myself under its ruins, if you will send one Englishman for two Spaniards to assist in defending it. Send me 1000 British, and I will bring with me 2000 Spaniards."

The answer of Lord Wellington may be easily conjectured. The Spanish General abandoned the town, where we found 20 pieces of artillery, and provisions for 3000 men for six months.

##### PORTUGAL.

The Duke of Elchingen has completely invested Almeida. The trenches will be opened immediately. The English having adopted the precaution not to place one of their battalions, not even a company of artillery, in the fort, shews that they intend to sacrifice the Portuguese that are in it.

The following Proclamation of the Prince of Essling, we understand, has been well received in Portugal:—

"PORTUGUESE,—The armies of Napoleon the Great are on your frontiers, and we are on the point of entering your country as friends, not as conquerors. They do not come to make war upon you, but to fight those who have induced you to take up arms. Portuguese, awake to your true interests. What has England done for you that you endure her troops on your native soil? She has destroyed your manufactures, ruined your commerce, paralyzed your industry, for the sole purpose of sending into your country articles of her own manufacture, and making you her tributaries. What does she do at present that you should embrace the unjust cause which has roused the whole of the Continent against her? She deceives you respecting the issue of a campaign in which she seems determined to incur no risk. She puts your battalions in advance as if your blood was to reckon for nothing. She is prepared to abandon you when it will suit her interest, however disastrous the consequences may be to you; and to complete your misfortunes and her insatiable ambition, she sends her ships into your ports to transport to her colonies such of you as may escape from the dangers to which she has exposed you on the Continent. Does not the conduct of her army, before Ciudad Rodrigo, sufficiently explain to you what you are to expect from such allies?—Did they not encourage the garrison and the unfortunate inhabitants of that fortress, by deceitful promises, and did they discharge a single musket to assist them? Again, lately, have they placed any of their troops in Almeida, except a Commander who is put there to invite you to an ill-judged resistance as that of Ciudad Rodrigo? What! is it not an insult to place one Englishman thus in the scale against 500 of your countrymen? Portuguese, be no longer deceived. The powerful Sovereign whose laws, strength, and genius receive the grateful praises of so many nations, wishes to establish your prosperity. But yourselves under his protection. Receive his troops like friends, and you will find security both for your persons and property. You are not ignorant of the miseries of war: you know that they extend to every thing that is most dear to you, your children, relatives, friends, property, private and political lives. Come to a determination then that will secure to you all the advantages of peace. Remain quiet in your habitations; attend to your domestic affairs, and con-



sider those only as your enemies who excite you to a war, by every event of which your country must suffer.

"The Marshal Prince of Esling, Commander in Chief of the Army of Portugal,

"*Cuidad Rodrigo, Aug. 1, 1810. MASSENA.*"

[The English papers state the loss sustained by General Craufurd on the 24th ult. at 270 men. *The Monitor* upon this subject says,]—"According to the last accounts which were of the 1st August, there were found on the field of battle 400 killed; 400 were made prisoners; and all the accounts concur in stating, that the English had 800 wounded. The English estimate their loss at 270, so that they only suppress five-sixths of the truth. This is the proportion commonly observed in all their relations. For the rest, all the other accounts which we have respecting the army agree with the Prince of Esling's report."

"The trenches are opened before Almeida. The English army remain spectators of our operations. It might be said, that Lord Wellington has no other object than to make his army take a lesson as to the mode of besieging and taking the Place. General Regnier has possessed himself of Penamacor and Monsanto, which are two forts of importance. He found them mounted with 15 pieces of cannon each, and well supplied with provisions. The fort of Monsanto, in particular, was reputed, in the country, to be impregnable. The Spaniards abandoned them at the approach of the French troops. "Where is the use," say they, "of shutting ourselves up in the fortresses, when the English are abandoning us?"

LETTER FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRINCE OF ES-LING, TO HIS SERENE HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF NEUF-CHATEL.

"SIR,—All the accounts received announced that the English army were making a retrograde movement; a reconnoitring was executed on the 21st. Marshal the Duke of Elchingen directed General Loison to assemble at Gallegos 3000 men, the light cavalry under General Treillard, and a few pieces of light artillery; and ordered him to march at two o'clock in the morning in the direction of Fort Conception, by way of Villa del Puerto, Castillejo and the Casas. The General, at the latter point, fell in with the enemy, who fled at his approach. The English cavalry, however, seemed disposed to defend the high plain on which Fort Conception stands. General Treillard charged and drove them before him in so spirited a manner that the enemy were compelled precipitately to abandon the fort, without having time to fire all the mines which they had formed in order to blow up the works. Three of the chambers remain entire, but those which were set fire to have destroyed the horn-work and several half-moons.

"Master of the high plain of La Conception, General Loison had to ascertain the position of the enemy's army. He directed General Treillard to take the village of Val de la Mula, at the same time that he made General Simon attack it in front. General Treillard, by this movement, dislodged the enemy's infantry and cavalry posted on the left bank of Turonez, and compelled 600 horse placed on the road to Almeida to retreat. The enemy, in his retreat, abandoned some sharpshooters to us, who were cut down with our sabres, and he fell back upon the glacis of that fortress. He then returned with two battalions of infantry, three pieces of cannon, and about 1800 horse, and drew up on the left of the Ravine which separates Val de Mula from Almeida; but the three regiments of light cavalry, under General Treillard, marched against him with an assurance which speedily decided his retreat. The left bank of the ravine was immediately occupied, without pushing on too far, in order not unnecessarily to attract the fire of the place, within gun-shot of which we were, and under which the enemy seemed desirous of drawing us. In consequence of this retrograde movement of the English, the fight was at La Mula, and their left extended towards Pinhel.

"Almeida to be invested. The greater part of the 5th corps debouched from Val de la Mula in the morning. The brigade of light cannon, under General Lamotte, and preceded by a battalion of

besieging chasseurs, opened the march. It was followed by the 15th and 25th dragoons, commanded by General Gardanne. General Montbrun directed the movement of this body of cavalry.

"The division of infantry, under General Loison, formed in two columns. It was supported by the division of Mermet, at the head of which marched the 10th dragoons, and by three regiments infantry of Marchand's division. Marshal the Duke of Elchingen directed all the movements.

"The advanced guard of the English army, commanded by Lieutenant-General Craufurd, consisted of 2000 cavalry and 8000 infantry, occupying the position to the right of Almeida. His light infantry and several squadrons of hussars, formed the posts in advance, and on the flanks of that fortress. The attack on the part of our troops was vigorous, and made in the best order. The enemy defended the ground, and kept up a brisk fire of musketry and field-pieces, but they were successively driven from their posts at the charge, and without the least hesitation. General Craufurd, after placing all his division under the guns of the place, thought that we would take up a position without daring to attack him in so formidable a post. He was protected by a reserve on the heights of the left bank of the Coa, but four columns marched direct for the enemy, and closed with them with the greatest intrepidity, without returning their fire. That of the fortress, though badly enough directed, became extremely brisk at this moment. The 3d hussars, supported by the rest of the cavalry, charged the English infantry at the gallop, and sabred a great number of them. The ground, however, was so difficult, that it was impossible for the rest of our cavalry to take part in this fine charge. The enemy's cavalry uniformly declined to meet ours at the sabre, and after rallying under the ramparts of the place, hastened to re-pass the Coa.

"In the mean time, the brigade of General Ferey having already out-flanked the right of the enemy, was on the point of cutting off his retreat, or compelling him to throw himself into Almeida, when the English General felt the necessity of falling back, which he could only effect in great disorder; for our battalions pursued them at a running step, to such a distance as to enable the columns appointed to invest Almeida to execute that operation without any difficulty. The troops of his Majesty gave a fresh proof upon this occasion, that there is no position which can resist their intrepidity. All of them perfectly performed their duty.

"The English sustained a considerable loss in this action. Their estafette-man, or chief courier, has been taken, with all his dispatches; several of which, dated the 25th and 26th, represent the English army as in full route; that it is impossible to form an idea of its deplorable condition; that the English never were engaged in so brisk an affair; and, in short, that they had lost 60 officers, 24 of whom have been interred in the field of battle; 400 rank and file killed, and 700 wounded. Among the slain were the Colonel of the 43d, that of the 16th Dragoons, and Major Brown of the 52d. We have taken from them one stand of colours, 400 men, and two pieces of cannon; our loss amounted to nearly 300 killed and wounded.

"On the 25th, Marshal the Duke of Elchingen regulated the investment of Almeida, so as to render it complete. He caused Valverde to be occupied, and the English posted on the heights in front of Pereiro, to be dislodged. On the 26th he sent a detachment in the direction of Pinhel, which it reached after a march of three hours by difficult roads. The English had withdrawn from it at two in the morning. It appears that they are concentrating at Celerico.

"The fortress of Almeida is defended by four Portuguese regiments. It is well provided with stores and heavy artillery, and has two Governors, one of them an Englishman. The garrison made two sorties on the 26th. One, consisting of 600 infantry and 60 horse, which sallied upon the division of Loison, was destined to destroy the houses which are within 200 toises of the place; the object of the other, consisting of 300 men and 40 horse, which directed itself upon the right of General Marchand, was to carry off a few sheaves of wheat lying





near the suburb; but both were repulsed, so as to frustrate the designs of the enemy. In the first they lost about 40 men, who were shot with our pieces touching their breasts. We lost only two men of the Legion of the South. But the garrison tried a third sortie to carry off the same sheaves of wheat: it did not succeed better than the preceding attempts. We took from them one piece of cannon, and killed a few of their men. The object of all these sorties seems to indicate that it is not so well supplied with provisions as with artillery.

"I have the honour to be, with respectful regard, your Highness's most humble and obedient servant,

" Marshal the PRINCE OF ESSLING,

" Commander in Chief of the Army of Portugal,

" Salamanca, July 29, 1810.

MASSENA."

