

THE EXAMINER.

No. 87 SUNDAY, AUGUST 27, 1809

THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

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

No. 87.

ANNIHILATION OF THE PAPAL SOVEREIGNTY.

It is little more than a year ago, since the approaching dissolution of the Papacy became manifest to all Europe. In April 1808, a few French soldiers entered the Papal Palace, seized the arms, imprisoned the body-guard, and in fine insulted the Holy Power by striking it, as it were, with the flat of their swords: the month following, NAPOLEON issued a decree annexing the States of the Church to his Italian kingdom; and if he suffered the POPE to retain a shadow even of his spiritual power, it was only for new designs of interest—for some future opportunity when the sacred puppet might be of use to him. At that time the wretched politicians, who think to overthrow BONAPARTE by opposing prejudices to him when they cannot find patriotism, talked with delight of the excommunication which they anticipated for him from the Holy Father; but the Holy Father professing to imitate "the meekness of his Heavenly Master," declared "solemnly" that he did, and would oppose, "nothing but patience to all such outrages;" and the politicians had not the pleasure of seeing fanaticism roused and assassination made a religious duty. The month before last however, a new decree appeared in Rome annexing the Papal States to the French Empire and directly stripping the POPE of all temporal jurisdiction even in that city; and as this Proclamation was followed by its immediate execution, his Holiness appears to have lost his patience, if we are to believe two papers that have appeared in the journals, the one protesting against BONAPARTE, and the other, at last, *excommunicating* him. One would imagine, from their former anticipations, that our politicians would be satisfied with this;—that they would wait patiently to see the thunderbolt strike the impious offender;—and indeed, it has much surprised me, that the *Morning Post* has not already begun to settle the new destinies of Europe, recommending the Duke of YORK as the new French Emperor, and proposing an expedition to be sent out to Japan in order to secure the Chinese. But, alas, nearly two months have passed, and BONAPARTE is still enjoying his country-house at Schoenbrunn: no DAMIEN or RAVILLAC has yet arisen to second the wishes of our illustrious journalists; no hollow-eyed fanatic, inflamed with zeal and indigestion, has yet stolen upon his slumbers or sneaked upon his confidence to revenge the Ministerialists and the Inquisition; and the exploit seems in danger of

not being accomplished, unless the *Post* himself, inflamed with a worse indigestion from continually eating his own words, should one day start up from his beef-steak and take a journey to the Danube by way of diversion for the Expedition.

The papal documents are dated the same day, on which the French decree was proclaimed in Rome; and it is said that the sentence of excommunication was handed up to the Pope while he was celebrating high mass, after which he signed it with some such words as these: "This is the last act of my life; but it was a necessary and sacred duty." Through what channel the intelligence of these proceedings reached England; or who it was that heard his Holiness deliver this speech, I do not know. It was with words to the same import that CLEMENT XIV. signed the famous bull for the dissolution of the Jesuits, a very different measure, founded on the reverse of superstition. It is probable, that BONAPARTE may have requested the POPE to crown the new KING of SPAIN, and that upon his Holiness's refusal to undergo this last degradation, he proceeded to strip him of the last remnant of sovereignty which he preserved in his magistral powers at Rome. So far the POPE is commendable for his spirit; but in conformity to his professions of patience, and to the spirit of an enlightened age, he should have been contented with making his protest and then retiring from temporal affairs: the protest might have been much stronger than it is, if he wished merely to shew his spirit, but the excommunication serves no purpose except to render himself ridiculous. It is too gross to hear a feeble priest talking of his worldly power, and the usurpations of others, and at the same time excommunicating his enemies upon the *authority* of God and ST. PETER; thus grounding his privileges upon the contemptible fables and forgeries of the Church, and quoting the most ridiculous of all usurpations as an argument of divine right. I speak generally of course in this matter, and not personally. Nobody would wish to insult the misfortunes of an old and perhaps a venerable individual, regarded as an individual: such a man becomes doubly respectable when contrasted with the wretches who have worn the tiara; but then it is not to be forgotten, that the corruptions of the Popes themselves have hastened the downfall of their power. Much has been written respecting the policy and intrigues of the Papal Cabinet; but the truth is, that no policy and intrigues could have kept it from destruction: the cause of that destruction is to be found neither in the discontents of the old Court of Madrid, nor in the quarrels of Pius the 6th with the Emperor JOSEPH: it is to be found simply in the enlightenment of the age, and to this cause all the intrigues, weaknesses, and vices of the Popes were but so many accessories. The Papal power was a spectre, whose aspect was formidable

* See an EXAMINER on this subject.—Vol. I, No. 91.

because it was seen in the dark; when the light came, people went up to it, and like boys who have been frightened at the bed curtains, laughed at the fantastic images they had formed out of a post hung with drapery. Latterly, the Popes themselves could not help exhibiting some enlightened marks not at all favourable to the supreme superstition: they contracted, if not the opinions, at least some of the negative refinements of the age, and like Clergymen in mixed society seemed backward to take any advantage of their divine character as long as respect was paid to the cloth. In former times the Popes were infamous for every species of vice, and yet notwithstanding the scandalous dissoluteness of the three *JOHNS*, 10th, 11th, and 12th, notwithstanding the open profligacy of *INNOCENT* the 8th, who boasted of his natural children, and notwithstanding the monstrosities of *ALEXANDER* the 6th, whose name became proverbial like *NERO*'s, the Bishop of Rome was still worshipped by all the learned men of Europe as God's Vicar upon earth:—on the other hand, for some years past the Popes, with the exception perhaps of *CLEMENT* the 13th (*REZZONICO*) have been amiable and liberal men, and in spite of their virtues the Papacy has fallen into contempt. How is this? What is the reason, that vice could not bring into contempt, nor virtue rescue from contempt? Simply, because men have thought upon the subject; and though superstition could worship vice, reason will not pay a wrong worship even to virtue. The late Popes in vain attempted to maintain their dignity by worth and talent, by something in short which should not depend upon the Papal character; virtue came too late, and the cultivation of talent served only to open new sources of enquiry. Among the curious spectacles of the 18th century, not the least singular was the correspondence of the most formidable infidel of his time with Pope *BENEDICT* the 14th. *VOLTAIRE* sends his tragedy of *Mahomet* to the Holy Father, and kisses his sacred feet: the Pontiff returns thanks to his "beloved son," and gives him the apostolic benediction.* In what light would the modern philosophers have beheld the liberal Pope on this occasion, but as an actor, who, like *VOLTAIRE*, was holding his countenance at a grave burlesque? All the world knows and admires *GANGANELLI* (*CLEMENT* the 14th) and all the world foresaw the fate of the Papacy when he dissolved the Society of Jesus. The Jesuits themselves, who were the champions of the Papal superstition, contributed to its overthrow by their own works in learning and education. In sharpening the logic and polishing the wit of their scholars, they made so many weapons against their own body. *PIUS* the 6th (*BRASCHI*) the successor of *GANGANELLI*, had neither his sense nor liberality

* *BENEDICT* the 14th (*LANBERTINI*) was a man of profound erudition. The rest of this curious correspondence consists of criticisms on a dispute about the quantity of the word *hic*, which some persons had erroneously objected in *VOLTAIRE*'s sketch upon the Pope's portrait. *BENEDICT* quotes *VIRGIL* on occasion with a pleasantry and modesty, that shew him in a very amiable light.

to keep up a little longer the respectability of the Pontificate; but he was selfish and vain-glorious, and thought to maintain his power by flattering the Courts of Europe and his dignity by living in great pomp. This shewy policy was only the hectic of the consumption. His political weaknesses and his effeminate love of display rendered him contemptible abroad and at home. His foreign journies, his puerile extravagance in the fine arts, and his processions and spectacles, in which he delighted to shew his fine robes and his still finer leg, disgusted the half-famished populace of Rome; and if their superstition forced them to venerate him when he was acting in his pontificals, he put on another kind of dress when he retired to his palace, and as the Psalmist expresses it, was clothed with curses. †—At such a time, the enemies of the Papacy wanted no opportunity to destroy it but that of being able to conquer a certain habitual feeling in it's favour, and therefore when the French Revolution gave a turn to all the old currents of thinking, the Roman government, which only hung together by it's corruptions, yielded to the first touch of the sword, and the Gauls, who met with so warm a reception from the virtues of Heathen Rome, entered the capitol without opposition amidst the vices of Christian Rome. So well can virtue dignify the worst religions; so ill can vice manage to preserve the best.

I have been led away by a subject so interesting in every point of view from the main design of this article, which was to shew the unphilosophical, anti-British, and despicable spirit of any attempt to inculcate the fanatical ideas of assassination. Such attempts will of course be of no avail; but even a hint of such a nature is a disgrace to the press of any civilized nation; and it is more peculiarly monstrous in those men, who while they encourage and derive hopes from the last weakness of Papal superstition, would oppress and vex their fellow-subjects the Irish Catholics, on account of an imaginary attachment to this very Pope. It is a stupid way of fighting *BONAPARTE* to set the foreign Catholics against him and the Irish Catholics for him; and it is a base way of fighting him to make use of fanaticism instead of open war. In God's name, let us conquer *BONAPARTE* if we can; but let no man think of encouraging in God's name the most horrible human vices.

† If *PIUS* repaired or even removed a statue, it was always decorated with pompous inscriptions about his taste and munificence.—The Italians, who of all men have the truest relish of burlesque, of which indeed they were the inventors, resorted to it, like the French, as their only consolation in misfortune, and *PIUS*'s busts and buildings, as well as the statue of *PASQUIN*, were covered with lampoons on his extravagant frivolity. At the bottom of an obelisk which was inscribed with the usual grandeur, upon the strength of having been raised from the ground by the Holy Father, a wag wrote a quotation from Scripture,—*Signore, di a questa pietra che divenga pane*—“Lord, command this stone to become bread.” On another occasion, when the little loaves made at Rome were reduced to an alarming smallness, one of them was found in *PASQUIN*'s hand, with the usual pompous inscription underneath:—“By the munificence of *PIUS* the Sixth.”

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

THIRTIETH BULLETIN OF THE FRENCH GRAND ARMY.

Vienna, July 3).

The 9th army, which was commanded by the Prince of Ponte Corvo, was disbanded on the 8th. The Prince of Ponte Corvo is gone to use the waters. In the battle of Wagram, the village of that name was carried on the 6th, between ten and eleven o'clock, and the glory of this successful enterprize is due to the corps of Marshal Oudinot.

The House of Austria took the field this campaign with 62 regiments of the line; 12 regiments of grenadiers; 4 free corps, or legions; making in the whole 310,000 men; 150 battalions of militia (Landwehr) commanded by ancient officers, exercised 10 months; making 150,000 men; 400,000 men in the Hungarian Insurrection, and 60,000 horse, artillery, and miners, composing in the whole a force of from 5 to 600,000 men. With this force, the House of Austria supposed herself to be sure of victory. She entertained a hope of shaking the power of France, if even her whole force were united; but her armies are, notwithstanding, reduced to one-fourth part of their original strength, while the French army has increased to double the number it consisted of at Ratisbon.

In the Castle of Gratz 20 pieces of ordnance have been found. The Castle of Sachsenburgh, situated on the frontiers of Tyrol; has surrendered to Gen. Rarch.

The Duke of Dantzig has entered Tyrol with 25,000 men. He has occupied Laferr, and disarmed all the inhabitants; he must by this time be at Inspruck. Gen. Thielman has entered Dresden. The Duke of Abrantes is in Bayreuth, and has pushed his advanced parties to the frontiers of Bohemia;

ITALY.

PROTEST AGAINST BONAPARTE.

The dark designs, conceived by the enemies of the Apostolic See, have at length been accomplished.

After the violent and unjust spoliation of the fairest and most considerable portion of our dominions, we behold ourselves, under unworthy pretexts, and with so much the greater injustice, entirely stripped of our temporal Sovereignty, to which our spiritual independence is intimately united. In the midst of this cruel persecution we are comforted by the reflection, that we encounter such a heavy misfortune, not for any offence given to the Emperor or to France, which has always been the subject of our affectionate paternal solicitude, nor from any intrigue of worldly policy, but from an unwillingness to betray our duties.

