

# THE EXAMINER.

No. 143 SUNDAY, SEPT. 23, 1810.

## THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

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

No. 140.

### CONTINENTAL PRINCES.

SOME time ago a Nobleman rose up in the House of Lords, and with a pettiness little expected from a man of his Lordship's connexions, views, and accomplishments, expressed great indignation at seeing the Crowned Heads of the Continent treated with disrespect in the newspapers. Whether or not his Lordship principally alluded to this paper, which had expressed much indignation of an opposite kind, I cannot determine; but certain it is, that incalculable mischief has arisen from paying those Crowned Heads too much respect; and a journalist should be anxious to save his countrymen, first from the vice of praising folly and exciting its drivelling efforts, and second from the mortification of being compelled to revoke these praises or the shame of continuing them against conviction. The above noble lord may have been, for aught I know, at the old court of Spain, and may have suffered his faculties to be overwhelmed by some smirking attentions from a personage infinitely less respectable than himself; but why should we like imbecility, because we disapprove ambition? Why should we set up a kind of opposition homage to folly and worn-out despotism, because our enemy is a man of talents and a formidable despot? Persons, who give into these errors, naturally fall into all sorts of inconsistencies. They denounce one tyrant because he reigns over Frenchmen, and flatter another because he happens to be a Russian; they lament the downfall of the Pope, and abuse the Irish for being of his communion; they talk of the necessity of men of talents in office, and stir up the continental dotards against France; and they execrate BONAPARTE as an usurper with the very same lips which blessed and encouraged the Empress CATHERINE when she made a skew of resisting the French armies! In all this there is neither virtue nor policy. Follies and crimes do not become amiable or odious as they attach to this or that person: wherever they are, and whatever shape they wear, they injure the cause of sound freedom, and it becomes an Englishman not only to oppose them when acknowledged enemies, but to discountenance them, by every means in his power, when pretended friends. To denounce the ambition of BONAPARTE is perfectly rational, is just and patriotic, nay is absolutely incumbent on all who would prove their respect for virtue; but then, it is quite as just and as necessary to denounce the follies and vices of those who give this ambition its opportunities,—who prepared the Continent for

its last blow, and who would nevertheless still claim our sympathy and good word. Half the miseries of the Continent are owing to bad Ministers; and from what do bad Ministers arise but from foolish Kings?

When BONAPARTE began to develop his ambitious plans against Europe, the state of continental Royalty was truly deplorable. From North to South, the crowns were upon heads manifestly unfit to wear them. It seemed as if Providence itself had smitten them with prophetic weakness; or as if, by intermarriages and hereditary infirmity, the whole race was debased and exhausted. In Russia reigned a lunatic, who belaboured people with his own hands for not saluting him and for wearing a round hat; the KING OF DENMARK was an idiot; the KING OF SWEDEN exhibited, to say the least of it, marks of a very fantastic mind; the GERMAN EMPEROR and the KING OF PRUSSIA were men of flat mediocrity,—and the petty Princes of Germany, with the exception perhaps of the ELECTOR OF BAVARIA, fondly wrapped themselves up in that little self-sufficiency so peculiar to their rank and nation; the POPE was as weak in mind as in power; the QUEEN OF PORTUGAL was a lunatic, and her Son the REGENT a devotee; the KING OF SPAIN was a dotard despised even by the loyal Spaniards; and to sum up this appalling list, the KING OF NAPLES, his brother, spent his time in shooting partridges and contending with watermen. Posterity will look back with astonishment to an era so fatal and so unparalleled.