#### RUSSIA.

The supplement to the *Petersburgh Gazette*, of the 25th of July, contains an official account of the late engagement with the army of the Grand Vizier. It is stated, that on the 11th June (O.S.), an attack was made by the Russians on the army of the Grand Vizier, encamped on the heights of Schumla, which terminated in the retreat of the Turks under the walls of that fortress, after a very obstinate resistance. In this action, the Russians took three stand of colours.—The right wing of the Russians appears to have been less successful, as it possessed itself of "a height," which the Turks incessantly attacked till night. On the 12th the Turks renewed the attack, when the Russians formed three hollow squares, which resisted the repeated efforts of the Turks. The centre and left wing of the Russians *manœuvred*, but "nothing could divert the enemy from his attacks on the right wing." At three in the afternoon a body of 5000 Turkish cavalry, rushing from the fortress, made another furious attack on the right wing, but were driven back upon Schumla. The Russians lost 1000 men, amongst whom is Major General Popondopolo.—On the 16th, Major General Zysyrew having changed his position to watch Warna, and the coasts of the Black Sea, 6000 Turks again sallied from Schumla and made another furious attack—the Russians again took up positions on the heights. The battle lasted from three in the morning till eleven, "when the remains of the Turkish force betook themselves to flight."—On the 18th, the Russians entered Oshum, on the road from Schumla to Trenowa. On the 21st, a body of 2000 Turkish cavalry were dispersed with the loss of 200 killed. On the 22d, Count Kameuskoï took post on the road from Schumla to Constantinople. Count Sukoto passed the Danube on the 5th of June, and, having been joined by the Servians, took possession of the fortress of Persa Palanka, on the 15th.

#### SPAIN.

CADIZ, Aug. 3.—The French who entered Cuenza quitted it in two days, not finding a living soul in the town. We are assured that on the 7th of July, a party of 400 cavalry made an attempt to surprise King Joseph at his country seat near Madrid, whither he occasionally resorts to visit a *chere amie*. They killed the guard which was constantly kept there, but they did not meet the object, the Usurper having gone that night to the play at the Colosco del Principe. Informed of this they pursued their course to the Palace, where they cut down the guards at the gate. They did the same to those whom they found guarding the theatre. This occasioned an immediate uproar, and from the great confusion that took place in the interior, they were prevented from passing to the box where King Joseph was seated, which gave him an opportunity of escaping, by a private door, to the main guard, who defended him for a short time till he got off. The *generale* was then beaten, but before any considerable force was collected from their quarters, the enterprising Spaniards were safe out of Madrid.

#### SWEDEN.

OREBRO, AUG. 17.—The choice of Prince Ponte Corvo, as heir to the Crown, is no longer a matter of doubt; it is already publicly spoken of; and on the 21st the formal decision of the Diet will be announced. Great advantages are expected to result to our country from this choice, and the financial embarrassments of the Government will be surmounted by a voluntary loan from the Prince of eight millions of Banco dollars, at a low interest. The present state of our Government will be guaranteed to us, and further benefits afforded as soon as the maritime situation of Europe will admit of them; and what is of still greater consequence, we perceive, in the present nomination, an earnest of the future restoration of Finland.

GOTTENBURGH, AUG. 20.—Intelligence has just been received here, that the Prince of Ponte Corvo (Bernadotte) has been elected Crown Prince.

#### GERMANY.

BANKS OF THE MAINE, AUG. 17.—We read in the *Presburg Gazette* the following article:—"The Emperor Napoleon perceiving, when the Empress went through the superb gallery of pictures at Paris, that the sight of the battles of Marengo and Austerlitz caused her some emotion, immediately gave orders for these two pictures to be taken away: when her Majesty was returning back, they were no longer there."

#### SWITZERLAND.

BERNE, AUG. 1.—Her Majesty, the Queen of Holland, arrived on the 26th of July at Lausanne, under the name of Madame Durougski; this Princess set out the following day at five o'clock in the morning for Secheron, near Geneva. We flatter ourselves that her Majesty will return here in a few days, with her august mother, her Imperial Majesty Josephine.

#### PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

A young man of the name of Thornton, at Moulton Sea's End, actually scaled the steeple of the parish church, which is not less than 170 feet high, by means of the small projections of stone attached to the exterior of the spire. Not content with having succeeded in gaining the stone which caps the summit, he aspired to substitute his cloth apron for the fane!—Whilst climbing up the staff, at the extremity of which the fane is fixed, it broke with his weight! His destruction appeared already to have taken place. But wonderful to tell, his body caught the stump of the staff, and he was thus arrested in his descent. While the horror-struck multitude expected him to be dashed a mangled corpse at their feet, he reached the flat stone in safety, and shortly afterwards descended to the ground by the same adventurous route which he traced in his ascent.

The following is an account of a very distressing accident which recently happened at Boston:—"Among the variety of accidents to which human nature is exposed, we have seldom to record one of a more melancholy nature than that which happened on Thursday last. The day had been unusually warm, and several boys, on leaving school in the evening, went down to the haven to bathe; the tide was not up, and the children had left the water with an intention to dress, but stopping to play upon the sands, they covered themselves with dirt, in consequence of which they were obliged to go in again to wash it off. On going in, they imprudently attempted to cross the channel, when three out of seven were carried away by the current, and as no timely assistance could be procured, they were drowned! Two of the three were brothers, sons of Mrs. Jackson, guard to the Boston mail coach, both of them were



found the same evening; but the other, who was son to the Rev. J. Platts, Dissenting Minister at Boston, was not found till Sunday morning. It was indeed a most pitiable sight to behold the fond parents eagerly gazing with the eye of phrenzy for the bodies of their children; the tear of sympathy flowed at their distress; while every spectator was anxious to assist them, either by consoling them for their loss; or by endeavouring to find their sons. Three finer boys could scarcely have been found. George Jackson was 13 and James 12 years of age: Enoch Priestley Platts was only 9 years old; but the progress he made under his father was astonishingly great. He understood nearly all the rules of arithmetic, was well versed in history, English grammar, and the outlines of astronomy; he could also point out with precision the beauties of our best prose and poetical authors."

A tradesman at Chorley, named Price, was summoned on Tuesday se'night as one of the members of a Coroner's Inquest, to sit on the body of a neighbour who had drowned himself. During the inspection of the body he appeared much affected, and while the persons who found the corpse were giving their evidence, he retired. Being absent longer than was expected, a messenger was dispatched to seek after him, when he was discovered lifeless in a room adjoining, having, it is supposed, strangled himself with a silk handkerchief.

**MURDER.**—A few days since an Inquest was taken at Longtown, in Herefordshire, on the body of Joan Gwilerain, who was found in her house on Thursday the 16th instant, so dreadfully beaten and injured; that she died on the Saturday following. From the evidence it appeared, that the deceased was a person advanced in years, and that she resided alone in a house in the parish of Clodorb, and it was generally reported that she always kept a considerable sum of money in the house. The murderers appeared to have obtained an entrance into the house during the night between Tuesday and Wednesday; by removing some part of the tiles from the roof, and the old lady having secured the door of her chamber, they had forced up some of the boards of the flooring of the room over that in which she slept; and thus obtained admission to her; when it appeared, from the situation in which she was discovered; they beat her with a large stick till they supposed she was dead. She remained in that state undiscovered till Thursday morning, when she was found by a neighbour lying near her bed nearly lifeless: she survived, however, till the Saturday; when she expired without having been able to give any account of her murderers.—The Jury returned a verdict of *Wilful Murder against some Person or Persons unknown*.—Three people are in custody on suspicion; viz: a mother, her son, and a female friend.

William Treble, alias Elbert, alias George Henry Thornton, who was condemned to death for forgery, at the Assizes at Lewes, during the last week (his case having stood over from a former Assizes, and the point of law having, in the mean time, been decided against him by the Judges), put a period to his existence, in his cell in Horsham jail, on Monday night. He effected his purpose by the means of a stick and a handkerchief, which he placed round his neck and fixed to the upper iron bar of the window of the cell. It is remarkable, that the day of the night during which he perpetrated the fatal deed, the Chaplain of the prison waited on him, and finding him very much agitated, told him he would visit him to-morrow. The unhappy man repeated the word "to-morrow" several times; and he said once emphatically—"Ah! to-morrow." The Chaplain was much struck with his manner, and was induced to return part of the way to his cell after having quitted him; but it recurring to him that it deserved not the serious complexion he cast upon it, he took no further notice of it. Treble was found on Tuesday morning quite cold. It is therefore supposed that he must have committed the deed very soon after the Chaplain left him. He has left several letters behind him, in one of which he assigns as a reason for committing the act—the dread of dying before a gaping crowd. He was a very genteel man, nearly 60 years of age, and had received a good education. He has left a wife and four children.

The daughter of P. Grenfell; Esq. M. P. has met with an accident, by being thrown out of a curriole, the horses having taken fright in passing a gate near Maidenhead. Lord Harwarden, who was also in the curriole, escaped with little or no injury. Miss Grenfell is not dangerously hurt.

#### ASSIZES.

LEWES, AUG. 25.—Sarah Searle was indicted for stealing several articles of plate in the dwelling-house of the Rev. Mr. Campion, at Westmester, in this county. The conduct of this prisoner in this case was the most artful and extraordinary that has lately occurred in any Court of Justice. Mr. Campion being absent in London the latter end of May and June last, the prisoner was the only servant left in the house. For several days before the robbery, she complained to the gardener and others that she heard persons about the house in the night, and expressed her fears that it was beset by thieves. She even went the length of getting a man to sleep in the house, and she went to sleep at his cottage, returning in the morning. One morning she described a man of suspicious appearance, whom she said had been there enquiring for Mr. Campion; and she affected to have discovered the bars of the dairy window, which had been nearly sawed through at the bottom. At last she said, that on the morning of the 6th of June, just as she had got to the house, and was about to light the fire; the man rushed from the wash-house; seized her by the hair of the head, and dragged her over the house; compelling her to shew him where the plate was deposited; which she was obliged to do; that he then took her into the kitchen, and hung her to a nail; and there left her; that she, by the assistance of another nail in the wall, raised herself; and was kept from suffocating; until she got a clasp knife from her pocket; which she opened with her teeth, and then cut the rope. She immediately fell down; and upon recovering herself; she ran out to a neighbour's house with the rope about her neck; where she stated the particulars. All these facts she deposed before the Magistrates at Lewes; but suspicious were entertained of their truth—for it was observed that the window bars had been sawed from withinside the house; and upon search all the articles of plate were found in her box. The Jury found her *Guilty*, and she was sentenced to seven years transportation.