To please men and to displease God is not allowed to any one professing the Catholic Religion, and much less can it be permitted to its Head and Promulgator.

As we, besides, owe it to God and the Church, to hand down our rights uninjured and untouched, we protest against this new violent spoliation, and declare it void and null.

We reject, with the firmest resolution, any allowance which the Emperor of the French may intend to assign us, and to the individuals composing our College.

We should all cover ourselves with ignominy in the face of the Church, if we suffered our subsistence to depend on the power of him who usurps her authority.

We commit ourselves entirely to Providence, and to the affection of the faithful, and we shall be contented piously to terminate the bitter career of our sorrowful days.

We adore with profound humility God's inscrutable decrees; we invoke his commiseration upon our good subjects, who shall ever be our joy and our crown; and after having in this hardest of trials done what our duties required of us, we exhort them to preserve always untouched the religion and the faith, and to unite themselves to us, for the purpose of conjuring with sighs and tears, both in the closet and before the altar, the Supreme Father of Light, that he may vouchsafe to change the base designs of our persecutors.

Given at our Apostolic Palace, del Quirinale, this 10th of June, 1809.

PIUS PAPA VII.

EXCOMMUNICATION OF BONAPARTE.

By the authority of God Almighty, and of St. Paul and St. Peter, we declare you, and all your co-operators in the acts of violence which you are executing, to have incurred the same excommunication, which we, in our apostolic letters, contemporaneously affixing in the usual places of this city, declare to have been incurred by all those who, on the violent invasion of this city on the 2d of February last year, were guilty of the acts of violence, against which we have protested, as well really in so many declarations, that by our order have been issued by our successive Secretaries of State, as also in two Consistorial Collocations of the 16th of March, and the 14th of July, 1808, in common with all their agents, abettors, advisers, and whoever else have been accessory to, or himself been engaged in, the execution of those attempts.

Given at Rome, Santa Maria Maggiore, June 10th, in the 10th year of our Pontificate.

PIUS PAPA VII.

GERMANY.

ST. POLTEN, JULY 30.—On the 22d, the Emperor of Austria removed from Olen to Comorn, in order to be nigh the scene of the negotiations. With respect to the state of the negotiations, still less transpires on the Austrian than on the French side. It has been remarked; however, ten days ago, that in the discussion of points of great importance, obstacles had arisen, in consequence of which the Austrian negociators, instead of remaining at Vienna, proceeded to Comorn, and the Archdukes were summoned to the same place by the Emperor Francis. On the 24th it was doubted whether an agreement as to the preliminaries could be brought about; as great sacrifices were known to be required of Austria, and those sacrifices were of such a nature that his Majesty thought fit to call together the Princes of his house, in order to confer with them in this critical moment before he should come to a decision. Meanwhile it is said, that the Emperor and the Princes are unanimous in their sentiments, and it is added, that since their deliberations took place, the negociators on both sides have made reciprocal approximation. It is now expected, that the negotiations will be concluded by the 5th of August. It is certain, however, that they have already continued longer than was expected, as some days ago preparations were made on the roads for the Emperor's return to France. It is also worthy of observation, that the fortifications on the left bank of the Danube, opposite to Ebersdorff and Vienna, are still diligently prosecuted.

VIENNA, JULY 26.—Among other couriers sent off with dispatches relative to the peace, is one for Russia; that empire is in many respects much interested in the negotiations. It is said that England is also invited to take a part in the negotiations for peace. An Austrian courier with dispatches relating to these negotiations, was sent off for England on the 20th of this month.

AUG. 1.—Notwithstanding the secrecy with which the negotiations are conducted, we are assured they proceed with activity, and it is believed that they are very near a conclusion. A Congress to be held at Raab, for the conclusion of a treaty of Peace, is spoken of. The papers hangers have already set out from Vienna with papers, &c. to prepare the rooms allotted for this meeting. The Theatre at Schoeubrun is opened. Italian and German Operas are played, and Ballets are performed. The town of Vienna itself is not less lively. The bridges over the Danube at Presburgh are all restored, and it is intended to build a boat bridge there besides. Prince John of Lichtenstein is about to pay a visit to his estates, which have

sustained great damage. It is said that his loss of property amounts to more than 2,000,000 of florins.—The defeat of Wagram has excited the greatest irritation and discord among the Austrian Officers, who blame each other for the misfortunes of that decisive day. Field-Marshal Hillier has obtained leave to resign, and General Bellegarde has obtained the same permission, it is said without having required it. With respect to the people of Vienna, they seek in the enjoyment of amusement to forget the misfortunes which they owe to the warlike fury of some insane men, whose wicked councils have done more injury to Austria, than fire, inundation, or even the plague, could have produced.—We have received the following Order of the Day from Gœllersdorff, where it was published on the day after the battle of Wagram:—

ORDER OF THE DAY.

GÖELLERSDORFF, JULY 7.—In the battle of yesterday the troops of the left wing in no respect answered the expectations which I had a right to cherish respecting them, nor the hopes I had formed, the importance of that day considered, from their strong and advantageous position.—The disastrous result of that battle must be ascribed to the conduct of these troops; for as the confusion was general among them, the retreat was made with too great haste and disorder. I am also, with some exceptions, far from being satisfied with the infantry. Several regiments marched forward too soon, and began to fire without any cause. They were besides so crowded together that they fired upon one another. The Officers were not able to rally the larger bodies, which fled in disorder, and thus ground was lost. The confused cry which was heard among the troops, drowned the voice of the Commanding Officers.—Had the Commanders accustomed their troops to silence, and taught them to attend to nothing but their orders, the separation of the left wing would not have produced such shameful consequences. In every regiment which shall hereafter conduct itself in a similar manner, the tenth man shall be condemned to die, and the rest of the men shall be distributed among the other regiments; the Commanding Officer shall be cashiered, and the other Officers dismissed. Cries of alarm among the troops shall be punished with death. The troops must only act when orders are given to them, or on the signal of the drum. In most regiments the drums are placed with the music out of reach of the fire, but the Commanding Officers shall see that all the drums return to their posts, and shall take care that the troops under his direction do not fire without orders or at too great a distance. In the evening of the 5th the regiment of Argentaire made such bad dispositions, that in the unprofitable retreat of Neustdel, the 2d line fired on the first, and occasioned great disorder. The regiment of Hesse Nemburgh did nothing but wander here and there; sometimes were heard the cry of forward when there was no enemy; Gen. Riese did not conduct himself well at Entzerdorff. On the 6th, in the evening, I did not find him at the head of his troops, and besides, he did not follow the orders which were given him respecting the attack. He shall be dismissed from the service of his Majesty. The disorder which still prevails among the troops, proves that the Officers of the Staff knew not how to apply a remedy. I shall, however, set an example myself. I shall, according to the circumstances, dismiss or cashier such Officers of the Grand Staff, whose troops are not again brought under proper discipline. It is the shame of the army that so many stragglers and plunderers are found on all the roads, and in all the villages.

CHARLES, Generalissimo.

BANKS OF THE ELBE, AUG. 11.—All letters reaching us from Bohemia, Moravia, and Austrian Silesia, render the prospect of peace very uncertain. The Prague Official Gazette of the 3d instant even boasts of resources which the Austrian army still has for carrying on the war with effect. The Austrian army will, it is said, not including

the landwehr (militia) be shortly increased to 350,000 men. Yesterday the rumour of notice having been given by the Austrians to the French on the 30th July, that the armistice would be broken, was general on the Hamburg Exchange, and the rich Jew broker, Hirscher, actually received this intelligence by an estafette, from a Correspondent in Bohemia. The Berlin Gazette, however, down to the 9th inst. are silent on this subject.

MORAVIA, AUG. 1.—We learn that the Archduke Charles has, owing to bad health, resigned the command of the army, and that Prince John of Lichtenstein has taken it *ad interim*.

PRUSSIA.

BRANDENBURG, AUG. 8.—There is not as yet any official account respecting the rumour of notice having been given to break off the armistice.

SPAIN.

MADRID, JULY 30.—Our Court Gazette contains the following intelligence:—

“ Santa Ollala, July 26.

“ His Royal Majesty arrived here this day at the head of his army, in pursuit of the enemy's army, which had escaped from the battle of Santa Domingo. In consequence of the English having pushed forward the insurgents under the command of Cuesta, the latter were almost entirely annihilated. Great numbers of them have been taken prisoners, among whom is Baron Armendacé, with several other officers. The army is anxiously desirous to come up with the English. Several Hanoverian prisoners, who formed part of the English regiments, have declared that it was circulated in the army that Madrid is to be given up to be plundered by the troops. The Spanish officers were the more astonished at the defeat of the insurgents, as they had been told, that all Frenchmen had left Spain, and that the King was at Vittoria.

“ July 27.

“ Yesterday, at two o'clock in the afternoon, his Majesty established his head-quarters on a height, which commanded the field of battle of Torrijos. The enemy, who had taken shelter in a wood, being alarmed by our sharpshooters, endeavoured to gain the plain. The French pursued them thither. The insurgents endeavoured to rally, but his Majesty advanced against them at seven, and the first corps having made a vigorous attack, carried death and dismay into their ranks. At nine o'clock this night, a Field Officer of the first corps arrived here with the intelligence that in the course of the night still more signal advantages had been obtained than the preceding day, and that the field of battle was covered with the slain.

“ July 28.

“ His Majesty overtook at length the English army yesterday, at four o'clock in the afternoon, which, on the point of being surrounded by our troops, drew up in line of battle. The French army attacked the English with the utmost spirit and vigour. Some woods which covered their left wing did not remain long in their possession, and the division of their army which occupied them was annihilated by the Duke of Belluno. A regiment of one of the divisions of the first corps attacked an English column with the bayonet, killed 1000 and made 500 prisoners. The loss sustained by the enemy is very considerable, and cannot yet be calculated. During the battle the King was manoeuvring on the right of the English, in order to cut off their retreat to Talavera and the Tagus.

“ Talavera, July 29.

“ The English army which was in Portugal under General Wellesley, after having joined the insurgents under Cuesta, had marched against the first corps, hoping, with triple numbers, to beat it, and effect its junction with the troops under Venegas. Already had the English flattered themselves with getting to Madrid; but the events that have passed during the three days that have elapsed, have a good deal deranged the plan of the campaign. His Majesty, after the affair of the 28th, continued

to pursue the enemy, who arrived on the fine position of Talavera, and entrenched themselves. His dispositions announced an intention of maintaining himself to the last extremity; yet, after having been vigorously attacked by the French army, having lost a part of his infantry and a whole regiment of cavalry, he abandoned his position. In these circumstances the French have proved, as they always have done, that, whatever be the position and number of their enemies, they can overcome all obstacles. The English and insurgents sustained great loss—ours is inconsiderable. Gen. Latour Maubourg's division entered Talavera this morning. We have received news from Marshal Soult; he marched on the 25th in the direction of Placentia."

SEVILLE, AUG. 8.—General Venegas writes from his head-quarters at Ucanha, under date of the 5th inst. that on that day the 1st, 2d, and 3d divisions of his army had covered themselves with glory, on the banks of the Tagus, at Aranjuez, where, being three times attacked by the enemy with the greatest obstinacy, they repulsed them as often; the calmness and courage of our troops being above all praise. The force of the enemy consisted of from 14 to 15,000 men, and the action lasted from five to eight in the evening. By another dispatch from Gen. Cuesta we learn, that the Anglo-Spanish army is at Ponte de Arcebispo, on the right and left banks of the Tagus, watching the movements of Marshal Soult.

ORDER OF THE DAY.

"SOLDIERS OF THE ARMY OF ESTREMADURA!—On the 27th and 28th days of July, you fought bravely; you repeatedly repulsed the enemy, who was compelled to fly, leaving the field of battle covered with his dead. This glorious victory is due to your firmness and union, to your incessant and well-supported fire, and to confidence in your Officers and Chiefs; if you always observe the same, you will always be invincible. *The French are not men, except when they find no resistance; that which they met in the valiant English troops, our allies, routed and put them to flight. We know that the French soldiers now refuse to enter into action, after seeing their best troops destroyed.*

"Soldiers! I am satisfied with your valour and firmness. I congratulate you on your triumph, and I rely on your union and discipline. I do not call 'Soldiers,' nor consider as a part of the army, those base cowards, who abandoned their regiments on the days of battle, fleeing in the moment of danger, and with the design of producing disorder. Such wretches, besides the infamy which covers them, shall be decimated as soon as they are apprehended.