Of these Princes of the first class, two are since dead, two have been utterly despoiled of their influence, and five have been driven from their thrones; but amidst so many and such fearful warnings, have themselves or their successors shewn at any time a promise of better government, a dawning ray of intellect or of enlarged feeling indicative of better days? Not one, with the exception of the present KING OF DENMARK, who remained neuter as long as he could. To the frantic PAUL of Russia has succeeded the great boy ALEXANDER, who is like a tawdry servant driving a huge unmanageable coach which threatens every minute to break down with him;—the KING OF SWEDEN has been displaced to make way for an old man, who quietly receives an heir from the French, and who

\* This Monarch, whom we call pusillanimous whenever he inclines towards the French, and magnanimous whenever he looks towards us, is vain of his person, the turns and graces of which he displays by every possible mode of attitude and tight clothes. It is said that when he presented himself before the French Emperor on the raft at Tilsit, BONAPARTE exclaimed with a theatrical gesture of admiration, "The Belvidere Apollo!" This piece of French policy, though likely enough to succeed, may well be doubted as uncharacteristic of NAPOLEON; but the story serves to shew the light in which the understanding of this magnanimous Russian is held.

will be displaced in his turn;—the GERMAN EMPEROR, encouraged into a succession of useless coalitions but never into one necessary piece of reform, sits peaceably down as the father-in-law of his enemy, and, according to the court-gazettes, takes an interest in his son's conquest of Spain;—the KING OF PRUSSIA perhaps can no longer do any thing, if he would;—the PRINCE REGENT of Portugal has gone to America to preserve what he can of superstition for the benefit of those who come after him;—the representatives of the KING OF SPAIN call out for liberty and enslave the press;—and King FERDINAND of Naples passes his time in mending fowling-pieces and in execrating the French for having interrupted his sports. †

It is as well to recal these things to mind now and then, lest Ministers should continue to deceive us about persons who still struggle against the subjugation of the Continent; and lest, at no great distance of time, they should demand the aid of our purses and persons in assisting some one of this lamentable list against other enemies in another part of the globe. Persons of the least unprejudiced reflection would imagine such dynasties should be suffered to expire when they will not mend; but in spite of all the miseries they have wilfully brought upon their subjects and upon their allies, there are people, who with as much ease as if they were taking boxes at a theatre, talk of securing places in America for CHARLES of Spain and his

† There are one or two characteristic stories of this Prince, with which the public may not be acquainted. The reader may rely upon them as coming from the most incontrovertible source. When his Majesty was driven from Naples, and had reached the coast of Sicily in safety, he bethought himself of certain near and dear friends who had been unfortunately left behind, and he commanded, with an agitation proportioned to the danger, that some person should go back instantly at the risk of his life and bring them over. These friends were his dogs and fowling pieces, which after much difficulty and hazard were brought away in triumph, and received with tears of exultation by their fond master.—His Majesty, it is well known, has always been a great, though not a very magnanimous sportsman. He hunted the gentler quadrupeds with great spirit, and brought down pheasants with still greater eclat; but he had no great affection to any danger on such occasions. One day however he could not resist the temptation of hunting a new animal that had been procured for him,—the buffalo. After taking a few little precautions, such as choosing his station near a tree, and entrenching himself behind a fence over which he was to fire at the said buffalo, he boldly waited for the beast, which was gently driven by the spot; but whether the buffalo had a French cast of countenance, or the fence appeared not quite so snug as might be wished, certain it is, that his Majesty did neither more nor less than climb up with great vigour into the above-mentioned tree, from which, in due time, he was helped down by his attendants, saying at the same time to the English Ambassador, "Many persons, Chevalier, have a strange antipathy, you know, to particular animals, such as cats and badgers; but for my part, I find that my antipathy is to the buffalo!" What a glorious ally have we

ALL AT



SON FERDINAND, and the *Edinburgh Review* has given an opinion in favour of this melancholy drollery. What! Is it not enough that one Prince of the old bigotted stock is there already, and must we think of transplanting more bigotry, more folly and misfortune, into the New World, as if it had not suffered enough already? For pity's sake, let us give up these hopes, as barbarous as they are impossible, and let one part of the world at least escape the shackles of France. Legitimate stupidity will do it as little good as illegitimate ambition.



## FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

### FRANCE.

PARIS, AUG. 31.—The Special Court of Criminal Justice of Paris, yesterday gave judgment against Francis Guillon, Merchant; Louis Biddard, Receiver of the Customs; Charles Chevalier, Lieutenant of the Customs; Andrew Louis Beranger, Serjeant of the Caponeers; Joseph Jean Herve, Marine; Jacques Grafford, Fishmonger; Christophe Helguin, Labourer; Casar Besard, Labourer; Mathurin Toussaint Legoute, Marine; and Francis Legrand;—all belonging to the departments of Finisterre and the north coasts, for having permitted a ship to enter the ports of France which had touched the coasts of England, and having introduced into France English merchandize, particularly colonial produce, the produce of English colonies, and coming direct from England. After three days investigation, Biddard and Chevalier were ordered to be fettered eight years, Beranger five years, Guillon and Herve to be imprisoned three months, Helguin two months, Besard and Legoute one month. Grafford and Legrand were acquitted. Guillon, Herve, Helguin, Besard, were besides condemned to pay 180,000 francs fine, and 60,000 francs for damage, interest, &c.

### NEWS FROM SPAIN.

ESTREMADURA.—A Spanish division commanded by Ballasteros, already driven back several times on the frontiers of Portugal, thought it had found a favourable opportunity for throwing itself upon Cordova,—while the 5th corps was manœuvring on the Guadiana. Gen. Gerard received orders to advance rapidly against the enemy, with his division, so as to cut off their retreat. This movement was executed; Ballasteros, at the head of 6000 men, was attacked on the 11th, half a league to the left of Villa Garcia. General Gerard routed him completely, took all his artillery, and after having killed great numbers, and made many prisoners, pursued him to Zafrá, to complete his destruction.

BLOCKADE OF CADIZ.—The works of the blockade are actively continued; the mounting and supply of the immense batteries of the road are completing; boats and other vessels are incessantly constructing for the flotilla. The debarkations made by the enemy to excite risings in the mountains of Ronda, have been driven back. The inhabitants of the kingdom of Genada themselves make war upon the brigands, whom they drive far from their homes. Gen. Sebastiani has placed the fort of Malaga in the best state of defence.

### TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHÂTEL AND WAGRAM.

"SIR—In my last dispatch I had the honour to acquaint you, that on the 26th the fortress of Almeida returned our fire till four in the afternoon; that then it ceased entirely; that at seven a considerable explosion took place in the fortress; and that the conflagration was kept up during the night by our bombs and howitzers. This state of things determined me to summon the Governor to surrender yesterday morning. He sent me some

officers to ask a cessation of hostilities. I made known to them the terms of capitulation which I should offer. Several hours of the day were employed in negotiation, which did not produce the success I desired. I therefore ordered our fire to recommence at eight in the evening, and three hours after the Governor of the place signed a capitulation, of which I have the honour to send you a copy, together with that of my summons. Almeida is thus in the possession of his Majesty the Emperor and King. We entered it this morning at nine o'clock. The garrison are prisoners of war, and shall be conducted to France. We have found on the batteries of the place 98 pieces of cannon, and 17 requiring repairs, 300,000 rations of biscuit, 100,000 rations of salted meat, and a great quantity of other provisions. I think it my duty to say something to your Highness of the disposition of the garrison. The Marquis d'Alorna, a General of Division, a Portuguese, and several other General or superior Officers of his nation, employed in the French army, approached the fortress while the negotiation was going forward. They were recognised from the walls by a great number of their countrymen, who loudly expressed their satisfaction at being freed from the yoke of the English; which was much increased when they learned that the Emperor had attached to his service, and in their several ranks, the Portuguese officers who were in France; and that far from having reduced them to the state of humiliation which the English make them feel at present, he had admitted them to the honour of fighting at his side, in his great campaigns.

"The horrors committed by the English are deplorable; they cut down the corn, destroy the mills, houses, and make a desert of that unfortunate country which they were invited to defend. They thus violate the law of nations and of war.—This nation is accustomed to respect nothing: its interest for the moment is its only law.