#### AGRICULTURAL REPORT FOR AUGUST.

The genial showers at the beginning of this month have brought the corn of every description to a state of fullness and maturity rarely seen in the kindest season in this climate, probably from the rains being accompanied with violent gusts of wind, that may have prevented the atmosphere from being disposed to mildew, a malady so injurious to corn in this country, and which is generally preceded by showery weather. The ears of wheat are extremely large and productive, many of them containing twenty-five clevels on an ear, and each clevel from four to five and six corns. The straw is bright, even on low and swampy ground. Barley is a full crop and bright; except in those situations where it has been thrown down by the heavy rains, and where it is considerably hedge-grown.—Oats rise heavy to the hand, and promise to be an average crop, even upon the uplands. The fens and low situations will be extremely productive.—Peas and vetches, where they have been well harvested, yield a great produce, and the quality is fine.—Beans are not large on the haul, but are well podded.—Potatoes are a large crop, and the quality excellent.—Turnips, cabbages, coles, and all the brassica species, promise a most luxuriant crop.

#### TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

##### BANKRUPTCIES ENLARGED.

W. Warwick, Red Lion-street, Clerkenwell, jeweller, from Aug. 25 to Aug. 30, at ten, at Guildhall.  
J. Bull, King's Langley, Hertfordshire, carpenter, from Aug. 23 to Sept. 22, at ten, at Guildhall, London.  
R. Steriker, Epsom, inn-keeper, from Sept. 1 to Sept. 22, at ten, at Guildhall, London.



R. Brown, jun. Pleasant-place, Battle-bridge, painter, from Aug. 28 to Oct. 16, at ten; at Guildhall, London.

## BANKRUPTS.

S. Amburst, Market-street, Westminster, brewer.  
D. Crowley, Portsmouth, tailor.  
J. Barnsley, Manchester, cotton-merchant.  
J. B. Orry, Great Grimsby, Lincoln, grocer.  
W. Jones, Barton-under-Nedwood, Staffordshire, grocer.  
C. A. and T. Philips, Milford, Pembrokehire, bankers.  
J. Steele, Llandaff, Glamorganshire, coal-merchant.  
T. Darlington, jun. Broken-Cross, Chester, cheesefactor.  
G. M. Stevens, Alfred-place, St. Giles, upholder.  
T. Turner, Nicholas-square, Cripplegate, victualler.

## SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

Admiralty-Office, September 1, 1810.

Vice-Admiral Sir James Saumarez, Bart. and K. B. has transmitted to John Wilson Croker, Esq. a letter he had received from Captain Robinson, of his Majesty's sloop *Prometheus*, giving an account of his having chaced on shore and destroyed near Pillau, on the 2d of last month, the French schooner privateer *Messilina*, carrying six guns and thirty-eight men; she sailed from Dantzic the preceding day, had taken nothing, and was going to Pillau, with an intention of clearing the Bay.

## BANKRUPTS.

S. Aydon, Elwell, and Co. Shelf, Yorkshire, ironfounders.  
J. Rowbottom, Field-House, Yorkshire, cotton-manufacturers.  
S. Lawrence, Oxford-street, grocer.  
J. Woodward, Derby, lace-manufacturer.  
J. Richardson, Kingston-upon-Hull, spirit-merchant.  
W. Harvey, Warrington, Lancashire, flour-dealer.  
M. Humphrys, Bristol, common-brewer.  
A. Tomlinson, Little Droyliden, Lancashire, shopkeeper.  
J. Taylor, Banbury, Oxfordshire, miller.  
J. Stroud, Swansea, banker.  
J. Westlake, Gosport, baker.  
T. Burringham, Great Grimsby, Lincolnshire, merchant.  
G. Boid, Edgware-road, stone-mason.  
J. Manning, Nantwich, Cheshire, draper.

## PRICE OF STOCKS ON SATURDAY.

3 per cent. Cons. for Money. . . 68½ | Omnium. . . . . 2 ½ dis.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The Examiner will certainly attend, as early as possible, to the promise of which J. P. of Epping, has so politely reminded him. The work which he mentions is nearly ready for appearance.

Some remarks at length next week on BONAPARTE'S Decree against the French Press.

Count ZENOBIO'S Letter.—J. F.—the Account of the oppressive conduct of the late Viceroy of Buenos Ayres.—&c.—next week.

## THE EXAMINER.

LONDON, SEPTEMBER 2.

THE public have been so accustomed to news of the most eventful description,—to governments overthrown, crowns usurped, and thousands cut up with fire and sword,—that a moderate announcement of evil becomes scarcely any news at all; and what would have filled our ancestors with agitation, is not enough to take place of our talk about the weather, or even to intercept a piece of toast in its way to our mouths at breakfast. The most singular piece of

intelligence during the past week is an apparent confirmation of the rumour that Marshal BERNADOTTE has been elected Crown Prince of Sweden. But even rumours of this nature have lost their effect: the wonder now is, not that private gentlemen are exalted to thrones, but that any throne on the Continent is possessed by an hereditary Prince. If BERNADOTTE has really been thus elected, it was, of course, through the influence of BONAPARTE, for no nation is willing to receive a foreigner for its Prince, unless it is in danger of absolute ruin, or has been tired out with a succession of bad Princes, as was the case at our own Revolution. There are grounds however for supposing that BONAPARTE would not chuse to forward the Marshal's views in this instance, at least for the present; for BERNADOTTE is one of his ablest and most active officers, and therefore might be missed in looking after his new kingdom; again, though one of the ablest, he is not absolutely the first either in rank or reputation, and therefore his Master might think that he ought not to be rewarded before BERTIER. But on the other hand, BERTIER, in being more able, is more necessary to be kept in reserve, and may be destined for some greater monarchy; and BERNADOTTE, by having royal possession of Sweden, may even help to further NAPOLEON'S views upon that very subject. Upon the whole, the circumstance is quite as likely as it is not. Had LOUIS BONAPARTE been deprived of Holland merely by his brother's caprice and not by his resentment, the kingdom of Sweden might have appeared destined for him, notwithstanding BERNADOTTE'S immediate possession; but he has shewn himself honest enough to deserve to be kept in the back ground—JEROME might be supposed to have a better claim than the Marshal, but NAPOLEON does not seem to think well enough of his understanding; and the other brother LUCIEN, for his part, seems resolutely bent, after all, on being the greatest man of his family, and preferring philosophy to a throne.

The Dutch, agreeably to their late servile submission,—a submission not even decently sullen,—have sent deputies to the French Emperor to ratify it in nauseous speeches. Admiral VERBUEL was the orator on this occasion, and he had the face to talk of the former "exploits" of the Dutch, of the "spotless character of their statesmen," and "the exertions made by them to obtain and maintain their independence." Then comes the usual conclusion, that times are altered, and that it is necessary for such a fine people to be the slaves of such a great Emperor. His Imperial Majesty returns the compliment in his usual style of dictation and humiliation, and tells them that they once had a "wise constitution," that they lost it, were conquered, and of course are his to all intents and purposes. He then promises them the honour of losing their lives for the glory of his Eagles, and talks as facetiously as ever about "re-conquering the rights of the sea." It was in this strain that he addressed the Dutch Herring Fishery Company the other day, and



reminded them of the great Admirals that "swept the English seas;"—but he forgot to mention one BLAKE, who swept the said Admirals out again.

The aspect of affairs in Portugal is still the same. The ministerial papers are busy as usual in representing the state of the allies to be quite promising, and that of the French to be altogether as wretched. The half-witted writers of these papers never perceive that in so doing they are making out the worst possible case for their countrymen in the end, and are leaving no excuse for my Lord WELLINGTON when he leaves the jaded, harassed, and half-starved enemy in possession of Portugal. Much reliance seems to be placed on some intercepted letters, describing the exhausted state of the enemy's strength, and purported to be written by one of JOSEPH'S Ministers of State to his Ambassador at the French court. Letters may have been intercepted or they may not; but they may also have been altered and interpolated; and besides, forgeries of this kind are so notorious, that such papers deserve not the least credit on either side of the question. The journals, however, are determined that something desperate shall have been done; and accordingly, a wild story is sent us from Cadiz respecting an attempt of four hundred cavalry on the person of the Usurper. These patriotic four hundred are stated to have sought after JOSEPH at his country-seat, "whither he occasionally resorts to visit a *chere-amie*;" but not finding him there, after cutting down the guards, they set off on better information for the theatre, where they cut down the guards also: "the great confusion" however "that took place in the interior" prevented the 400 horsemen from getting at the royal box, and in the mean time the King effected his escape. Now an attempt at taking away a man's life in the situation of JOSEPH is not at all unlikely, but then the circumstances ought to be probable and consistent. Persons do not set out in this way on horseback for assassination, or go in a body so likely to detect and defeat their own purposes. They would also have had better information in the first instance; and in fine, the little touch about the *chere-amie* is very suspicious in this account; not that Princes, whether legitimate or not, are at all unlikely to have *chere-amies*, but because, setting aside the caution which JOSEPH would most probably use against surmises of this nature, these are the very stories which are invented on such occasions, and which therefore go to disprove the authenticity of stories which accompany them.

The following Bulletin was on Monday circulated at the Treasury and other public offices:—

"August 27th, 1810.

"Dispatches have been received this morning from Viscount Wellington, dated Celorio, the 8th of August. There has been no material change in the positions of the armies, nor has the enemy yet commenced any operations against Almeida. There have been several partial attacks upon the frontiers,

which the allies have been successful. Penamacor and Zibreira were occupied on the 31st of July, by troops belonging to Regnier's corps; and a body of cavalry, having advanced towards — were fallen upon by the 1st regiment of Portuguese dragoons, under Colonel Christophe, and beaten and pursued up to Penamacor, losing 12 killed and 18 prisoners. Another of these detachments was routed by the armed peasantry (*Ordenanza*), and 25 of them killed on the spot. Regnier having sent a corps across the Tagus to secure boats, &c. this detachment, occupying a fortified post at the confluence of the Rio del Monte and the Tagus, was attacked by a Spanish corps under Brigadier General D'Espagne, and driven back with a loss of 150 men. In the North, a body of French cavalry and infantry advanced, on the 29th of July, to Puebla de Sanabria, from which a Spanish detachment retired at their approach. Upon this Gen. Silveira, commanding a Portuguese corps at Braganza, marched out with a body of infantry and 200 dragoons. On the morning of the 4th inst. his cavalry engaged that of the enemy, and totally destroyed it; only 2 officers and 1 soldier making their escape; 40 French were made prisoners. In consequence of this success, General Silveira, (in conjunction with a Spanish detachment under Gen. Tabouda) had been enabled to intercept the retreat of the French infantry; which, on the evening of the 4th, were surrounded and shut up in Puebla de Sanabria."