"Head-quarters, Talavera de la Reyna, Aug. 2.

"CUESTA."

BADAJOS, AUG. 11.—While our troops were burning the dead on the field of battle, information was received that Soult had entered the province with an army, and was marching upon Ponte de Arcebispo and Almaraz, as well to intercept the provisions and cut off the retreat of our army, as to place it between two fires. Generals Wellesley and Cuesta penetrating into the designs of Soult, prepared to frustrate them, taking by retrograde movements new positions, the former at the bridge of Almaraz, and the latter at Ponte de Arcebispo, on the left of the Tagus. They did not fail to take the precaution of burning the bridge of boats which had been constructed at Almaraz. Victor immediately turned suddenly upon Talavera de la Reyna—unfortunate town! So long as our armies maintain themselves in their present positions, we have no fear that they should be in want of provisions, as supplies of every kind are continually passing along the high road of Seville and Badajoz. The cursed Soult has been the cause that our army is not now at Somosierra, and of the evils that Madrid and Talavera are suffering. Our

head-quarters are at Nisas. At Ponte de Arcebispo the French lost 4000 men, and they say that Soult lost six pieces of artillery at Placentia, and that he offered to capitulate. The English are in Almaraz, and their head-quarters are at Deleitosa.

PORTUGAL.

LISBON, AUG. 14.—The corps of Soult, Ney, and Mortier, having advanced to Placentia, in the rear of the combined army, the latter passed to the left bank of the Tagus, leaving a strong corps on the right, in front of Ponte de Arcebispo, to command the passage of the river, when it should think proper. The British army has its head-quarters at Deleitosa; the Portuguese, under the command of Marshal Beresford, were at Fuente de Grenalda, beyond Ciudad Rodrigo, on the 7th instant. We know nothing of the Spanish armies, but certainly the whole of the French having united, and left Arragon and both the Castiles almost without a garrison, it is the most favourable moment for invading those provinces.

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

INVERNESS, AUG. 18.—Intelligence of a most distressing and awful nature has just reached us. It would appear that a great many persons from Dornoch, and other parts of Sutherland, who were on their way to attend the Tain market on Wednesday last, most imprudently crowded into the passage boat at the Meikle Ferry, to the number of from 100 to 120, being considerably beyond its burthen. Unfortunately, however, they had scarcely proceeded half way from the shore, when, dreadful to relate, the boat sunk, and all on board perished, except five persons. Mr. McCulloch, late Sheriff Substitute of Dornoch, is said to be among the unfortunate sufferers.

SWINDLING.—A native of the vicinity of Bolton, and of indigent parents, by trade a weaver, while sitting in company at a public house, fell into conversation with two strangers, who told him, that a certain gentleman, a supposed native of Bolton, had lately died in their neighbourhood, to whose estate no heir could be found, and which, if not claimed in six months, would devolve to an old servant, according to the will of the deceased. "Perhaps," says this man, "it is my uncle Mather?" "Right," replied the two gentlemen, you are the heir to all; the specious appearance of the strangers gained full credit to the tale; and numbers of the inhabitants thinking it a good speculation, contributed towards the equipment of the indubitable heir, with decent clothes and a sufficient sum of money, in order that he might undertake a journey to Gloucester, near which city the patrimony was said to lie. Accordingly he went the journey, and soon after returned, giving a splendid account of the hall and furniture, its vast hop-yards, and also the sum of 120,000*l.* lodged in the Bank at Gloucester. Upon the credit of this statement he obtained goods to a considerable amount, and on the 15th of last May set out to take possession of his estate, but not returning, suspicion arose, and he was at length found at work in a coal-mine. The sums swindled from various persons are supposed to amount to 6,000*l.* In millinery alone 600*l.* was contracted.

A meeting of the Magistrates of the county of Surrey was held on Wednesday, at the Swan Inn, Chertsey, in pursuance of a special summons, for the purpose of investigating the unfortunate affair of the murder of William Hey. Eight or ten medical gentlemen, with many other witnesses, were examined at considerable length, as to the cause of the death of the deceased; and after the most minute investigation, the Magistrates were fully satisfied that he had died in consequence of the blows he had received from one Wm. Vincent, who waylaid him on his return to his work. A warrant was accordingly issued to apprehend him, in order that he might take his trial; and the several parties were bound over to prosecute. Notice of the measure, with a full description, was dispatched to Bow-street, offering a reward of 40*l.* for his apprehension.

LONDON GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY,
OF SUNDAY, AUGUST 20.

Downing Street, August 19, 1809.

A Dispatch, of which the following is a Copy, was this day received at the Office of Viscount Castlereagh, one of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, from Lieut. Gen. the Earl of Chatham, K. B. dated Head-quarters, Middleburgh, Aug. 16, 1809.

Head-quarters, Middleburgh, August 16, 1809.

MY LORD—I have the honour of acquainting your Lordship, that on the 13th inst. the batteries before Flushing being completed, and the frigates, bombs, and gun vessels having at the same time taken their stations, a fire was opened at about half past one P. M. from 42 pieces of heavy ordnance, which was vigorously returned by the enemy. An additional battery of 6 24-pounders was completed the same night, and the whole continued to play upon the town with little or no intermission till late on the following day.

On the morning of the 14th inst. about ten o'clock, the line-of-battle ships at anchor in the Durloo Passage, led by Rear-Admiral Sir R. Strachan, got under weigh, and ranging up along the sea line of defence, kept up as they passed a tremendous cannonade on the town for several hours with the greatest gallantry and effect. About four in the afternoon, perceiving that the fire of the enemy had entirely ceased, and the town presenting a most awful scene of destruction, being on fire in almost every quarter, I directed Lieut. Gen. Sir Eyre Coote to send in to summon the place; Gen. Monnet returned for answer, that he would reply to the summons as soon as he had consulted a Council of War; an hour had been allowed him for that purpose, but a considerable time beyond it having elapsed without any answer being received, hostilities were ordered to recommence with the utmost vigour, and about eleven o'clock at night one of the enemy's batteries, advanced upon the Sea Dyke in front of Lieut.-Gen. Fraser's position, was most gallantly carried at the point of the bayonet, by detachments from the 36th, 71st, and light battalions of the King's German Legion, under Lieut. Col. Pack, opposed to great superiority of numbers; they took 40 prisoners, and killed and wounded a great many of the enemy.

I must not omit to mention, that on the preceding evening, an entrenchment in front of Major-Gen. Graham's position, was also forced in a manner equally undaunted, by the 14th regiment, and detachments of the King's German Legion, under Lieut.-Col. Nicolls, who drove the enemy from it, and made a lodgement within musket-shot of the walls of the town, taking one gun and 30 prisoners.

About two in the morning, the enemy demanded a suspension of arms for 48 hours, which was refused, and only two hours granted, when he agreed to surrender according to the summons sent in, on the basis of the garrison becoming prisoners of war.

I have now the satisfaction of acquainting your Lordship, that these preliminaries being acceded to, as soon as the Admiral landed in the morning, Col. Long, Adjutant-General, and Capt. Cockburn, of the Royal Navy, were appointed to negotiate the farther Articles of Capitulation, which I have now the honour to enclose. They were ratified about three this morning, when detachments of the Royals on the right, and of his Majesty's 71st reg. on the left, took possession of the gates of the town. The garrison will march out to-morrow, and will be embarked as speedily as possible.

I may now congratulate your Lordship on the fall of a place so indispensably necessary to our future operations, as so large a proportion of our force being required to carry on the siege with that degree of vigour and dispatch which the means of defence the enemy possessed, and particularly his powers of inundation, (which was rapidly spreading to an alarming extent) rendered absolutely necessary.

Had it not been for the assistance permitted, to have proceeded with the siege during the period, I had committed to Lieut. Gen. Fraser, the direction of the details of the siege of the town of Flushing, and I cannot sufficiently express my acknowledgments for the unremitting zeal and exertion

with which he has conducted the arduous service entrusted to him, in which he was ably assisted by Lieut.-Cols. Walsh and Offerey, attached to him as Assistants in the Adjutant and Quarter-Master-General's Department.

I have every reason to be satisfied with the judicious manner in which the General Officers have directed the several operations, as well as with the spirit and intelligence manifested by the Commanding Officers of Corps, and the zeal and ardour of all ranks of Officers.

It is with great pleasure I can report the uniform good conduct of the troops, who have not only on all occasions shewn the greatest intrepidity in presence of the enemy, but have sustained with great pleasure and cheerfulness the laborious duties they have had to perform.

The active and persevering exertions of the corps of Royal Engineers have been conducted with much skill and judgment by Col. Fryers, aided by Lieut.-Col. D'Arcey; and it is impossible for me to do sufficient justice to the distinguished conduct of the officers and men of the Royal Artillery, under the able direction and animating example of Brigadier-Gen. M'Leod.

The seamen, whose labours had already been so useful to the army, sought their reward in a further opportunity of distinguishing themselves, and one of the batteries was accordingly entrusted to them, and which they served with admirable vigour and effect.

I must here beg to express my strong sense of the constant and cordial co-operation of the Navy on all occasions, and my warmest acknowledgments are most particularly due to Capt. Cockburn of the Belleisle, commanding the flotilla, and to Capt. Richardson of the Cesar, commanding the brigade of seamen landed with the army.

I have the honour to enclose a return of the garrison of Flushing, in addition to which I have learned that besides the number killed, which was considerable, upwards of 1000 wounded men were transported to Oudsand previous to the complete investment of the town.

I also subjoin a statement of deserters and prisoners, exclusive of the garrison of Flushing.

This Dispatch will be delivered to your Lordship by my First Aid-de-Camp, Major Bradford, who is fully qualified to give your Lordship every further information, and whom I beg leave earnestly to recommend to his Majesty's protection.

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

[Here follows the Capitulation, by which the garrison (4375 strong) become prisoners of war. The property of the inhabitants is to be respected, and they are at liberty to withdraw into France, giving eight days notice.]

Return of the Killed and Wounded.

Three Officers, 1 Sergeant, 1 Drummer, 26 rank and file, killed; 15 Officers, 5 Sergeants, 2 Drummers, 83 rank and file, wounded; 1 rank and file missing.

Names of Officers Killed and Wounded.

Killed.—5th Foot—Capt. Talbot.

71st Foot—Ensign D. Sinclair.

2d Light Batt. King's German Legion—Lieut. Sprecker.

Wounded.—Royal Artillery—Lieut. G. Browne, slightly.

Royal Engineers—Col. Fryers, slightly; Captain Pasley, dangerously.

3d Batt. 1st Foot—Lieut. A. W. M'Kenzie, slightly.

2d Foot—Lieut. Clutterbuck, slightly.

14th Foot—Ensign G. Harrald, dangerously; wounded August 9, since dead.

36th Foot—Major M'Kenzie, dangerously.

68th Foot—Capt. Soden, slightly; Lieut. Smith, slightly.

71st Foot—Capt. Spottiswoode, slightly; Lieutenant D. M'Donald, dangerously.

71th Ditto—Capt. A. V. Brown, dangerously.

81st Ditto—Captain Taylor, slightly; Assistant-Surgeon Chizlet, dangerously.

95th Ditto—Lieut. Manners, slightly; wounded 3d Aug. not reported in time to be included in the preceding Returns.

Admiralty Office, August 20, 1809.

Dispatches, of which the following are Copies, were received last night at this Office, from Sir Richard John Strachan, Bart. and K. B. Rear-Admiral of the White, &c. addressed to the Hon. Wm. Wellesley Pole.

St. Domingo, Flushing Roads, 17th Aug. 1809.

SIR,—I have much satisfaction in acquainting you, for the information of their Lordships, that the town and garrison of Flushing have capitulated upon the terms, a copy of which I send herewith.

Their Lordships have already been apprised that it was my intention to have proceeded up the Scheldt, with the division of frigates under Lord Wm. Stuart, and that the greater part of our flotilla had advanced to Batz, in the charge of Sir Home Popham, by whom the enemy were driven above Lillo, where their ships and gun-brigs had taken up a strong position. The command of the important service of the Scheldt I have given to Sir Richard Keats, and he has my directions to co-operate with Lieutenant-General the Earl of Rosslyn, as well as to use every means in his power for capturing or destroying the fleet and flotilla of the enemy.

Rear-Admiral Lord Gardner remained with the ships named in the margin * off Dykeshoek, and his Lordship had received my direction to hold that squadron in readiness to go against the garrison of Flushing.

On the 12th inst. I was informed by Lord Chatham, that the advanced batteries were sufficiently prepared to open on the enemy the day following, at one o'clock in the afternoon; and as it appeared to me of consequence that the line of battle ships should pass the town at the same moment, I therefore abandoned my intention of going up to the advanced flotilla, and proceeding to Dykeshoek, hoisted my flag in the *St. Domingo*. The batteries opened on the garrison, as it was previously settled, at one in the afternoon of the 13th instant, and the fire was returned with great vigour by the enemy.

The bombs and gun-vessels under the direction of Captain Cockburn, of the *Belleisle*, were most judiciously placed at the south-east end of the town; and to the south-west, Captain Owen, of the *Clyde*, had, with equal skill and judgment, placed the bomb and other vessels under his orders. I had much satisfaction in witnessing the fire that was kept up by the squadrons under the command of these two officers, and the precision with which the shells were thrown from the bombs.

Unfortunately the wind was too scant to allow me to weigh when the batteries opened, but it proving more favourable the following day, I immediately put that intention into execution, and at ten in the forenoon of the 14th proceeded with the ships already named towards Flushing, meaning to pass to a more convenient anchorage for placing the squadron against it, when such a measure should appear to be necessary.

This squadron was led in by the *St. Domingo*, bearing my flag, and I was followed by the *Blake*, with the flag of Rear-Admiral Lord Gardner; the other ships advanced in succession. Soon after we had opened our fire, the wind came more southerly, and the *St. Domingo* grounded inside of the Dog sand. Lord Gardner not knowing our situation passed inside of us, by which the *Blake* also grounded. The other ships were immediately directed to haul off, and anchor as previously intended.

After being some time in this situation, during which the enemy's fire slackened, by the active and zealous exertions of Captain Owen, of the *Clyde*, who came to our assistance, and anchored close to the *St. Domingo*, she was got off, and soon after I had the satisfaction of seeing the *Blake* also afloat, and come to anchor with the rest of the squadron.

I was much pleased with the conduct and exertions of Capt. Gill, of the *St. Domingo*, and his officers, and with the steadiness, energy, and good order of the ship's company. Lord Gardner bears equal testimony of the behaviour of the officers, seamen, and marines, of the *Blake*, and his Lordship mentions

* *St. Domingo, Blake, Repulse, Victorious, Denmark, Audacious, and Venerable.*

the assistance he received from Captain Codrington in the highest terms of praise.

The fire of the enemy towards the evening had considerably abated, the town was burning in many places, and much damage was done to the houses. At seven o'clock I received a message from Lieutenant-General Sir Eyre Coote, requesting I would cease hostilities, as a summons had been sent into Flushing; but at night the fire again commenced, and was kept up without intermission until two o'clock of the morning of the 15th, when the French Commandant General Monnet offered to surrender. This was communicated to me by the Lieutenant-General, and in consequence I directed the flag of truce to be hoisted at day-light on board his Majesty's ships, and that hostilities should cease.

The Lieutenant-General having also intimated his wish, that two Commissioners should be sent on the part of the navy to assist in the proposed capitulation, I accordingly nominated Lord Gardner to meet Sir Eyre Coote, at East Zouburg, and to take with him Capt. Cockburn, to act in conjunction with the officers on the part of the army. Shortly after I received a message from the Earl of Chatham, requesting to see me at Zouhourg. On my arrival there, I found his Lordship had selected Col. Long, Adjutant-General of the Army, and Capt. Cockburn, to be the Commissioners for settling the terms of Capitulation, which were finally concluded late in the evening of the 15th.

In the extensive and various branches of the service committed to my care, their Lordships must be aware, that it would be impossible that all the Flag-Officers could be employed in the effective ships under my command, but I am no less indebted for the active exertions of Rear-Admiral Otway, with whom I left the difficult task of arranging all the service connected with the operations against Flushing, and I am happy in this opportunity of making him my acknowledgments for the ability with which those arrangements were made, and that service conducted. To Rear-Admiral Sir Richard Keats, my thanks are particularly due, for his zealous exertions in defeating the intentions of the enemy at Batz, and his active co-operation with Lieut.-Gen. Sir John Hope on South Beveland, and the upper part of the East Scheldt.

Their Lordships have already been informed that Rear-Admiral Lord Gardner accompanied me on the service off Flushing, where his Lordship conducted himself with his accustomed gallantry.

I have much pleasure in bearing the most ample testimony to the exertions of Sir Home Popham, with the advanced flotilla, in the upper part of the West Scheldt, which has been of the most essential service.

I have received the most satisfactory accounts from Lieut.-General Sir Eyre Coote, of the conduct of Captain Charles Richardson, of the *Cæsar*, with whose activity and zeal I have been long acquainted. Capt. Richardson speaks in high terms of the assistance he received from Capt. Blaney, of the *Harpy*, as well as his gallantry throughout the whole of the service, in the battery worked by the seamen. I cannot conclude this letter without assuring their Lordships, that every Captain, officer, seaman, and marine, have most zealously done their duty, nor will it, I hope, be thought taking away from the merits of others, in drawing their Lordships' particular notice to the energetic exertions of the Captains, officers, and men, employed in the gun-boats: they have been constantly under fire, and gone through all the hardships of their situation with the utmost cheerfulness. Herewith I inclose the reports of the officers who have had commands in the present service, including the returns of killed and wounded.

Lieutenant William May, First Lieutenant of my flag ship, is the bearer of this dispatch, and I recommend him to their Lordships as an officer of merit. I have the honour to be, &c.

R. J. STRACHAN.

Camilla, in the West Scheldt, Aug. 15, 1809.

SIR,—I have the honour to acquaint you that in pursuance of your instructions, I yesterday hoisted my flag in the *Camilla*, and am at present with eighteen sloops and gun-brigs, and four divisions of gun-boats, lying between the Saefingen

Shoals, a position judiciously chosen by Capt. Sir H. Popham, as it effectually cuts off the communication between the East and West Scheld.

The enemy's flotilla, considerably increased in numbers, has retired above or under the protection of Lillo, and the men of war with top-gallant yards crossed, are anchored off and below Antwerp, as far down as Phillippe. Six of our frigates are anchored off Waerden, waiting an opportunity of coming up.

R. G. KEATS.

Rear-Admiral Sir R. J. Strachan, Bart. and K. B.

His Majesty's Sloop Plover, off Flushing, Aug. 15.

SIR,—I have the honour to inclose herewith a list of killed and wounded on board the *Costa* under my orders during our late operations; and I feel it, Sir, to be a duty incumbent on me, at the same time, to state to you, that the several Captains, officers, and men, which you were pleased to place under my orders, have, by their exertions and gallant conduct, merited my warmest praise and acknowledgments.

Capt. Aberdour, who commands the division of gun-boats now with me, conducted himself much to my satisfaction during the attack on Flushing, and under him Lieutenants Russel, of the *San Josef*, Baker, of the *Eagle*, Bull, of the *Impetueux*, and Westphal, First Lieutenant of the *Belleisle* (who quitted his ship to take charge of a sub-division of the gun-boats) severally distinguished themselves in their respective commands; indeed, Sir, the conduct of all those who had charge of the gun-boats on this occasion was highly meritorious.

The Captains of the bomb-ships are likewise entitled to much praise for the judgment with which they placed their ships, and the precision with which the shells were thrown from them, the constant and correct fire from the *Æwa*, Capt. Lawless, particularly drew my attention.

I beg, Sir, also to be permitted to recommend to your notice and consideration, Captain Philip Brown, of this ship, to whom I feel under great obligation for the assistance he has at all times afforded me, and for the assiduity, skill, and propriety with which he has managed the various details and arrangements of the flotilla, at the frequent periods of my being otherwise occupied in gun-vessels, on shore, &c.

Captains Phillimore and Ward, of the *Marlborough* and *Resolution*, arrived with their light armed transports time enough to assist at the reduction of the fortress; but I am sorry to add, that the country and service have to regret the loss of Lieut. Reunic, who was embarked with Capt. Ward, and who fell soon after getting into action. I cannot, Sir, conclude this letter, without also mentioning to you Lieut. Bigland, of the *Belleisle*, who has invariably attended me as aide-camp, and whose courage and zeal fully entitle him to this public acknowledgment thereof.—I have the honour to be, &c.

G. COCKBURN.

Rear-Admiral Sir R. J. Strachan, Bart. and K. B.

Return of killed and wounded on board the flotilla.

Total—7 killed, 22 wounded.

Names of officers killed and wounded.

Marlborough—Lieutenant Reunic, killed.

San Josef—Lieutenant Russel, and Mr. Burnside, Surgeon, slightly wounded.

Monarch, off *Coeyn Veere*, Aug. 16.

SIR,—I have the honour to inclose, for your information, a report from Captain Richardson, of his Majesty's ship *Cæsar*, who commanded the brigade of seamen that landed on the 30th ult. with the division of the army under the orders of Lieut. Gen. Sir Byrle Coote, K. B. and I beg leave to add that I am authorised by the Lieut. General who commanded the siege of Flushing, and under whose orders the naval brigade more immediately acted; as likewise by Major General M'Leod, the commanding officer of the Royal Artillery, to express their high approbation of the bravery and zeal so very conspicuous in the conduct of Captains Richardson and Blamey, and the whole of the officers and men under their command, during the continuance of a long and most arduous service.—I have the honour to be, &c.

W. A. OTWAY.

Rear-Admiral Sir R. J. Strachan, Bart. and K. B.

East Zouberg, before Flushing, Aug. 16.

SIR,—I beg leave to inform you, that in obedience to your General Orders issued on the 28th ult. I landed with the army on the Sand-hills, near the signal post on the Island of Walcheren, on the 30th ult. The officers and seamen you did me the honour to place under my orders, were composed of three divisions, having charge of nine pieces of ordnance, which were drawn and worked by them. At eight A. M. on the 31st, the left division took post before Ter Veere, and joined in the attack of that place, throwing several cases of rockets into it with good effect: during the night a flag of truce was received, and the terms of capitulation agreed to and signed by General Fraser and myself. On the 1st inst. the troops quitted Ter Veere, on their way to Fort Rammekens, when we were constantly employed in the construction of works, and drawing heavy cannon, till it also capitulated on the 2d, at night. The detachment then proceeded to East Zouberg, and were employed day and night in cutting fascines, erecting batteries, and drawing heavy ordnance into them. The artillery horses being found inadequate to perform that service from the narrow roads, darkness of the night, and difficulty of driving clear of the ditches, into which they had thrown several twenty-four-pounder guns and carriages. This important duty, from the heavy rains and soft muddy soil, was attended with the greatest difficulty and fatigue.

After having assisted in mounting all the batteries, and otherwise completing them, on the 12th, General Sir Eyre Coote honoured me with the command of a new work just lined out for six 24-pounders; we made every possible exertion to complete it under a galling fire from the enemy's ramparts, distant only 600 yards; during the day four were killed and one wounded in the battery. At sunrise, on the 14th, we opened a most destructive fire on the rampart and town in front of us, and in two hours every gun we could bear upon was silent. Our fire was kept up incessantly until about seven o'clock in the evening, when I received an order to cease firing, as did all the other works. We immediately put the battery in a state for renewing the fire, if found necessary, and at nine we opened again by order, with still greater effect, and continued our fire until two o'clock, when we ceased to fire, by order, the French General having agreed to capitulate on the basis of the garrison becoming prisoners of war.

I cannot conclude this report, without assuring you that I have received every possible support from Capt. Blamey, and the Lieutenants of the different ships under my orders; and I beg to recommend them to your attention and protection. I have likewise the honour to inclose the names of the Lieutenants, according to their seniority, who served with me in the batteries on this occasion, and beg leave from their exertions earnestly to recommend them to your notice. I likewise add a return of the casualties of the officers and men.