It is reported that Mr. MACKENZIE has formally demanded his passports to quit Morlaix, in consequence of no answer having been received to the *ultimatum* of our Government —*Sun*.

Letters of the 19th of June, from Rio de Janeiro, bring positive information that the kingdom of Chili has formed a representative Government, similar to that of the Rio de la Plata, totally independent of the Regency of Spain, and in great friendship and union with Buenos Ayres.

From the Caraccas we learn, under date of the 15th of July, that Santa Fe de Bogota (in the new kingdom of Granada,) had followed the example of the Caraccas, and the inhabitants were organizing their Government in the interior, in consequence of which, an embargo had been for some time laid in the ports of Carthageena, St. Martha, &c. Every thing was going on favourably to the views of general emancipation from Old Spain.

The Spanish Cortes were to meet at Cadiz the 15th ult.

The following passages in the speech of Lord MANOR in the House of Lords, in 1675, deserve attention:—"In former times, when Parliaments were short and frequent, the Members of the House of Commons constantly received their wages from their counties and boroughs, and many of the poorer boroughs petitioned to be excused from sending Members on account of their charge; but now the case was so altered, that 1500l. and 2000l. and lately 7000l. was a price that men paid to be entrusted. It was to be hoped the charity of these worthy persons, and their zeal for the public interest, had induced them to be at this expence; but it were better to be otherwise; there being a scurvy English proverb, that men who buy dear cannot live by selling cheap. It was owing to the goodness of the Prince, and the virtue of the Members (his Lordship said), that places and pensions, and honours and employments, and gifts and money, had not been offered and accepted, for reducing the Government to the model of that of France, Denmark, &c. where the will of the Prince had taken place of the laws. Though this could not be dreaded from such a good Prince (CHARLES II.), and such virtuous Members, yet how easily might it be done, under such Princes and such Houses of Commons as might exist, if long and continued Parlia-



Sir R. KEATS, on assuming the command of the British Fleet at Cadiz, represented so forcibly to the Regency the inutility of keeping the Spanish Fleet in a situation not free from danger, that an order was given for the removal of the whole fleet, consisting of 14 sail of the line, which are to be disposed of in the following manner:—

Falgeneso, 74, Lorenzo, 74, to the Havannah with the Bulwark.—Algeziras, 74, at Portsmouth.—Glorioso, 74, Justo, 74, Paulo, 74, Neptuno, 74, America, 74, gone to Mahon with the Norge and Blake. Aug. 10, 1810.—Principe, 112, St. Anna, 112, to the Havannah with an escort about the 14th of August.—Asia, 74, on her passage to Plymouth.—Montanez, 74, at Caraccas, floating battery.—St. Elmo, 74, in Cadiz, under orders for Minorca.—Minho, 50, under orders for Vera Cruz.

Sir B. GUISE and Mr. DUTTON are the Candidates to represent the County of Gloucester. They are both in opposition to Ministers, and both avow their zeal for Reform.

Extract of a Letter dated Edinburgh, 25th Aug. 1810, to a Gentleman in London:—"Our worthy Magistrates had a dinner in a tavern last week, where, among other good things, they had grouse. They next day summoned the landlord before them, and made him pay 2l. 2s. of a fine, and 38s. of expences. A citizen hearing of this, has prosecuted themselves before the Sheriff, for eating these grouse.—You will not wonder at this, when I tell you our Lord Provost was not many years ago a journeyman carpenter, and since he has come into office has put himself under the tuition of a writing master, under whom he has already learned to write his name in legible characters, and may perhaps before he retires from office be able to write a short memorandum, or card of invitation to a city dinner."

The jailor ARIS has at last met with his deserts, and been dismissed from his situation. Years ago, Sir FRANCIS BURDETT proved that this man was unworthy of his office; but Sir FRANCIS was, as usual, accused of bad motives, and the jailor was cherished and retained. Truth, however, has at length prevailed.

A correspondent from the country (H. H.) very justly complains of the "gross, indecent, and disgusting advertisements," with which the papers are crammed. "Increasing as they are in imposition and impudence," he thinks "every member of the community is interested in endeavouring to expose them as a public nuisance."

The Duchess of YORK, says the *Post*, has now about one hundred and seventy dogs at Oatlands, of various breeds and different countries; and there are five persons kept to feed and take care of them. When they die she has coffins made for them, and they are buried in different parts of the park, and stones are placed with their names; on one, which was the Duchess's particular favourite, she having brought the animal to this country with her, is the following inscription:—

#### TO THE MEMORY OF JULIA.

Here Julia rests, and each day

Her Mistress strews her grave with flowers,

Mourning her death, whose scolic play

Enliven'd oft the lonesome hours.

From Denmark did her race descend,

Beauteous her form and mild her spirits;

#### FINE ARTS.—GEORGE MORLAND.

Knowing, Mr. EXAMINER, your partiality to the Arts, I shall not apologize for feeling an inclination to obtrude my opinions upon you unasked, only leaving you to consult your own judgment in deciding how far your readers may be amused by the following remarks, in the absence of political event.

I may now, without offence, I trust, canvass the merits of George Morland, as time is gradually assigning him his rank, unappalled by picture dealers or officious connoisseurs, among men who were candidates for distinction. In these observations, solely applied to his art, I do not mean to become his biographer, not being among his intimates or acquaintance, and of course should be ill prepared to relate low scenes of ribaldry, which in detail could not instruct, but must tend to vitiate the elegant art he professed. How well art has been satisfied or his memory flattered by such biographical details, it is not my purpose to inquire, but to confine myself to the impressions his pictures have on my mind.

Every one will allow George Morland activity of mind, nor did he suffer his energy to slumber in the employment of his pencil. His subjects were the result of reflection on nature, studied with care and executed with ability. His originality and the absence of common-place ideas, prove this.—Nature gave him a decided genius, which taught him to seize his own expression of things fitted for his pencil, and stamped them with decided firmness, without regard to any authority that might have preceded him in the art.

The formation of his picture was generally simple and had but few parts, and these were rural scenery, and animals connected with rural employment. His pencil discriminated character in the lower walks of pastoral life, but it was most happy in delineating the idle and the dissolute. His women were coarse and vulgar; his ostlers, his post-boys, were the untutored, the cunning, and the quick; and in the incidents of bargaining, drinking, gambling, or occasional conversation, they sustain their actions with interest.

His sea-shores and its inhabitants were the hardy race enured to danger, employing themselves on their vessels, their nets, selling their fish, or looking out for the expected squall.—The cottage, the penthouse, and the stable, were furnished with their discoloured patches, mixing the old with the new, scattered harness, implements of husbandry, the bin, the shattered lantern, and the disorder and neglect of the farming stable.

His landscapes were extremely well as a secondary object, and generally harmonized with the composition it was designed to accompany.—It was never dignified, but it had truth. His broken ground was artlessly patched with herbage, here and there little pools of water skirted by sedgy grass; on the gravelled bank grew with effort the stunted pollard, exposing his remaining naked arms, brown with decay; the vast cleft trunk denying nourishment to a few imperfect leaves; below grew the luxuriant dock, now disputing the quantity of shadow with the oak, denied his vigor by the pepury of the soil.

His open day-light scenes, with a large portion of sky and distance, were cold, comfortless, and raw; very inferior in merit to those rich, brown, woody scenes; representing the fearful bridge over the running brook, the barn overshadowed by trees, and interiors of buildings with their



tion to truth led him never to forsake their natural history: if they were not raised into elegant portraits by his pencil, he did not deny them intelligence. The cart-horse indicated his wants at the rattling of the corn-binn; his passions were marked, and whether active or inactive, he was always appropriately employed: he touched with spirit and with freedom the brindled shaggy hair of the ass, his characteristic patient look, his curved hoof, whether attendant on the Gypsy tribe, carrying their culinary means, or portraying its affection when attended by its playful shambling foal; and lastly, when degraded by his cropped ears, reposing to snatch a short respite from his vagrant profession. Pigs, sheep, and cows, with some of the minor tribe, were not forgotten, but also held their dominion in expression and character. His manner of execution was rapid, decided, light, and spirited, and the hasty touch of his pencil reserved the lightness of the sketch in his finished picture. Imaginary or poetical representations he did not feel, and held no commerce with the elegant or dignified. He solely claimed admiration by the familiarity of his subjects, his decided pretensions to truth, and his portraits of neglected nature. In this respect Morland was unlike the gentlemanly refinement of Gainsborough, who selected for his subjects the neat and the innocent. Our artist's were, in a great measure, those degraded by the low and vicious commerce of the world; and thus, Mr. EXAMINER, the moral duties have an influence on our occupations, and I cannot better advise our students than seriously to guard against the infringing upon refinement, which will preserve them from vulgarity, and a wretched and early prostitution of their mind and morals.

R. S. T.

#### THE PROCESSION OF THE CANTERBURY PILGRIMS.

MR. EXAMINER,—The early admission you gave to a brief sketch of the life of the late Mr. Schiavonetti, which I lately sent you, induces me to hope that you will be equally prompt in noticing the present address, which relates to a pledge I made at the close of that Paper, and which I think myself bound to take the earliest opportunity of redeeming. I allude to the *Etching of the Canterbury Pilgrimage*, one of the latest works of that great Artist, which, from his lamented and premature decease, is destined to be finished by another hand.