I have the honour to be, &c.

CHARLES RICHARDSON.

Rear-Admiral Wm. A. Otway.

A return of the killed and wounded belonging to his Majesty's ships, in passing the batteries of Flushing, on the 15th August, 1809.

Total, 2 killed, 18 wounded.

A return of the killed and wounded in the Seamen's Battery before Flushing.

Total—2 killed, 47 wounded.

TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

This Gazette contains a dispatch from Lord Chatham, dated the 12th instant. It merely encloses a copy of the Articles of Capitulation of the Islands of Schowen and Duiveland, and a return of the late garrison of Flushing, which amounts to 5803 men; and those added to the numbers killed and taken prisoners, make the force originally opposed to us in Walcheren amount to 9000 men. His Lordship observes, that the army will be able to derive ample supplies of cattle, spirits, and biscuit, from the possession of these places.

BANKRUPTS.

T. Benwell, Newman-street, Oxford-street, coach-maker. Attornies, Messrs. Smart and Thomas, Staples-Inn.

T. Trevor, Gainsborough, Lincoln, money-scrivener, Attorney, Mr. Nicholson, Louth, Lincoln.

J. Jones, J. Owen, and H. Abbott, Bucklersbury, merchants. Attorney, Mr. Wilde, Castle-street, Falcon-square.

CERTIFICATES—SEPT. 12.

R. Oxon, Scaffoldhill-mill, Northumberland, miller.—E. Stamford, York-street, Commercial-road, flour factor.—

J. H. Wilkinson, Bond-court, Walbrook, factor.—J. Sheppard, Horton Mills, Bucks, leather-seller.—C. Charlton, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, merchant.

SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

Whitehall, August 26, 1809.

The King has been pleased to grant the Dignities of Baron and Viscount of the United Kingdoms of Great Britain and Ireland unto the Right Hon. Sir Arthur Wellesley, Knight of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, and Lieutenant-General of his Majesty's Forces, and to the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten, by the names, stiles, and titles of Baron Douro of Wellesley, in the County of Somerset, and Viscount Wellington of Talavera, and of Wellington, in the said County.

Admiralty-Office, August 26.

A letter has been received at this Office, from Capt. Columbine, late Commander of his Majesty's ship the *Solebay*, addressed to the Hon. W. W. Pole, and dated on board the *Derwent*, off Senegal, July 20, 1809, giving an account of the surrender of that Settlement to his Majesty's arms. Some depredations having been committed on the trade in the neighbourhood of Senegal, by small privateers fitted out there, Captain Columbine, and Major Maxwell, commanding the garrison at Goree, determined to make an attack upon the place, and proceeded against it on the 4th of July, with the *Solebay*, *Derwent* sloop, and *Tigress* gun-vessel, and some merchant and smaller vessels, having on board a detachment of one hundred and sixty men from Goree. The enemy at first appeared disposed to offer some resistance, but the detachment being landed, together with 120 seamen and 50 marines, the enemy's force, consisting of 160 regulars, and 240 militia, retreated, and on the 13th a Capitulation was signed, by which the Island of St. Louis, and its dependencies, were surrendered to the British forces, the garrison being conveyed to France as prisoners of war, not to serve against his Majesty or his allies, until regularly exchanged.

The only loss sustained by the English on this service, has been that of Captain Frederick Parker, of the *Derwent*, Mr. Francis Atterbury Sealy, Midshipman of that sloop, and six seamen, drowned in attempting to cross the Bar of Senegal.

Captain Columbine speaks in high terms of the conduct of the officers and men employed on the occasion.

On the 11th July, the *Solebay* in moving up the river, got on shore and was wrecked—all her men and part of the stores were saved.

Copy of a Letter transmitted by Sir James Saumarez to the Hon. W. W. Pole;—

Princess Carolina, Aspo, July 26th, 1809.

SIR,—Having been informed that the enemy had at this place several gun boats to protect their coasting trade, which is of the greatest consequence in supplying their army, &c. in all parts of Finland, and it having been represented to me by Capt. Forrest the probability of their being destroyed, himself having offered in the most handsome manner to command the expedition, which I immediately accepted, and having directed all the boats of his Majesty's ships *Princess Carolina*, *Minotaur*, *Cerberus*, and *Prometheus* (in all 17) armed in the best possible way, to put themselves under the command of Capt. Forrest, and to assemble on board the *Prometheus* at six o'clock yesterday evening, I have now the happiness to inform you of a successful attack he made last night about half

past ten o'clock, on four gun-boats, three of which he has captured, and a new brig laden with provisions; the gun-boats had on board in all 137 men, besides 23 in the brig. They are very complete, and well found, which I intend sending to you by the *Minotaur*.

Inclosed I have the honour to transmit Captain Forrest's letter on this subject, wherein he speaks in the highest terms of the spirited conduct of the officers and men employed on this occasion. Were it possible for me to say any thing which could add to the meritorious conduct of so gallant and good an officer as Capt. Forrest, I should most willingly do it; but I trust the success of this brilliant action will do more justice to the intrepidity of every officer and man employed on this service than any language I can possibly use.

I also beg to inclose for your information a list of killed and wounded. I have the honour to be, &c.

CHA. DUDLEY PATER.

Sir James Saumarez, Bart.

His Majesty's Sloop Prometheus, Aspo Roads, July 26, 1809.

SIR,—I am happy to acquaint you, that the endeavours of the boats of the squadron, which you did me the honour to place under my command, for the purpose of capturing or destroying the enemy's gun-boat force or convoys in the neighbourhood, have been crowned with the most complete success. Three gun-vessels of large dimensions, of a new construction, being captured, after a sanguinary contest, together with a new armed brig, with soldiers on board, laden with provisions, destined for Abo.

Our loss is severe indeed, as might be expected from the nature of the force, and the extreme obstinacy with which the enemy defended their charge: the crew of the one-gun boat, No. 62, being to a man killed or dangerously wounded, as you will see by the returns. I cannot find words to express to you the zeal and intrepidity exhibited upon this occasion by all, and the manifest superiority of our seamen when it came to the cutlass. I must leave the circumstance itself to speak the eulogy of the following Officers employed under my command, viz.

James Bashford, First Lieutenant of the *Princess Carolina*; — Pettet, First Lieutenant, and — Simpson, Third Lieutenant, of the *Cerberus*; Gauen Forster, First Lieutenant, and Thomas Finemore, acting Lieutenant, of the *Prometheus*; as more adequate to their merits than any thing I can say in their favour. I cannot too much admire the conduct of Mr. Charles Chambers, Surgeon of the *Prometheus*, who very handsomely accompanied the Expedition with a view, should he escape, to be professionally useful, I sincerely lament, with the country, the undermentioned gallant and most valuable Officers:

Minotaur—Lieut. John James Callanan, killed; Lieut. Wm. Wilkins, of the Royal Marines, ditto; George Elvey, Midshipman, wounded.

Prometheus—Matthew Vezey, boatswain, mortally wounded; Thomas Humble, clerk, killed.

Princess Carolina—James Carrington, master's mate, killed.

I have the honour to be, &c.

THOMAS FORREST, Captain.

Captain Charles Dudley Pater.

Return of the Killed and Wounded.

Princess Carolina—3 killed, 3 wounded.

Minotaur—12 killed, 26 wounded.

Cerberus—7 wounded.

Prometheus—4 killed, 15 wounded.

Total—19 killed, 51 wounded.

[This Gazette also contains, a letter from Capt. Cottrell, of his Majesty's ship the *Nijaden*, dated in Kilduin Bay, the 6th of June last, giving an account of the capture or destruction of 22 or 23 vessels in the river Kola, by the boats of the above ship, under the directions of Lieuts. Wells and Smith. A fort under which those vessels were anchored, was taken possession of, and the guns brought away or tarrown into the river.]

BANKRUPTS.

- R. Johns, jun. Truro, victualler. Attorney, Mr. Bennallack, Truro.
 J. Hodgson, sen. Rockliff, Cumberland, merchant. Attorney, Mr. Hodgson, Carlisle.
 J. and J. Winter, Brixton Causeway, Surrey, builders. Attornies, Messrs. Saunders and Judkin, Clifford's-Im.
 W. Thorn, Leeds, cloth-merchant. Attorney, Mr. Sutton, Leeds.
 C. Harvey, Monmouth, ironmonger. Attorney, Mr. Bourne, Monmouth.
 R. Curtis, Worcester, linen-draper. Attorney, Mr. Cornish, Bristol.
 F. Coward, Pugglestone St. Peter, Wilts, and J. Brewer, Burcombe, Wilts, clothiers. Attorney, Mr. Arney, Salisbury.
 J. Ellis, Rathbone-place, butcher. Attorney, Mr. Orchard, Hatton-garden.
 J. Smurfit, Bell Wharf, Shadwell, spirit merchant. Attorney, Mr. Setree, St. Mary Axe.
 J. Deacon, Baker-street, Portman-square, confectioner. Attornies, Messrs. Shephard and Adlington, Bedford-row.

CERTIFICATES—SEPT. 16.

- J. Jacob, Stratford, miller.—T. Paty, Lime-street, merchant.—J. Dent, Shelton, Staffordshire, money scrivener.—R. Swaine, Leeds, wool-stapler.—J. Tite, Loughton, Buckinghamshire, farmer.—J. Robertson, Lydd, Kent, linen-draper.—J. Parsons and W. Daniel, St. Martin's-lane, hair-merchants.

PRICE OF STOCKS ON SATURDAY.

Consols. 68 | Red. Ann. 63½ | Omnium. . . ½ prem.

Next Sunday the EXAMINER will contain Remarks on the new Theatre.

THE EXAMINER.

LONDON, AUGUST 27.

To speak the truth and to be abused are the same thing now-a-days. You must be *above* circumstances, says the *Morning Post*; that is, you must trample upon all sorts of facts and be lofty in proportion as your character is low.—In this respect, the Ministerial Papers are indeed above all circumstance; but in my opinion, it is much better to be above telling a falsehood. Truth has at least one good quality: it makes a person's word last somewhat longer than a week or two. A few days ago, the repulse of the French in Spain was not a repulse, it was a great victory, equal to that of Poitiers or Agincourt; and Sir ARTHUR in like manner was not a good General, he was a great hero, a BLACK PRINCE, a HENRY the Fifth, a MARLBOROUGH: then Madrid was just open to our armies; the French were flying as fast as possible, King JOSEPH in particular being on a surprisingly fleet horse; and the battle of Talavera had at once baffled France, regenerated Spain, and secured England. If you ventured to differ with these opinions, you were excessively gross; if you presumed to think that Sir ARTHUR was not a Black Prince, you had a black heart; but if you hinted the least word about the necessity of retreating, I do not know how many wretches, factious knaves, and cowards were heaped upon you: you were treated like a heretic in the inquisition; your business was not to be convicted or convinced, but to recant at once; and you had the same offer that TAMERLANE used to make respecting the Koran—"Either be-

lieve this, or be cut up without mercy."—But what has been the event? The first intelligence that arrives, informs us, that Sir ARTHUR WELLESLEY, after leaving his sick and wounded at Talavera, has already retreated upwards of 70 miles; and it is believed, that he was retreating further to Elvas;—already therefore he is evacuating Spain, and not with the best prospects, as it is not yet certain that he will escape the interception of SOULT and NEY. It is supposed, that it was the French plan to inveigle the British into the heart of Spain, and then to cut off their retreat: this has hitherto not succeeded; but on the other hand, Sir ARTHUR must have had his plan in going into the heart of Spain, and how has he succeeded? A calm observer, who has, or will have, no public or private interest to blind his faculties, has nothing to do on this occasion but to repeat the necessity of retreating, to admire and pity our excellent soldiers, the sport of an infatuated Ministry, and to laugh at the ambitious stupidity of the party-hirelings, who seem to run their heads against every species of contradiction, purely to shew their thickness.

The *Times*' intelligence respecting the surrender of Flushing was correct. After sluicing part of the country, and gaining as much time as possible by drawing our resources on shore, and at last by negotiating, the garrison became prisoners of war on Tuesday week. They arrived in the Downs on Friday. The whole of our troops, with the exception of 5000 left in Flushing, are now in South Beveland; but the policy of Governor MORNET is well attested by the numerous troops that the enemy has had leisure to assemble in all parts of Holland. It is even questioned, whether we shall be able to get at any part of the Antwerp fleet, and if we should be, I must repeat that we can do nothing but give the Dutch ship-builders a little extra work. Now I think it would be better to send coals to Newcastle than industry to the Dutch, for the former trade would at least make seamen for us, the latter takes them away and at the same time gives employment and a spirit of revenge to the Hollanders; for let the Ministerialists think as they will about the subjects of BONAPARTE, it is as little in the nature of nations as of individuals to be beaten and humiliated into a fondness for us. But it is our fate to act by contradictions; and if we make love in one quarter with fire and sword, we make war in another, comparatively speaking, with scratches and a game of hide and seek. We take 40,000 men to obtain one fort in our enemy's coast, and leave 20,000 to defend all the ports of Spain, in which he can build twenty times as many ships, and which will open to him the Atlantic, the Mediterranean, and the future invaluable conquest of the coast of Barbary. Let the reader reflect well on this; let him reflect well on the history and the capability of the Mediterranean coasts, which saw the rise of all that has been great in Europe, and which may still be destined to see a return of their greatness.

There have been a thousand rumours, as usual, upon the question of peace between France and Austria. The Archduke is said to have resigned his command to the Prince of LICHTENSTEIN on account of ill health, but the Ministerialists, who were the other day comparing him to CÆSAR, assure us it is from nothing but incapacity. Their opponents asked them how they could be guilty of such a gross contradiction, and they answer with much heat, that there is no contradiction at all in the matter, that the Archduke is a great and glorious General, but then the Prince of LICHTENSTEIN is a General of "real talent." People affect not to understand this distinction; but I see nothing obscure in it, for the *Post* assures us that the Duke of YORK is the best of all possible commanders, and we all know that he has no "real talent." Why the Archduke however should be abused with this kind of praise, I cannot discover. I believe he has exhibited much more "real talent" than LICHTENSTEIN, and if he sees the hopelessness of the Austrian contest in opposition to the opinion of that Prince, surely there can be no question about the matter. In the mean time, let us remember that execrable partition of Poland, which first unhinged the security of Europe: the office of pulling down the Austrian arms in Galicia has been entrusted to Prince PONIATOWSKI, nephew to the late unhappy STANISLAUS, so that among the various dispensations of Providence that in the past years have furnished so many lessons for posterity, we have the singular spectacle of a Polish Officer stripping the Austrian oppressor of his honours, while the Prussian dares not move a finger either way, and the Russian looks stupidly on, not knowing what to think of the changes that threaten him also.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN ATTACHED TO THE COMMISSARIAT DEPARTMENT.

"Delietosa, Aug. 8.

"We arrived here yesterday. We do not fear any interruption from the French in our retreat, having got the start of them. Soult has effected a junction with them. We are now abundantly supplied with provisions of all kinds. Our movement from this place commences to-morrow; it will probably be towards Elvas, a place impregnable, where we shall remain in safety."

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LISBON, DATED AUG. 14.

Letters from the army, of the 8th inst. were received yesterday; they state that Sir Arthur Wellesley was retreating back to the frontiers of Portugal, and that he was obliged to leave a great many of his sick and wounded behind him. The cause of his falling back is said to be, that Soult, with a very considerable force, was in his rear; that the Spaniards would not fight or act with him, and that there were no provisions of any sort, or forage to be had in any part of Spain where the army were in; that the villages were deserted at the approach of the army, the inhabitants flying to the mountains and other places where they could hide themselves, taking all their live stock, provisions, &c. with them, and otherwise acted with great hostility to the English army. On the 8th inst. head-quarters were at Delietosa, on the south side of the Tagus, which Sir Arthur crossed a few days before to avoid Soult, who was in his rear;

on the same day Soult was within a league of the Tagus, on the north side. In consequence of Soult being in the rear of the British army, he took several detachments of the English that were going to and coming from the army. By these last accounts it does not appear that General Caplin Crauford had joined Sir Arthur, but it was expected every day. Of Gen. Beresford and his Portuguese army, it is confidently asserted, that they refused to march with him, and that they were in a perfect state of mutiny, in consequence of their receiving no pay, and being in great want of provisions. How the Regency can account for letting this little army, which does not amount to more than eight thousand men, be in this state, I am at a loss to know. I have been at the public offices this day; they all are in great hopes that Sir Arthur will be able to make a formidable stand on the frontiers. A convoy sailed for England yesterday. All the flat-bottomed boats that were used for the landing of the troops, were this day hauled on shore at the arsenal. Paper has fallen 3 per cent. these two days.

Troops from the interior of France, as well as from the neighbouring departments, are marching into Holland by thousands. The roads from Paris to Antwerp swarm with soldiers. The sluices at Bergen-op-Zoom have been opened.

"The French Admiral MISSISSY (says an article from Amsterdam) has manœuvred in a most able manner. Though he was under the necessity of throwing his heavy cannon over-board, in order to pass some difficult parts of the Scheldt, he has taken a fine position with his squadron opposite to Lillo, and has sailed up the Scheldt twelve miles in the presence of the enemy. The king has learned with great satisfaction, that the heretofore General BRUCE, who has been called before a Council of War, is a foreigner, he being a Scotchman, and no Dutchman born. Fresh troops arrive daily at Antwerp. About 5000 of the Imperial Guard are every moment expected."

A Gottenburgh Mail arrived yesterday morning, but its contents are of no interest.

The people wondered much that the Park and Tower guns were not fired, and an Extraordinary Gazette published, to announce the capture of Senegal. Lord CASTLE-REACH must certainly have been out of town when the "glorious news" arrived.

Sir A. WELLESLEY, now that the Archduke CHARLES is out of power, and consequently out of favour, is the present Hero of the *Post*, who thus describes him:—"Possessing in a pre-eminent degree the rare union of talents which constitute the Soldier, the General, and the Statesman, he unites prudence to vigour, enterprize to discretion, while, like the immortal MARLBOROUGH, he possesses the happy talent of obtaining over the Allies the same controul and confidence which he possesses over his own troops. His vigilance, rapidity, and judicious manœuvres, on the approach of SOULT towards his rear; his masterly movement under such unexpected difficulties, and his bringing off the Spanish army in the same good order, and with as little loss, add, if possible, to the reputation he had already acquired in India, at Vuniera, on the Douro, and at Talavera, and encourage in his admiring country the fond hope that he will soon recover the advantages and position which for a moment he found it expedient to abandon."—This is all very fine; but if another Cintra Convention should take place, what will then be said of "the Soldier, the General, and the Statesman?" MARLBOROUGH was not in the habit of signing such Conventions.

Sir A. WELLESLEY has been created a Baron and Viscount. His new titles will be found in the Gazette.

General CUESTA's account of the battle of Talavera differs in some respects from Sir A. WELLESLEY's. The Spanish General says, that the French force amounted to *between* 35 and 40,000 men, "who attacked with the utmost fury *our* whole line, directing their principal efforts to the left, where the English were posted; but the enemy were repulsed with great loss." With the exception of three or four corps, who "manifested some feebleness," CUESTA observes, that "the Spanish troops, and especially those who had the greatest share in the action, left me nothing to wish for with respect to their courage and gallantry. The fierce and well-supported fire of our infantry repulsed the *repeated* attacks of the enemy, and the charges of our cavalry caused them much loss; the King's regiment has in particular covered itself with glory; and, *in conjunction with the English*, took several pieces of cannon, and made prisoners a General, a Colonel, and several Officers. To conclude," he writes, "this has been the most glorious and important action of the whole war, and that which I hope will open to us the road to the Ebro, as soon as we can procure the necessary supplies for the troops."

General HILL, in the battles of Talavera, had a very providential escape. Being engaged in close conflict with the enemy on the evening of the 27th July, a French soldier seized him by the right arm, and endeavoured to pull him off his horse, but the animal immediately sprang forwards, and extricated him from his perilous situation; the soldier then fired, but happily missed his aim. Early in the action of the 28th the General's horse was stabbed in the belly; an officer supplied him with another, which was also presently wounded in two places. It was only a short time before the enemy gave up the contest, that the General himself was struck with a musket ball, which, grazing his left ear, gave him so violent a blow on the head, that he was obliged to leave the field. The consequences were less alarming than might have been expected, and his friends have had the gratification of being assured that he was recovering as fast as possible.

Since the sailing of the Grand Expedition, the French cruizers in the Channel have become daring beyond all description. Scarcely a day passes but they make captures within sight of our coast, though two or three sloops of war would prevent all this mischief.

The Royal Family, it is said, will take their departure for Weymouth in a few days. Sir H. NEALE will, as usual, attend the Royal Party. Orders have been given him to hoist his flag on board the Royal Sovereign yacht, for this purpose. He is also to have two frigates and some cutters under his command, for the greater accommodation and protection of the Royal Visitors in their excursion to sea. In consequence of the advanced state of the season, the Royal visit to Weymouth will not be of long duration.

The two daughters of a Merchant have eloped from their home, in the neighbourhood of Hammersmith, within these few days. The youngest, who is only 17 years of age, went off on Wednesday se'nnight with a Clerk, in Broad-street, and they have not since been heard of. The eldest, 22 years of age, is supposed to have absented herself with a man of property, and of notorious gallantry.

Mr. FITZGERALD, the loyal tavern verse writer, is very angry with Mr. COBBETT for calling him the "Pensioned Poet," though he says, "I should have no objection to his sneer, if I reaped any advantage from the appellation." After this hint, surely some loyal lover of bad verse will take Mr. FITZGERALD's wants into consideration.

CHARGE OF FORGERY.—A capital charge of forging bills has been preferred against the Hon. Mrs. P——, the wife of a field officer, and the daughter of a distinguished character, at the suit of a Jew Broker, who had offered, by printed hand-bills, a reward of 100l. for her apprehension. The lady was taken into custody in Somersetshire, on Friday last, by two officers belonging to Worship-street, and she will undergo an examination, at that office, on Monday. The lady expresses conscious innocence, and she will remain at the house of the officer who took her until the examination takes place. Some few years ago she was a distinguished belle of the haut ton.

MR. HARE TOWNSHEND AND TYTHES.

MR. EXAMINER,

Before I enter the lists with that renowned champion of Reform, Mr. HARE TOWNSHEND, I must disclaim any other intention than that of commenting a little upon the curious statement of *facts* (as he calls them) given in his Letter to the Inhabitants of Godalmin, which appeared in your Paper of the 13th inst. This letter is an appeal against an intended increase of the Tythes; and a statement in figures is given, not only to shew the burthen of Tythes, but also of taxes and parochial rates, as if it were *necessary* in an appeal of that nature, to drag in other matters unconnected with the *merits* of the subject. Mr. TOWNSHEND talks a great deal about extortion and oppression, and in his intemperate zeal for reform, would level indiscriminately the establishments of the church as well as the state, to erect on the ruins a superstructure of his own flimsy invention. He seems to object to the principle of Tythes, and says, that "when the Clergy were first allowed a tenth part of the gross produce of the land, the Tythes were divided into four equal parts, and applied to four different purposes: the first went to the Bishop,—the second to the maintenance of the repairs of the Church,—the third to the support of the *Poor*,—and the fourth was all that was pocketed by the Rector." But what is all that to the purpose? The Clergy must be provided for; and I think it would puzzle modern ingenuity to devise more equal and less oppressive means of supporting them than by decimation; and if *different* arrangements have been made from those which formerly existed in the *distribution* of ecclesiastical revenues, still no more than a tenth is demanded, and as it *must* be paid, of what signification is it to whom, whether to the Bishop or the Rector? And as to the imputed crime of endeavouring to make the farmer pay the poor rates on the tythes compounded for (which by law are chargeable on the rector), it appears to me no greater sin than a gentleman of landed property making his farmer pay the land-tax in addition to his rent; unless, indeed, it can be shewn, either by law or gospel, that the clergy are precluded from making as good bargains as their neighbours. But it happens unfortunately for this gentleman, that every man who has any concern with land, knows that the rector or proprietor of tythes can at the *utmost* only demand his TYTHES IN KIND; therefore, if the farmer refuses to compound for them, he knows the extent of the evil. Who?