In selecting an Artist for this undertaking, I have been guided by a regard to the memory of Mr. Schiavonetti, and to the just expectations of the public; and I trust I shall in every way honour the one, and satisfy the other, when I mention the name of Mr. Bromley, who has kindly engaged to devote his talents to finish the Engraving, with as much expedition as is consistent with the care and labour requisite to so great a work. To the eminent qualifications of that Gentleman I would willingly pay the highest encomium, but it becomes me, from my professional connexion with him, rather to refer to his numerous works already before the public, which will raise his merit into higher notice and patronage than can be effected by any argument or panegyric of mine. The admirers of fine spirited Engraving can duly estimate his genius; and to add one word more on the subject, would be an insult to their judgment, as well as to his reputation.

In order to accelerate the completion of the Engraving, I have undertaken to labour jointly with him, and we have made such arrangements as will, I trust, facilitate this co-operation. If it be a matter of delicacy for me to eulogize Mr. Bromley's qualifications, it is much more so to attempt to recommend my own. To the candid consideration of the public I submit them, as exemplified in those works of mine engraved from the pencil of Mr. Stothard, which may have obtained their notice; and

I will only add; that I shall, in the present instance, apply whatever talent I possess with an industry and a zeal proportioned to the solicitude I feel on every account for the success of the work, and the satisfaction of those who encourage it.—I am, Sir, your obliged, obedient servant;

61, Newman-street, Aug. 18.

R. H. CHOMER.

P. S. An expression escaped me in the haste of my last communication, which being liable to misapprehension, I take this opportunity of correcting. In observing that among other works which Mr. Schiavonetti had undertaken, was a Portrait, by Mr. Phillips, of the venerable President of the Royal Society, I omitted to state that, previous to his decease, he had produced an Etching from that celebrated Picture, which is as masterly an indication of his talent in Portrait Engraving, as the Plate of the Canterbury Pilgrims is of his powers as an Historical Engraver. The finishing of the work now devolves to his brother, Mr. N. Schiavonetti.

#### VIRTUE IN OFFICE!

MR. EXAMINER,—The following paragraph is copied from a Ministerial Paper:—

“A young Naval Lieutenant lately wrote a letter to Mr. Yorke, First Lord of the Admiralty, offering him 1000*l.* to get him made Commander. It is needless to say that the latter was much exasperated at this insulting proposition. In consideration of the inexperience of the applicant, however, he did not strike his name off the list altogether, but dispatched a letter to Sir Edward Pellew, desiring him to summon the youngster before him, and after a severe reprimand; to place him at the bottom of the list.”

Now, Sir, though it is not my intention to justify the “young” Lieutenant in making this offer, yet, considering his “inexperience,” I really cannot help thinking that the great virtue of the First Lord need not have been so much alarmed, nor his feelings so “much exasperated” on this occasion. To be sure, after the awful example of the Plymouth Tinman, it would be impossible not to know that Ministers never receive bribes, when tendered through the medium of the General Post; and the Lieutenant must have been “young” indeed, not to have known better. But when it is considered, that this young gentleman may probably read the newspapers and the debates in Parliament, where he sees that even seats in that august assembly are bought and sold “like stalls in a fair;”—when he finds that the Patrons and the Colleagues of this very First Lord are among the foremost to put down all those who are anxious to purify the State, and to drive Corruption from the land;—when he even learns that the First Lord himself takes annually two thousand seven hundred pounds out of the pockets of the people for doing nothing;—when he finds that these things are “as plain as the sun at noon-day,”—why, truly, Sir, I cannot but be of opinion that “the youngster” has been rather hardly dealt by, and that the Right Honourable Sinecurist has been a little too harsh in this his first exercise of official virtue. I think he should have made a few allowances for the weaknesses of poor human nature, and have considered that “the youngster” might, like himself, have merely desired advancement for the purpose of serving his country in a more elevated sphere. Mr. Yorke should have recollected what were his own feelings when his great talents were confined to the command of a Militia regiment; and though it is true he offered the Minister no sum of money to lift him into place and power, it cannot escape the most common observer, that bribery is not confined solely to the offer of money. Indeed, money is



the last thing a cunning courtier will offer, even if he has it to give: there are services, much more agreeable and valuable, by the performance of which a wily politician may wriggle himself into office. Such as; for instance, always voting with the Minister;—loudly charging all those who call for Reform, Jacobins and Revolutionists;—shutting the doors of the House against the People on questions which go to expose the imbecility of their Rulers;—and, in short, being ever ready to justify every job, however foul and flagrant.—Mr. YONGE may have heard of men who have not scrupled to do each and every of these things, and who in consequence have gained the favour of the Court, and the contempt of the People, (which, by the bye, in these days, is a blessing beyond all price to one who lacks advancement), and all this knowledge should, I humbly conceive, have led him to have been content with reprimanding the young Lieutenant, without ordering Sir EDWARD PELLEW to place the youth at the bottom of the list.

The paragraph announcing the First Lord's "exasperation" at this "insulting proposition," I perceive has been circulated with great industry, for the purpose, no doubt, of showing the purity of our Rulers. Proof is certainly wanting, and their prudence is admirable.—Yet, after all, Mr. EXAMINER, when I first read this denouncing article, some how or other, I could not help thinking that it would afford a good subject for Mr. GILLRAY's pencil, could he for *once* use it on the other side. The scene should be laid in the Admiralty, at the moment when the First Lord, struck with horror at the "insulting proposition," with his hair on end, *a-la-Lethbridge*,—was reading the letter, while his amazed Colleagues, and poor CROKER in particular, must have imagined some dreadful political catastrophe had occurred, perplexing Ministers

— with fear of change."

Yours, &c.

A MAN OF WESTMINSTER.

Aug. 30.

### CASE OF DE YONGE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR—Finding what I conceive to be an error of Mr. Cobbett in his *Register* of the 11th, repeated in your paper of the 19th instant, by a writer under the signature of "Civis," I beg to offer my view of the construction of the Act of Parliament, under which it seems De Yonge "has been indicted and found guilty." After Mr. Cobbett has given us the history of the trial of De Yonge, whether correctly or not is in nowise material to my present purpose, he favours us with a copy of the Act under consideration, and which, as coming from himself, I shall presume correct. Now it appears from his *Register*, that this Act of the 5th and 6th Edward 6th recites a former Act of the 25th Edward 3d, authorising "the exchange of gold for silver, or silver for gold, or for gold and silver, so that no man did hold the same as exchanged, nor take *no profit* for making such exchange, upon pain of forfeiting the money so exchanged." "Which Statute, notwithstanding," say the Legislators of Edward VI. "divers covetous persons of their own authorities have of late taken upon them to make exchanges as well of coined gold as of coined silver, receiving and paying therefore *more in value* than hath been declared by the King's Proclamation to be current for within this his

realm. Be it therefore ENACTED, that if any person or persons, after the first day of April next coming, exchange any coined gold, coined silver, or money, giving, receiving, or paying any *more in value, benefit, profit, or advantage, for it than the same is or shall be declared by the King's Proclamation to be current for within the realm,*" they shall incur the penalties of the Act, namely, forfeiture, fine, and imprisonment. Now, Sir, what does Mr. De Yonge, in the first place?—why, he tells the parties applying, that he had sold his guineas at an advance of 1s. 3d. each, but the price had risen, and he must now have 1s. 6d. advance—not a word about Bank notes, or "rag," or any think else but the current coin of the kingdom, shillings and pence.—When they come to settle, it is true, payment is made in Bank notes;—but what then?—if payment had been made in a Bill of Exchange, or, as was the case in Edward the 3d and Edward the 6th's time (in some instances), if payment had been made in coin of a lower standard, though of the same nominal value, or indeed in any other way which could be devised, by which a return in "*value, benefit, profit, or advantage,*" should be secured to De Yonge beyond the current value of the guineas, namely, 21s. it would have been equally a breach of the Act.—And as Bank notes are a medium of exchange, and an accredited circulation, though not the coin of the kingdom,—and as 20s. in Bank paper is of the same value as 20s. in gold in our markets, that is, in extrinsic value, will any one deny that De Yonge made a profit by sale of his guineas?—Can any body, not wilfully prejudiced, say that in selling fifty guineas in gold for fifty-six pounds in Bank notes, he did not make "a benefit, profit, or advantage," by the exchange?—It would, however, be a waste of words, and abuse of the understandings of those who think on the subject at all, to dwell longer upon what is self-evident:—yet as there are many who yield their understandings to particular men or particular Journals, and as a familiar example carries conviction where arguments do not reach, let us suppose the price of a loaf to be 1s. Would a baker have given more than 21 such loaves for the guinea in gold, and would he not have given 22½ for the 22s. 6d. in bank paper? If he would, then did De Yonge receive "a benefit, profit, or advantage," from the sale of his guineas, and is justly convicted under the above-mentioned Act of Parliament.

Before I conclude, I must however beg not to be misunderstood as advocating the cause of Bank Paper.—I wish to confine myself to the construction of an Act of Parliament, as bearing on a particular offence. That paper currency has its convenience, may be true;—that many evils have arisen from its excess, is also true; but I am anxious not to be thought as entering at present at all into that subject.—I am, Sir, your's,

RUSTICUS.

August 23.

### THE WINE TRADE.

MR. EDITOR.—There is a remark which I have frequently heard, but which rarely has met the attention of those to whom it has been addressed, and I believe much as it concerns the majority of us, never yet has been honoured with public notice. My allusion, Sir, is to the very general and dishonest practice of serving wines and spirits in bottles, short of their proper complement of contents. We hear of bakers being fined for their small weights, and



of publicans for their small pots, and I see no reason, Mr. Editor, why wine-merchants should not have some little restriction held over their unhappy propensity of sending out wines in their small bottles. Perhaps, were the Commissioners of Weights and Measures to look into this affair of the *measurement*, they might be induced to order a new model for the Glass Houses, the improvement in which no doubt would give general satisfaction.—I remain, Sir, your constant reader,

Aug. 28, 1810.

W. R.

### REFORM IN PARLIAMENT.

“Qu'on fait toujours réflexion comment le préjugé et l'opinion gouverne le monde, comment le mensonge subjugué l'ignorance, et combien l'illusion populaire a été utile pour asservir les hommes, les enchaîner, et les dépouiller.”