however, will believe that an estate worth no more than 160*l.* per annum, to be let to farm, will produce tythes to the amount of 50*l.*? or that the proprietor would demand a composition of that amount? which is generally under the real value. Indeed, the circumstance of the rapacious rector being desirous of adding the poor rate to the composition, PROVES THE FACT; for what farmer in his senses would consent to pay a composition equal to the ACTUAL AMOUNT of his TYTHES TAKEN IN KIND, and the POOR RATE BESIDES? The word Tythe speaks for itself—therefore, if Tythe taken in kind or compounded for, is worth 50*l.*, the produce of the land taken at the same rate, would be 500*l.* which, divided equally between the owner and the occupier, (to enable the latter to bear parochial burthens), would afford a rent of 250*l.* instead of 100*l.*! But supposing, on the other hand, the farm to be let, and 160*l.* to be the greatest rent that could be obtained for it, how can Mr. TOWNSEND make it appear that his taxes out of that rent would amount to more than 32*l.* 8*s.* 5*d.*? which is taking the land-tax at the enormous sum he has stated, and the property-tax at 10 per cent. upon the rent. The rates (which are obviously confounded with the taxes for an insidious purpose) must fall upon the tenant!—And here I cannot help observing, that as so much pains have been taken to acquaint us of all the burthens imposed upon the estate, it would have been but candid to have shewn what were the profits. I will, however, supply the defect; and taking his own valuation as a criterion of the rent, call them 280*l.* which is allowing ONE FOURTH for parochial burthens; though Mr. TOWNSEND would have us to believe that they exceed ONE THIRD!! Now, I should like to know how Mr. TOWNSEND calculates the Property Tax, which in his statement is called 31*l.* 6*s.* 4*d.*? for supposing again that 160*l.* is the real value of the estate, the tax would be only 28*l.* that is, 16*l.* as owner, and 12*l.* as occupier.

But, Sir, it is needless to go any farther to expose the absurdity of a statement so grossly exaggerated and defective; and I am disgusted at the palpable meanness of endeavouring to gull the public with a calculation which, upon the first glance over it, would induce a belief that our taxes and burthens were so enormous, that a man had only two guineas remaining to him out of an estate of 160*l.* per annum!! It is too often thus, that the pretended friends of Reform injure, if they do not defeat their cause; for proselytes gained by misrepresentation, can never be expected to continue steadfast adherents. Mr. TOWNSEND must, I think, stand convicted of gross falsehood in calling his estate worth only 160*l.*, when he admits that his composition for Tythes exceeds 50*l.*! and I must confess that, if ever I should have an opportunity of hearing his speeches at a county meeting, I shall listen to them with distrust; for if he has the hardihood to offer calculations which he must know to be both defective and false, what is there he will not dare to assert, when his hearers have not the same opportunity of detecting him?

Yours, Sir, your humble Servant,

Kendal, Aug. 21.

HENRY HAIR-BRAIN.

ECONOMY.

(From the Edinburgh Review.)

It cannot be denied, that the public burthens press upon the people of this country with a weight only not in-

tolerable. There are even manifest symptoms, that an increase of taxes could scarcely be effected, whatever might be the call for new contribution. The revenue is raised, partly by direct taxation, and partly by duties on consumption. The property-tax, which forms the bulk of the direct imposts, has been, of late, collected with much more rigour than at first,—the persons entrusted with the management of it having, of course, become more skilful, and acquired a more intimate knowledge of people's affairs. The effect of this has been exactly the same as if the rate of that tax had been augmented. But the difficulty of procuring payment has also increased in an alarming degree. The assessment of 1805 was not quite six millions and a quarter; that of 1806 amounted to above eleven millions and a quarter—although there had only been imposed an addition of three and a half per cent. But the arrears have increased at a much higher rate. Last April, there remained due of the assessment 1805 only 92,000*l.* but of the assessment 1806, above 900,000*l.* and of the assessment 1807, no less than 2,357,000*l.** The difficulty of procuring payment has thus rapidly increased; and this can only be explained by the augmentation of prices in consequence of the war, and the increase of taxes upon articles of consumption. The produce of this other class of taxes has accordingly suffered a great diminution. The net produce of the permanent taxes (which, with the trifling exception of the legacy-duty, are all laid on consumption) last year, fell short of their net produce the year before by about 300,000*l.* although new taxes to the amount of two millions and a quarter had been collected. The deficit upon the former taxes was therefore above two millions and a half;† and a similar defalcation took place in almost all the war taxes, which fall on consumable articles.

It appears, then, that when the property tax was strictly levied, the difficulty of paying it increased;—that an imposition of new taxes upon consumption occasioned a diminution in the produce of the old;—and that the increased payment of direct taxes was compensated by a defalcation in the indirect taxes. The facts which we have stated warrant the inference, not merely that one species of taxation operated at the expense of the other, but that, independent of all duties, the difficulty of raising the same amount of taxes had increased;—that, in short, the circumstances of our situation—the wasteful consumption of war—the rise in the price of labour from the demands of the army—and the checks upon our commerce, had so far straitened the means of the people, and raised the price of commodities, as to disable them from contributing the accustomed proportion to the exigencies of the state. But we are willing to hope that the conclusion needs not be pushed so far; and we shall, for the present, confine ourselves

* Parliamentary Returns, 8th June, 1809.—The arrears of last year's assessment were above eight millions and a quarter; but these cannot be taken into the computation.

† The taxes on which the greatest proportional deficit is perceivable are, as might be expected, those on articles of luxury. The duties on horses, carriages, and servants, fell off from 2,150,000*l.* to 1,523,000*l.*—Customs and Excise, from 19,178,000*l.* to 17,960,000*l.* These deficits were in part covered by the new and most impolitic stamp-duty, and the increase of the assessed taxes known by the name of "a new arrangement of them."—and in part by an increased receipt upon the 10 per cent. of 1806 laid on the assessed taxes, and the duty of the same year on British spirits.

to the position, unquestionably supported, not only by the foregoing statement, but by facts within every man's knowledge—that we have now arrived at the point where the attempt to raise one tax will only lower the produce of another—that a man cannot pay the full amount of his property-tax, and at the same time consume as many of the articles which pay duties to government, if these duties are raised; and, *vice versa*, that he cannot consume as much of those articles at the former duties, if his property shall be taxed more heavily.

If the nation has at last reached this point—if the revenue of the people is now made to pay as much towards the revenue of the State as any human means can extort from it—if the natural period of taxation is at length arrived—by the public income outstripping that of individuals—and, surely, when we reflect, that besides twenty-two millions borrowed, above seventy millions sterling are at present raised within the year by taxes, we cannot marvel at this crisis being come †);—how clearly must every thinking man perceive, that the whole system of our policy depends, for its existence, upon the continuance of our commerce—that inextricable confusion will arise from any considerable diminution of the income of the country—and that the only means of augmenting the public revenue must be sought in the extension of the revenue of the people, by opening new channels of employment for their capital at home and abroad, while we carefully preserve those which are already accessible? At the same time, every practicable method should be resorted to, of diminishing our expenditure, by a rigorous and discerning reform of abuses. We are persuaded, that (we will not say a great, but) a very considerable income may be derived from this source. Let any man reflect on the remark which he must so frequently have made, while passing through the halls, the chambers, the offices, and the gardens of an English grandee's palace, and, still more, while considering the manner in which his estates are managed—"The loss and the waste of thousands by the year," is the thought which ever and anon presents itself. Who can doubt, then, that much is wasted in an establishment which costs above ninety millions a-year—which is spread over many thousand square-miles—intrusted to multitudes who have no interest in being economical, and watched over hastily, incidentally, and according to rules devised when it was in the bud, by a few persons who volunteer their services, change every day, and must see all abuses at a vast distance, if they see them at all? In the present state of our affairs, we may be well assured, that the danger which chiefly besets us is not that of parsimony. From this source we can desery nothing to appal us, except, perhaps, the risk of bringing the cause of reform into a temporary discredit, by too rash and indiscriminate a pursuit of it. But from a continuance of our present scale of expenditure, coupled with what is infinitely more ruinous—a contempt for the only means of meeting it—from a disinclination to retrench whatever is useless in our outgoings, and, still more, from an aversion to those conciliatory measures, which, with perfect safety

† The revenue raised by Great Britain, in 1809, is estimated at 85,885,342l. including the surplus of 1808, and exclusive of money raised by Loan and Exchequer Bills, to the amount of 18,660,000l. The net revenue of Ireland, in 1808, exclusive of about 4,000,000l. Loans, was 4,571,250l. so that the revenue of the empire may be reckoned at 70,456,592l.

to our honour, may enable us to keep up and even to augment our national income—from a conduct so infatuated as this, we foresee, at no great distance, the approach of confusion and dismay in every branch of our affairs—and the final conquest of an empire which we sincerely and proudly believe nothing else can ever shake ‡.

§ A blind desire of peace; arising from the pressure of taxes, would scarcely prove less pernicious than the love of war, in which those taxes have had their origin. As soon as the contest in Spain is over, we shall feel it our duty once more to consider this most important subject.

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

GENERAL ORDERS.

The Commander in Chief has received the King's commands to notify to the Army the splendid victory obtained by his troops in Spain, under the command of Lieutenant-General the Right Honourable Sir Arthur Wellesley, on the 27th and 28th of last month, at the battle of Talavera de la Reyna.

His Majesty is confident that his Army will learn with becoming exultation, that the enemy, after escaping by a precipitate retreat from the well-concerted attack with which Sir Arthur Wellesley, in conjunction with the Spanish Army, had threatened him on the 24th of July, concentrated his force, by calling to his aid the corps under the French General Sebastiani and the garrison of Madrid; and thus reinforced, again approached the allied army on the 27th of July; and, on this occasion, owing to the local circumstances of its position, and to the deliberate purpose of the enemy to direct his whole efforts against the troops of his Majesty, the British Army sustained nearly the whole weight of this great contest, and has acquired the glory of having vanquished a French army double their numbers, not in a short and partial struggle, but in a battle obstinately contested on two successive days (not wholly discontinued even throughout the intervening night), and fought under circumstances which brought both armies into close and repeated combat.

The King, in contemplating so glorious a display of the valour and prowess of his troops, has been graciously pleased to command, that his royal approbation of the conduct of the army serving under the command of Lieut. Gen. Sir A. Wellesley shall be thus publicly declared in General Orders.

The Commander in Chief has received the King's commands to signify, in the most marked and splendid manner, the sense his Majesty entertains of Lieut. Gen. Sir A. Wellesley's personal services on this memorable occasion, not less displayed in the result of the battle itself, than in the consummate ability, valour, and military resource, with which the many difficulties of this arduous and protracted contest were met and provided for by his experience and judgment.

The conduct of Lieut. Gen. Sherbrook, second in command, has entitled him to the King's marked approbation. His Majesty has observed, with satisfaction, the manner in which he led on the troops to the charge with the bayonet, a species of combat, which on all occasions so well accords with the dauntless character of British soldiers.

His Majesty has noticed with the same gracious approbation the conduct of the several General and other Officers. All have done their duty; most of them have had occasions of eminently distinguishing themselves, the instances of which have not escaped his Majesty's attention.

It is his Majesty's command, that his royal approbation and thanks shall be given in the most distinct and most particular manner to the non-commissioned Officers and private men. In no instance have they displayed with greater lustre their native valour and characteristic energy; nor have they on any former occasion more decidedly proved their superiority over the inveterate enemy of their country.

Brilliant, however, as is the victory obtained at Talavera, it is not solely on that occasion that Lieut. Gen. Sir A. Wellesley, and the troops under his command, are entitled to be

Majesty's applause. The important service effected in an early part of the campaign by the same army, under the command of the same distinguished General, by the rapid march on the Duero, the passage of that river, the total discomfiture of the enemy, and his expulsion from the territory of one of his Majesty's ancient and most faithful allies, are circumstances which have made a lasting impression on his Majesty's mind; and have induced his Majesty to direct, that the operations of this arduous and eventful campaign shall be thus recorded, as furnishing splendid examples of military skill, fortitude, perseverance, and of a spirit of enterprize calculated to produce emulation in every part of his army, and largely to add to the renown and to the military character of the British nation.