MR. EDITOR,—That prejudice and opinion have a considerable share in the government of mankind, no person of any experience or observation will pretend to deny. The authority, or more properly the tyranny of these governors, may be nearly as ancient as the creation of the world, and their dominion as extensive as its habitable surface. But while I acknowledge their despotic rule in its widest extent, I cannot help feeling some surprise that the sagacious writer of the above lines, who so often reminds us of the influence of prejudice and opinion, should have omitted to rank *selfishness* as a governor-general of the world, a ruler more powerful than either of the above, and not unfrequently parent to both. Selfishness, though seldom an amiable, is nevertheless a necessary motive of human conduct; but however excusable and useful it may be in society, when properly directed and restrained, yet its influence on the public conduct of Statesmen and Legislators is certainly most pernicious and unpardonable. They whose deliberations and measures involve the happiness and prosperity of millions, might reasonably be expected to disregard the dictates of private interest in every thing connected with their duty to the people; and if there is a Government in Europe where public measures are made subservient to private or party views, and where the interest of Courtiers, Placemen, and Pensioners, is the rule by which they are supported or opposed; if, I say, such a Government exists, it is certainly more likely to become a scourge than a blessing to its people.

The various cloaks, with which our two wrangling parties have so long and so successfully disguised themselves, being now worn quite threadbare, they stand exposed, in all their selfish deformity, to the scorn and ridicule of the people, who have too long witnessed their paltry bickerings with great complacency and satisfaction. They have seen the time and talents of their rulers and would-be rulers, almost entirely engaged in offensive and defensive operations against one another; they have seen their interest overlooked, nay sometimes wilfully sacrificed, to promote the success of these contemptible struggles for power and profit, without ever seeming to suspect they fought for any other prize than the good of their country.—Thrown, sometimes by misfortune and sometimes by intrigue, alternately into the arms of each, they have found themselves equally abused and plundered by both. At length disappointment and disgrace, poverty and insult, have taught them to think, as the well informed and disinterested have long thought, that it was a change in the Constitution of Parliament, not a change of Ministers, from which they were to expect indemnity for the past and security for the future.

The claims of the people to Reform were never so strong, nor their hopes of success so sanguine, as at the present moment; it is positively asserted by many that it *must* come; but when, and in what shape, it is likely to make its appearance, they seem afraid to inquire; it is, however, useless to conceal our doubts and fears on the subject; if they are unfounded, public discussion will prove them to be so; if they are just, the truth cannot be too generally known; let us look danger full in the

face, and avert it if we can; and to prevent the apathy and despair which protracted and disappointed expectation never fails to engender, let us no longer hope for relief from the Commons themselves, as it is quite evident that *salutary Reform* is not to be obtained from them.

On the necessity of the measure there does not appear to be any difference of opinion; the very nurslings of corruption allow it to be desirable; never omitting, however, in the same breath, to denounce it as both impracticable and dangerous. That it is pregnant with danger to *them*, nobody will pretend to deny, and that corruption would be impracticable after it, is equally certain; such is the danger and difficulty they apprehend. Sheltered in office, subsisting on plunder, and defended with all the artillery of corruption, they will hold out to the last extremity; nor will they, I fear, be subdued before the country is entirely plundered and laid waste.

I should be very happy myself to entertain, and very glad to encourage in others, any reasonable hope of effecting a Reformation at once timely and efficient; but to ask or expect it of the House of Commons, is, I think, only exposing ourselves to further insult and disappointment. It is quite preposterous to look for the overthrow of corruption from this quarter; the architects who have with great skill and industry erected this immense pile, which affords them so much profit and convenience, are of all others the most unlikely to destroy it; and had they given us no other proof of their fixt determination to preserve it, such determination might have been inferred from the care and expence they bestow on its improvement. If the people chuse to make a further sacrifice of their veracity and independence of mind at the altar of corruption by petitioning, they may do so; the result, I fear, will still be the same; they will be answered with a dissertation on the laws of politeness, and sent home to learn the art of disguising truth in the garb of flattery and falsehood. In the mean time, Mr. Perceval prepares the Budget, and Mr. Canning recruits his exhausted stock of insult and abuse. For my part, I can hardly think a person serious who professes to expect salutary Reform from the House of Commons; if they possessed virtue and patriotism enough to do this, the measure would not be necessary; they would be honest and do their duty without it. Suppose, Mr. Editor, on discovering myself to be robbed, I go to the fellow whom I suspect, and after giving him the most unequivocal and positive assurances of my profound respect for his honour and integrity, I should humbly ask him to nail up the back door by which he entered my garden and stole its fruit? Now, Sir, though he might neither knock me down for my incivility, nor bluster very loudly about his dignity and virtue, yet it is highly probable that by some paltry excuse or other he would endeavour to put me off till the end of the fruit season; or if prudence or necessity urged him to the job before he had entirely stript my trees, would he do it effectually? Might I not expect to be deceived by him and laughed at by all who knew I trusted the rascal? But, Sir, I would not trust him; I would do the work myself, or employ an honest man to do it for me.

If, however, contrary to all probability, the House should yield to the voice of an injured and insulted people before it is too late, and grant us a Reform, will it be of such a nature, and carried to such an extent, as is necessary to answer the purpose for which it is wanted? Indeed, Sir, I see no reason to think that it will, but abundance to convince me that it will not. The plan proposed by the *Edinburgh Reviewers*,\* who have so recently and so reluctantly been converted to the cause, is admirably calculated to bring their friends into power without producing any other effect; and affords us a fair specimen of what we are to expect from the party whose principles and conduct they so warmly defend, whenever they are called upon to redeem the worthless pledge which many of them, for reasons too evident to be mistaken, have lately given us to sup-

\* Let any person compare Sir Francis Burdett's plan with the one produced by this infallible oracle of all true Whigs, and he will see how very differently the party quack and the patriot physician propose to treat the same disease.



port the measure. But this ridiculous mockery of every thing decent and reasonable connected with it, is rather to be despised and rejected than received by the people as a remedy for sufferings which a radical Reform can alone relieve: and until this can be obtained, we must still continue to see, what has ever been so familiar to mankind, the lives of thousands, with the property and civil happiness of millions, sacrificed to the cupidity and ambition of the "few" and the least deserving, who are too often rewarded in exact proportion to their want of moral virtue and political integrity.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

London Institution, Aug. 20. 1810.

### TOLERATION.

Mr. EXAMINER,—I have frequently derived much pleasure from reading your weekly journal, and I really believe it to be an impartial medium of communication; and it is from this conviction on my mind, that I am induced to request you will, with your accustomed liberality, insert the following article, although it militates against the good sense and liberality of the *Examiner*, to a certain extent.

Then, Sir, not to detain you unnecessarily, (as my own time is pretty much occupied at the moment), I cannot help expressing to you my surprise that you should voluntarily admit within the limits of your journal any article which directly or indirectly has a tendency to ridicule religion, for such an effect I think many articles lately inserted in your paper, and especially the one bearing the subscription of "W." under the head of "Religious Quackery," must have had; and I cannot help thinking that your own ideas must at such times be barren and unfruitful indeed, to need the assistance of those, and particularly "W.," whose principal gratification must arise in censuring the conduct of others on a subject, which they themselves plainly show their ignorance of, by attempting to bring it into ridicule and disgust, and not allowing to those, who may feel it a matter of conscience to differ from them in points of form, a right so to do.

I hope that England will always enjoy religious liberty, and that universal toleration will exist, so long as it does not affect the well-being of the established form of worship and the Constitution of the country. Bigotry, I am sure, can only reside in little minds, and when I see, or hear, men reviling and saying every evil thing their wicked and illiberal minds can suggest against any sect, because they may not be within the pale of their own Church, I am well assured that such persons neither possess the principles of the religion which our Saviour taught when on earth, and which they foolishly attempt to advocate, nor do they possess that Christian charity without which all religion is vain. At all events, Mr. EXAMINER, I would recommend you in future to exclude articles of the above description from your paper, and I am sure your taste and education will lead you to supply their place more advantageously to every mind.—I am, Mr. EXAMINER, yours, &c.

BENVOLIO.

### ONE THOUSAND LASHES!!

(FROM THE STAMFORD NEWS.)

"The aggressors were not dealt with as Bonaparte would have treated his refractory troops,"—*Speech of the Attorney-General.*

Corporal Curtis was sentenced to receive ONE THOUSAND LASHES, but, after receiving two hundred, was, on his own petition, permitted to volunteer into a regiment on foreign service.—William Clifford, a private in the 7th Royal Veteran Battalion, was lately sentenced to receive ONE THOUSAND LASHES, for repeatedly striking and kicking his superior officer. He underwent part of the sentence, by receiving seven hundred and fifty lashes, at Canterbury, in presence of the whole garrison.—A Garrison Court Martial has been held on board the Metcalf transport, at Spit-

head, on some men of the 4th Regiment of Foot, for disrespectful behaviour to their officers. TWO THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED LASHES were to be inflicted among them.—Robert Chilman, a private in the Bearstead and Malling regiment of *Local Militia*, who was lately tried by a Court Martial for disobedience of orders and mutinous and improper behaviour while the regiment was embodied, has been found guilty of all the charges, and sentenced to receive EIGHT HUNDRED LASHES, which are to be inflicted on him at Chatham, to which garrison he is to be marched for that purpose.—*London Newspapers.*

The Attorney General said what was very true;—these aggressors have certainly not been dealt with as Bonaparte would have treated his refractory troops;—nor indeed as refractory troops would be treated in any civilized country whatever, save and except only this country.—Here alone, in this land of liberty, in this age of refinement—by a people who, with their usual consistency, have been in the habit of reproaching their neighbours with the cruelty of their punishment,—is still inflicted a species of torture, at least as exquisite as any that was ever devised by the infernal ingenuity of the Inquisition.—No, as the Attorney-General justly says, Bonaparte does *not* treat his refractory troops in this manner: there is not a man in his ranks whose back is seamed with the lacerating cat-o-nine-tails:—his soldiers have never yet been drawn up to view one of their comrades stripped naked,—his limbs tied with ropes to a triangular machine,—his back torn to the bone by the merciless cutting whipcord, applied by persons who relieve each other at short intervals, that they may bring the full unexhausted strength of a man to the work of scourging. Bonaparte's soldiers have never yet with tingling ears listened to the piercing screams of a human creature so tortured: they have never seen the blood oozing from his rent flesh;—they have never beheld a surgeon, with dubious look, pressing the agonized victim's pulse, and calmly calculating, to an odd blow, how far suffering may be extended, until in its extremity it encroach upon life. In short, Bonaparte's soldiers cannot form any notion of that most heart-rending of all exhibitions on this side hell,—an *English Military Flogging.*

Let it not be supposed that we intend these remarks to excite a vague and indiscriminating sentiment against punishment by military law;—no; when it is considered that discipline forms the soul of an army, without which it would at once degenerate into a mob;—when the description of persons which compose the body of what is called an army, and the situations in which it is frequently placed, are also taken into account, it will, we are afraid, appear but too evident, that the military code must still be kept distinct from the civil, and distinguished by greater promptitude and severity.—Bonaparte is no favourite of ours, God wot—but if we come to balance accounts with him on this particular head, let us see how matters will stand. He recruits his ranks by force—*so do we.* We flog those whom we have forced—*he does not.* It may be said he punishes them in some manner;—that is very true. He imprisons his refractory troops—occasionally in chains—and in aggravated cases he puts them to death. But any of these severities is preferable to tying a human creature up like a dog, and cutting his flesh to pieces with whipcord. Who would not go to prison for two years, or indeed for almost any term, rather than bear the exquisite, the almost insupportable torment, occasioned by the infliction of seven hundred or a thousand lashes?—Death is mercy compared



with such suffering. Besides, what is a man good for after he has had the cat-o-nine-tails across his back? Can he ever again hold up his head among his fellows? One of the poor wretches executed at Lincoln last Friday, it is stated, had been *severely punished* in some regiment. The probability is, that to this odious, ignominious flogging, may be traced his sad end; and it cannot be doubted that he found the gallows less cruel than the halberts. Surely, then, the Attorney-General ought not to stroke his chin with such complacency, when he refers to the manner in which Bonaparte treats his soldiers. We despise and detest those who would tell us that there is as much liberty now enjoyed in France as there is left in this country. We give all credit to the wishes of some of our great men; yet while any thing remains to us in the shape of free discussion, it is impossible that we should sink into the abject slavery in which the French people are plunged. But although we do not envy the general condition of Bonaparte's subjects, we really (and we speak the honest conviction of our hearts) see nothing peculiarly pitiable in the lot of his soldiers when compared with that of our own. Were we called upon to make our election between the services, the *whip-card* would at once decide us.—No advantage whatever can compensate for, or render tolerable to a mind but one degree removed from brutality, a liability to be lashed like a beast. It is idle to talk about rendering the situation of a British soldier pleasant to himself, or desirable, far less honourable, in the estimation of others, while the whip is held over his head—and over his head *alone*, for in no country in Europe, (with the exception, perhaps, of Russia, which is yet in a state of barbarity) is the military character so degraded.—We have heard of an army of slaves, which had bravely withstood the swords of their masters, being defeated and dispersed by the bare shaking of the *instrument of flagellation* in their faces. This brought so forcibly to their minds their former state of servitude and disgrace, that every honorable impulse at once forsook their bosoms, and they betook themselves to flight and to howling. We entertain no anxiety about the character of our countrymen in Portugal, when we contemplate their meeting the *bayonets* of Massena's troops,—but we must own that we should tremble for the result, were the French General to dispatch against them a few hundred drummers, each brandishing a *cat o'nine-tails*.

#### SCOTCH SINECURES.

From the circumstance of the Committee, in their late Report, having only noticed the Office of Justice General of the Court of Justiciary, some persons have been led to think that the information the Committee has received respecting the offices in Scotland, which came under the purview of the 2d, 3d, and 4th Resolutions of the House of Commons, has been very imperfect; for besides the office above-named, there are the following, which are either Sinecures, or entirely carried on by Deputies, without the interference of the Principals, viz.

1. All the Officers of the Scotch Mint, where there has not a shilling been coined, or any other business done, except signing receipts for their salaries, these 100 years and upwards. These amount, by the Scotch Rent Books, to 9331. per annum, and have already cost the State above £100,000

2. Keeper of the Great Seal, 3000 per ann.
3. ——— Privy Seal, 4500 Do.
4. Lord Clerk, Register, 1200 Do.
5. Vice Admiral, 1200 Do.
6. Director of Chancery
7. Keeper of the Register of Seizins—very lucrative.
8. Clerk of the Admission of Notaries.
9. Auditor of Exchequer, £1200 per ann
10. Presenter of Signatures, 200 Do.
11. Receiver-General of Land Rents, 5 00 Do.
12. ——— Bishops' Rents, 400 Do.
13. Keeper of the Signet—very lucrative.
14. Gazette writer.
15. Cashier of Excise, £5000 per ann.

This Officer, who is seldom known to be within one hundred miles of Edinburgh, got, some considerable time back, one halfpenny per pound of commission on his Receipts, an allowance which, it is presumed, no public Receiver in the United Kingdom gets but himself.

N. B. There may be many other offices in Scotland, and in circumstances similar to the above, but which may have escaped notice.—Some of the above offices are held by patent; but still it is understood, by the Resolutions of the House, that they came under the view of the Committee.

#### THE SAMPFORD GHOST.

The *Taunton Courier*, of Thursday, contains the following pleasant account of this precious piece of imposition. The Editor, in his next paper, it is hoped, will be able to inform the public the precise amount of the "very considerable sum of money" which the Reverend Mr. Cotton has pledged himself to bestow on the poor of his parish, whenever the affair shall have been proved to have originated in human agency. This promise must not be forgotten.—It may be useful for the Editor to know, that in various places on the coast, it has been no uncommon practice for *smugglers* to give out that certain houses have been haunted by *evil spirits*,—and it really might be of some service, in the elucidation of this affair, if the Excise Officer was to take a peep into that same "hollow depth," about which the owner knows nothing.—Did not the Ghost amuse himself in *terrifying* the females who sleep in the house, one should not object so much to his taste in refusing to appear when male visitors were there; but if his gallantry be disputable, his *prudence* must be allowed to be unquestionable,—a quality not always discoverable in these grim visitors.—But now for the account:—

"It is related of Foote, that in illustrating the credulity of the public to a friend who was with him, they both one night stationed themselves in St. Paul's Church-yard, about twelve o'clock. On a man passing them very nearly, Foote took out his watch and observed in a tone sufficiently audible for his purpose, at the same time looking up to the gallery on the dome, 'that it would now appear in a few minutes.' This was quite enough. A second passenger came up, to whom the first related the awful tidings, with some few touches of description as to the form and character of the expected visitant. An immense crowd soon assembled. The time arrived which Burns describes as,

'That hour of night's black arch the key-stone;'

and after the powers of vision had been a little time exerted, the solemn whisper ran through the crowd of 'there it is.' The authors of the joke slid away exulting in the success of the experiment, and the place was filled, night after night, for several successive weeks, with a wondering multitude, in



variable of the new sights which their creative fancies were continually administering.

"Thus it is with the Sampford Ghost. An experiment grounded on the weakness of the public mind, has been in its origin successfully made on a few ignorant persons, and has now diffused its results, not only throughout the West of England, but even to the Metropolis, threatening with rivalry the best efforts of cabalistic art, and challenging in skilful emulation that astounding personage of most marvellous memory, ye!e!p't'd the Cock-Lane Ghost.

"We shall use as little ceremony in introducing our readers to the subject of these remarks, as the subject itself does to the persons who are favoured with its visitations. We must give it a hasty slap or two and retire. Mr. Chave and his family, (the tenants of the haunted house), must therefore be put in the witness-box, and we shall proceed to call a few facts to evidence.

"The said Mr. Chave, then, it appears, has lived in the house he now occupies at Sampford Peverell, about seven months. About seven months, reader, for we beg that every circumstance, however minute, may be duly attended to. Before he came to this place to exercise his present business of an huckster, the premises in question were unmolested by its present troublesome guest;—but Mr. Chave, the huckster, brings into the premises two servants, the one somewhat stricken in years, the other a girl about eighteen, called Sally. A person named Taylor, (Mrs. Chave's brother), is also another inmate of the house, a strapping black-haired young man, about twenty-five years of age, whose employment we cannot learn, or even guess at, from any thing that Chave can have for him to do, but who is represented by the honest folks at Sampford, to be a 'wildish sort of a young man.'

"About a fortnight ago, two Gentlemen, from Taunton, attended the troubled house, and requested permission to pass the night in the haunted room.—Taylor looked out of his bedroom window, which is next to the haunted room, and only separated from it by a thin partition, and after satisfying himself of the respectability of the persons who applied for admittance, assured them, that it would be of no use for them to sit up unless there were females in the house, for otherwise nothing was ever heard, and there were then no women in the house. Entreaties were in vain, and the Gentlemen alluded to retired, after a promise of being admitted the next morning. Accordingly they went to the house early on the next day, and were entertained by Mr. Chave with a history, compared with which, Baron Munchausen's Adventures form a series of probabilities. After having had the Monster described, (very much resembling a black rabbit, only wonderfully larger!) and which, when pursued, escapes through the close railings of his garden in a moment, permission was allowed to visit the haunted room, but which was delayed by Mr. Chave a short time, because the maid servants were not up! Proceeding at last to the chamber, Taylor's room was passed through. He was laying in bed, with a drawn sword on it. The unfortunate chamber was then examined, and agreeably to the prescribed mode of incantation, the floor was stamped upon, and the ghost politely entreated to favour his visitors with a few conversational thumps; but it was not so inclined. Not a single knock, tap, groan, or even a facial grunt, could be extorted from it, and all attempts at a friendly dialogue proved utterly fruitless. In the adjoining room where Taylor slept, some boards had been taken up. A considerable hollow depth appeared underneath; but how far it went, Mr. Chave did not know! Sally was interrogated as to the attacks which have been made on her by the waister. She observed, it never came when there was light in the room. She had caught it twice; that it was very large and heavy, felt like a dog or rabbit, and so powerful that she could not hold it; that it usually came as soon as the light was withdrawn, and vanished on its appearance; that she had repeatedly been slapped by some invisible means; and that she lately saw through the sheet, while her head was under the bed-clothes, a man's hand and arm, perfectly white! All this in the dark too!