By order of the Right Honourable the Commander in Chief,
HARRY CALVERT, Adjutant General.

Horse Guards, Aug. 18.

ARMIES IN SPAIN.

The relative strength of the hostile armies in the Peninsula cannot be correctly ascertained; but the following we believe to be as near the truth as any account that has been yet published:—

BRITISH FORCES in SPAIN, classed regimentally.

CAVALRY.	
3d Dragoon Guards	23d Light Dragoons
4th Ditto	1st King's German Legion
14th Light Dragoons	20th Detachment
16th Ditto	
INFANTRY.	
3d Regiment, 1st Batt.	66th Regiment, 2d Batt.
7th ——— 2d ———	83d ——— 2d ———
9th ——— 2d ———	87th ——— 2d ———
24th ——— 2d ———	88th ——— 1st ———
27th ——— 3d ———	97th ——— 1st ———
29th ——— 1st ———	3d King's German Legion
31st ——— 2d ———	5th Ditto
40th ——— 1st ———	7th Ditto
45th ——— 1st ———	1st Battalion Detachments
48th ——— 1st ———	2d Ditto
53d ——— 2d ———	1st Guards (Coldstream)
60th ——— 5th ———	2d Ditto

The above regiments under the command of Sir A. Wellesley, including the brigade of Gen. Crawford, and five battalions under Gen. Lightburn * 32,000

Artillery, unknown.	
Portuguese troops under Gen. Beresford	95,000
Spanish troops under Questa and Albuquerque	45,000
Ditto Venegas	18,000
	120,000

Legion under Sir Robert Wilson, unknown.
Romana, ditto.
Ballesteros, ditto.

FRENCH TROOPS.

Victor's army	35,000
Sebastiani	18,000
Jourdan	12,000
Kellermann, Cavalry	8,000
	73,000

Soult, unknown.
Ney, ditto.
Garrisons, ditto.
The French troops in garrison must amount to a very considerable number. The following places must require garrisons of some force:—Junquera, Figueras, Rosas, Barcelona, Saragossa, Barbastro, Vittoria, Pampeluna, Bilbao, St. Sebastian. To the troops in these places are to be added the numerous corps stationed in different towns in the Provinces of Catalonia, Arragon, Biscay, Navarre, Castile, and Leon, and the army now besieging Gerona.—

When these considerations are taken into account, it is difficult to believe that the French force in Spain does not even now considerably exceed 100,000 men. It may be remembered that Napoleon, in one of his public documents, asserts, that "not a single corps was withdrawn from Spain except the Imperial Guard." That corps, which comprehends every species of force, amounts to upwards of 30,000 men; for although passing under the name of the Imperial Guard, from which it might be inferred to be merely calculated for the protection of the Emperor, it is like every other "corps" of the French Grand Army—a complete army, possessing in itself every species of force requisite to act either distinctly or in co-operation with other corps. It only differs in being composed wholly of men selected for their experience, skill, courage, and capacity, and in particular of those who have at any time greatly distinguished themselves.

POLICE.

JUSTICE ROOM, GUILDHALL.

On Tuesday, a female, named Jago, was brought before the Sitting Alderman, under singular circumstances. She had been found in a wretched state in Bell-court, St. Paul's Church-yard. She appeared expiring, and told the persons near her, that she had taken opium. Mr. Kirby, a respectable inhabitant of London house-yard, ordered her immediately to be taken to his house. He then sent for a surgeon, and proper medicine was given, which occasioned a discharge of the poison. The woman soon after recovered, and being requested to give an account of herself, she said, that she was a natural daughter of Sir W. Maxwell, and was related to the Duke of Gordon; that she had a child by the Marquis of Huntley, who had taken her to Blackheath. She claimed acquaintance with other persons of the first distinction in the country, and pretended to be in the greatest distress. She also pretended to be very well known to the Head of the Catholic Church in England, and described him to be her greatest friend. In consequence of this representation, several persons of respectability interested themselves in her behalf, and made application to the families she had mentioned; but, on enquiry, all that she had stated proved false. Letters were sent from Lady M. Palmer and the Marchioness of Cornwallis, to whom she had referred, disclaiming the least knowledge of the defendant. On further enquiry, it appeared that she was a person of low condition, and that her brother was the driver of a stage coach. She was not able to write; and excused herself for not writing, when she was requested to send a letter to one of the persons she had mentioned, by saying she was so excessively nervous, that she could not hold the pen. It was also discovered that she had practised the trick of taking small quantities of poison, and of attempting to commit suicide, in many parts of the country, where she generally imposed on the credulous; and obtained by such means support and money from the humane. It also appeared that she had been committed as a vagrant from the Sessions at Hicks's Hall to Bridewell, from whence she was lately discharged. After her deception was discovered, she was sent to the Compter, to undergo an examination before a Magistrate. The letters from the Gordon family were produced in Court, and the facts here enumerated were stated by two Gentlemen, named Cotton and Cotterell, and one of the Aldermen, who was present during her former examination. It was urged that her attempt to excite the compassion of the public by the impositions she had practised, was enough to induce the Alderman to commit her as an incorrigible vagrant, in order that she might be punished by imprisonment or transportation, according to the statute. The defendant gave a very indifferent account of herself, and the Magistrate remanded her for further examination on Tuesday, when he expressed a hope that some of the individuals who had been the dupes of her impositions, would come forward, and state a direct charge against her.

ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

MURDER.—Thursday an inquisition was taken at Woolwich, on view of the body of *Thomas Jones*, a convicted mutineer, who was confined on board the *Retribution* hulk. It appeared that one of the convicts, who was unloading bricks from a barge, had thrown past a brick at the overseer, and struck him on the head. The overseer could not tell which of the convicts had thrown the brick, and the convicts refused to disclose the guilty person, and, in consequence, they were deprived of some indulgencies they had been accustomed to.—Having obtained information that *William Coleman*, another convicted mutineer, was the person who threw the brick, he had Coleman put into heavy irons; and Coleman having taken it into his head that *Thomas Jones* was the person who had informed against him, although Jones had not done so, and was his intimate friend, Coleman in the evening appeared much enraged, and said he would do some mischief that night; that he knew his man, and would have the life of two or three before the morning; but he drank some porter with Jones, and they appeared very good friends, when Coleman went to bed, but during the night he was seen to get up, and go to a seat belonging to one of the convicts, who was a shoe-maker, from whence he took a round pointed knife, the sharpness of which he tried with his thumb; he then with that knife broke open a little box, from which he took a sharp-pointed knife, and said, "this will do for him." He next went to a table, on which a lamp was burning, and tried the point of the knife upon the table. He then turned to Jones's hammock, which hung near, and, raising his hand with the knife in it, stabbed Jones in the neck with such violence as to penetrate nearly to the blade bone; the blood gushed from the wound with great force, and in a few minutes Jones died. The Jury without hesitation gave a verdict of—*Wilful Murder* against Coleman, who was committed to Maidstone goal for trial.

AN ACTIVE MAGISTRATE.—On Monday an immense concourse of people assembled at Blackheath, for the purpose of viewing a pitched battle, composed chiefly of Irish labourers from Deptford. Alderman ATKINS was passing on his way to his country house at Charlton, just as the combatants were about to set to; he very properly interfered in order to prevent the fight, and on addressing the mob in a temperate and dignified manner, they began to disperse, but a man named *Carter* resisting, the Alderman with much spirit seized the culprit by the collar, and took him to a magistrate at Woolwich, where he was dismissed on acknowledging his fault. During this absence from the scene of tumult, the pugilists rallied, but they were again dispersed on the arrival of the Alderman, who insisted on their dispersion, regardless of the shouts, howlings, and threats of vengeance uttered by the mob. The blackguards, on this second disappointment, attempted to retire into Surry, out of the Alderman's jurisdiction, but on his sending intelligence to the Surry Magistrates of their design, the vagabonds finally dispersed. Thus, by the activity and courage of the worthy Alderman, a scene of brutality was prevented, which in all probability would have ended in murder, as the Irishmen were much inflamed with liquor.—If every magistrate would do his duty like Alderman ATKINS, there would soon be an end to the brutal exhibitions which so frequently disgrace the country.

On Wednesday, as Baron Hompesch was returning from Windsor in his sulky, he was stopped between Datchet and Colebrook by a single footpad, who demanded his money.—The Baron, it is said, presented the but-end of his whip, which forms a huge-horn, and swore if he did not take himself off, he would lodge the whole of the lead it contained in his brains. The fellow taking it for a blunderbuss, quickly disappeared. The Baron, to avoid a second attack, mended his pace, and shortly after, as he was driving rapidly, he came in contact with a man on horseback, when both horses were knocked down, and the Baron's sulky dashed in pieces. The Baron and the man, as well as their horses, were so much bruised, but it was with difficulty they were removed; fortunately they had no limbs broken.

Wednesday evening an inquest was held before Thomas Shelton, on the body of a young man who put an end to his existence by hanging himself on Tuesday night, in the cellar of Mr. Axford, grocer, on Ludgate-hill, where the deceased lived shopman. It appeared that the deceased was subject to melancholy; and the Jury returned a verdict of Lunacy.

A shocking accident happened at the house of Mrs. Springe, in Oxford-road, on Sunday night.—A young lady of the name of Noble, who, with an aged mother, occupied the first floor and garrets of the house, soon after twelve o'clock fell from the window of the front attic; and was killed on the spot. This awful catastrophe happened whilst the deceased was walking in her sleep, which was so customary with her; that the act did not excite surprize, nor did it awake the mother. Verdict—*Accidental Death*.

On Friday se'night last a most daring robbery was committed by a single footpad; in the vicinity of Bow. An opulent Essex farmer, named Yates, was returning home in the evening, after disposing of some live stock at Smithfield-market; and shortly after he got on the other side Stratford-bridge, a ruffian seized the bridle of his horse, and demanded his money. Mr. Yates, who is rather diminutive in stature; prudently abstained from making any resistance, but attempted to spur his horse on—in which, however, he was prevented by the fellow's immediately presenting a pistol to his breast, and vowing vengeance if he did not instantly deliver. By these means the ruffian extorted from Mr. Yates about 80*l.* in bank notes, about 5*l.* in bills of exchange, with which he escaped. It is a most remarkable circumstance that there were not a few eye-witnesses to this violent outrage; none of whom ventured to interfere!

BIRTHS.

At Battersea Rise, the Lady of Francis Freeling, Esq. of the Post Office, of a daughter.

The wife of a journeyman wheelwright, named Hazleton, an industrious young man; but in low circumstances, was on Friday morning brought to bed of three boys, all likely to do well. She resides opposite Upper George-street, Edgware-road.

MARRIAGES.

On Tuesday, by special licence, at Mrs. Talbot's, in Wimpole-street, the Right Hon. Lord Boringdon, to Miss Talbot, of Wymondham, Norfolk.

Last week, at Birmingham, Mr. John Scriven, of Alcester, Warwickshire, to Mrs. Bratt, of Litchfield.

On Monday at Bath, — Hartley, Esq. just come of age, and into possession of from 6 to 8000*l.* per annum, landed property, to Miss Watts, the daughter of the Parish Clerk of St. Michael's, whose celebrity as a tobler stands unrivalled. The young man has settled 300*l.* per annum on his father-in-law, and 800*l.* per annum on his wife. The ceremony commenced at eight o'clock, the bridegroom had no sooner given his troth, than he was taken with fainting fits, and it was not till half past eleven the service was renewed. Shortly after the uncle arrived to forbid the marriage. On leaving the church they were greeted by the populace.

DEATHS.

At Dublin, T. Fleming, Esq. one of the Aldermen of that City. He was preparing to make a summer excursion to Wexford, and was examining his travelling pistols previously to his setting off, when one of them went off, and the ball entered below his nostril, penetrated the brain, and produced immediate death.

On Wednesday night, Miss Emily Harriet Hodgson:—she was leaving the house of Mrs. Hammet, in Portland-street, where she had spent the evening with a party, when she dropped suddenly whilst stepping into a coach with her brother, and expired in a few minutes. Her death was occasioned by an apoplectic fit.