Oh, Sally!!!

"Since the above stated particulars occurred, it has been ascertained that the Ghost never visits Sally while she is asleep; for this damsel, in the middle of the night lately, while two gentlemen were in the adjoining room, having got into a profound sleep, and the Ghost being perfectly peaceable, the experiment was tried by waking her. Soon after, Sally, by her representations, evinced that the Ghost had not forgotten her, though, like Sally, it had thought fit to indulge in a little nap.

"But what end is proposed in the conduct of so detestable a plan? Our readers must have a little patience. We know the end in view, and the public shall be very soon in full possession of it. For the present, one or two observations must content them, as we can ill-spare the room already engrossed by the subject.

"Mr. Chave, we find, is extremely enraged at the promise we made a fortnight ago to develop the affair. Now, by reference to our paper, it will be found that we made not the slightest allusion to him; and therefore it cannot fail striking our readers as a circumstance extremely odd, that he should be angry on the occasion. Angry, indeed! Here's Mr. Chave, the huckster, who, according to the Reverend C. Colton's affidavit, is sustaining a serious injury in his trade, because nobody will come to his premises after dark—whose servants are deprived of their rest, and who is in all respects a great loser by the Ghost, hears of a friend who promises to banish all his troubles, and, instead of expressing his gratitude, he falls into a mighty rage, for all the world as if he was interested in supporting the imposture! Really, this huckster is a hard man to deal with. We promise to take the Ghost off his hands, which, by his account, is as great a nuisance to his shop as rotten cheese, and he doubles his fist at us!

"Let us look a little at Mr. Chave's loss of custom. Since the Ghost has appeared, we have had the sun until nearly nine o'clock. People, Mr. Chave says, were afraid to come after it was dark; but who are the persons who frequent this shop after nine o'clock at night? Respectable housekeepers do not depend on a huckster for their supplies, and the labouring poor in a country village are generally in bed before that hour.—Thus, it seems, that Mr. Chave cannot have sustained any loss in this way, and must have some particular motive for representing that his trade is decreasing in its profits from what is going forward in his house. That motive shall be set forth in due time; and in spite of the Ghost's solicitude to be always in the dark, we are mistaken if we do not succeed in bringing it to light.

"Of Sally, Taylor, and the old woman, we shall say nothing at present. We have gone beyond our limits, and must postpone many other particulars connected with this vile farce until our next."

#### FASHIONS FOR SEPTEMBER.

**FULL DRESS.**—A French gored gown of celestial blue crape, over a white gossamer satin slip; stomacher front, laced and edged with silver cord; long Spanish slashed sleeve, appliqued with white satin, and edged with silver cord; antique laced cuffs, and neck-handkerchief of French net, with deep fan frill. Hair confined in the Eastern style with pearl or diamond comb, falling in ringlets on each side of the face, divided in front of the forehead with correspondent bandeau. Neck chain and cross of dead gold filigree. Sicilian mantle of white satin finished with silver tassels, thrown fancifully over the back and shoulders. Slippers of white satin, laced in front with silver cord. Gloves of white French kid; and fan of white crape, with silver jasmine border.

**PROXENAE COSTUMES.**—An Andalusian robe of superfine Spanish lamb's wool cloth, of a bright amber colour; long sleeves, and high habit shirt of French cambric, with deep cuff and collar, edged with plaited net or scalloped lace; bosom of the robe laced with white silk cord, and continued down the front with a row of correspondent buttons in the centre. An installation cap of green velvet, edged with broad gold lace,



A white lace veil, open in front. Shoes of green kid or jean, and gloves of the same colour.

A plain cambric petticoat and Roman tunic, buttoned down the front, and trimmed at the bottom with a border of gathered muslin; plain high bosom with rounded collar; long sleeve, gaged at regular distances, and finished with the Armenian cuff. A naval scarf of Indian muslin, or royal purple silk. A hamlet hat of white chip, ornamented with purple ribbon, worn over the peasant's cap of lace. Purple kid shoes, and gloves of York tan. Parasol to correspond.

### POLICE.

#### MANSION-HOUSE.

On Friday a ruffian named Jennings, who stated himself to be a porter belonging to the West India Docks, was charged with a most gross assault upon a lady of respectability, in the Poultry, on the preceding evening. From the deposition of the lady it appeared, that she was passing through the Poultry, in company with her niece, about eleven o'clock, when the prisoner came beside her, and without previous notice, seized her in the most indelicate manner, although she was far advanced in pregnancy. A gentleman observed the insult, and with praise-worthy promptitude, knocked the villain down. The watch was then called, and he was conveyed to the Compter. The fellow, in his defence, urged the usual plea of being intoxicated; he also said, he had a wife and three young children living at Mile End, which he hoped might operate in extenuation of his punishment. The Lord Mayor, however, declared this to be an aggravation of his offence, and very properly, in the absence of bail, committed him to take his trial for the outrage.

### ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

**ESCAPE OF ROBERT ROBERTS.**—A meeting of the Magistrates and the Directors of the Bank took place on Thursday, at the New Prison, Clerkenwell, to investigate the escape of Robert Roberts and Smith, alias Harper, on Tuesday morning. The former prisoner was about to undergo a final examination on the charge of forgery on the Bank of England, and the latter is a known thief, who was undergoing an imprisonment for six months, and who also stood indicted for a burglary. Roberts, who has lately represented himself as a bill broker, is the same who two years since obtained considerable sums of money by representing himself to be Earl Percy. The escape of the two prisoners is of an extraordinary nature. Their places of confinement were at the extremes of a court, and they were perfect strangers to each other, as far as was known. It was discovered that Harper had broken through the wall into an adjoining cell, which was unlocked, and instead of escaping immediately into the outer yard, he unlocked two iron gates which led down the court to the interior of the prison, and liberated Roberts, a supposed stranger to him. These gates were found open, and three others which led to the outer yard. Notwithstanding there is a watchman placed within the prison, in the outer yard, and another without, the two prisoners escaped over the wall. Another remarkable circumstance is, that Aris, the gaol-keeper, locked up the prisoners that night, which he was not accustomed to do.

#### FURTHER PARTICULARS.

Mr. Churchill, as the Senior Middlesex Magistrate, was in the chair, and Mr. Aris, senior, his four sons, and the whole of the servants of the prison, were closely examined. The whole of the gates, leading from the confinement of Roberts, six in number, were found open in the morning, they having been made fast on the preceding night. The prisoners then made their escape over the wall, by ascending a new lodge in the prison, not yet finished, and when at the top of the wall, they were supposed to have let themselves down by a rope, as a hook was found in the morning by Daniel Aris, the jailor's son. The most important witness was a youth of the name of

Macar, or M'Gar, who stated some conversation which he had overheard betwixt Daniel Aris and Robert Roberts. This youth was an evidence against a party of burglars, and his testimony respecting this affair, with other circumstances of corroboration tending to implicate Daniel Aris with having been privy to the escape of the prisoners, induced the Magistrates to commit him to New Prison for trial, for aiding and abetting in such escape. It turned out that Roberts had been indulged with walking in the garden of the Prison, after he had been locked up in the evening as usual, at the same time as the other prisoners. Neither of the watchmen could give any satisfactory account of the business. The investigation closed with the dismissal of Aris, the jail-keeper, the committal of Daniel Aris, his son, and the dismissal of another of Aris's sons, who was a turnkey. Mr. Newport, from New Prison, is appointed successor to Aris. The youth who gave evidence against Daniel Aris was committed to Tothill-fields Bridewell, and to be kept private. No clue has yet been had of Roberts or Harper. The evidence against Roberts, relative to the forgery upon the Bank, was quite conclusive, and a woman he cohabited with was admitted an evidence in the business. It would defeat the ends of justice to publish the particulars of Robert's examinations, as several other persons are involved in the business who cannot at present be found.

Tuesday afternoon, about half-past three o'clock, a young man, genteelly dressed in a black coat and waistcoat, and nankeen pantaloons, was observed in a disconsolate state in Hyde Park, near the Magazine; at length he fell, and some persons going up to him, discovered that he had cut his throat in a most desperate manner with a case-knife; a surgeon was sent for, but the wound was so extremely deep, that he died before any surgical assistance arrived. Nothing was found upon him to lead to a discovery who he was.

A distressing accident occurred on Wednesday morning, at South parade, Queen's Elm, Chelsea. As Colonel Mair and family were setting off, to attend a funeral of a much-beloved son, who died of the Wulcheren fever, the Colonel's foot slipped from under him on the staircase, and being a heavy man with only one arm, he pitched upon his head and back, and was carried, apparently lifeless, into the room from which they had just carried the corpse of his son. He is, however, likely to recover.

The landlord of the Wheat Sheaf chophouse, in the Strand, cut his throat on Thursday morning. A Coroner's Jury returned a verdict of *Insanity*.

Between twelve and one o'clock yesterday morning, a fire broke out in a small tenement near the Elephant and Castle, Newington, which entirely destroyed the same, together with a cooperage adjoining, and considerably damaged other houses. A great number of engines shortly arrived, but their attendance were useless, owing to a very scanty supply of water.

### DEATHS.

At Great Ealing, aged 73, Wm. Knox, Esq. formerly Under Secretary of State.

On Sunday last at Ramsgate, in his 84th year, Sir Alexander Munro, of Novar, one of the Commissioners of his Majesty's Customs.

On Thursday morning, Mr. J. King, confectioner, of Bishopsgate-street. On the preceding evening, he complained to Mrs. King of a slight indisposition, though in the morning he was in perfect health. He took a glass of peppermint-water, went to bed, and fell apparently into a comfortable sleep. About two o'clock, Mrs. King, on hearing him breathe hard, got out of bed to go and call the servant, and on her return, her husband was a corpse! He was about 40 years of age, and bore a most excellent character.

On Friday se'night, in Whitehaven, Mary Raven, aged 25, who, in the course of ten months, was a bride, a mother, a widow, and a corpse.

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