"It is the division of Loison, of the corps of the Duke of Elchingen, which has carried on the siege of Ciudad Rodrigo and Almeida. The two other divisions of that corps, the three divisions of the 2d corps, and the three divisions of the corps of the Duke of Abrantes, have not yet fired a musket. The Duke of Abrantes is at Ledesma; Gen. Regnier, commanding the 2d corps, is at Zara Mayor. The soldiers are in good health; the army is well provisioned, and burning with desire to teach the English that which we have already taught the division of Crawford. The Emperor may rely on the bravery and dispositions of the army, as well as on my zeal and respectful devotion. I have the honour, &c.

"MASSENA,  
"Prince of Estling."

"Fort Conception, Aug. 28.

[By the CAPITULATION the garrison are to be prisoners of war, with the honours of war. The militia are to return to their homes, after having deposited their arms; the garrison are not to serve during the present war against France or her Allies; and the military stores and artillery are to remain at the disposal of the French.]

BAYONNE, AUG. 22.—The day before yesterday the last troops of the division of Drouet, which consists of 12,000 men, passed through this city on their way to Spain.

#### GERMANY.

AUSTRIA, AUG. 22.—It is stated for certain, that the Court of Vienna has concluded a treaty with that of France, by which it is stipulated that the former shall be indemnified upon another side for all that she has lost.

#### STATE PAPER.

#### TREATY BETWEEN HIS BRITANNIC MAJESTY AND THE PRINCE REGENT OF PORTUGAL.

This compound of nonsense and impolicy, of humanity and justice, was signed at Rio de Janeiro on the 19th of February, 1810.—After stipulating, in the usual pleasant style, that "there shall be a perpetual, firm, and unalterable friendship, defensive alliance, and strict and inviolable union," &c. &c. it states,

in Art. 3, "that his Majesty promises in his own name, and in that of his heirs and successors, never to acknowledge as King of Portugal any Prince other than the heir and legitimate Representative of the Royal House of Braganza."—The 6th Article grants to the English the liberty of cutting timber in the forests of the Brazils, and of building ships of war in the ports of that Empire.—By the 9th Article, "the Prince Regent, guided by an enlightened and liberal policy, takes the opportunity afforded by the present treaty to declare spontaneously, in his own name and in that of his heirs and successors, that the *Inquisition shall not be established in the South American dominions of the Crown of Portugal.*"—And by the 10th and last Article, with equal humanity and sound policy, the Prince Regent "being fully convinced of the injustice and impolicy of the Slave Trade, and of the great disadvantages which arise from the necessity of introducing and continually renewing a foreign and factitious population, for the purpose of labour and industry, within his South American dominions, has resolved to co-operate with his Britannic Majesty in the cause of humanity and justice, by adopting the most efficacious means for bringing about a *gradual Abolition of the Slave Trade throughout the whole of his dominions.*"

(Signed) STRANGFORD.  
CONDE DE LINHERES.

#### PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

A few nights ago, a Mrs. G. wife of a shipwright in Chatham Dock-yard, who resided at Brompton, after having had words with her husband, swallowed a large dose of arsenic, which she had provided and kept secret a week before; the desperate act was succeeded by vomiting and dreadful agonies, and though medical aid was immediately resorted to, she died in less than three hours.

A shocking accident occurred at Royd's Foundry, near Leeds, on Friday se'night: about eleven o'clock in the forenoon, the iron metal in a state of fusion unexpectedly burst from the furnace, and carried away a young man who was unluckily standing near it, and who actually floated upon the liquid iron several yards before he could be extricated from his horrible situation. He was dreadfully burnt, but survived until morning, when death released him from his sufferings.

#### LANCASTER ASSIZES.

LIVERPOOL THEATRE.—THE KING V. LEMON AND OTHERS.

This subject was brought before the Court upon a criminal information against Mr. Abraham Lemon, (the nephew of Dr. Solomon), and four other persons, charging them with intending to injure and impoverish Mr. William Thomas Lewis and Mr. Thomas Knight, the Managers of the Liverpool Theatre, and for that purpose conspiring to compel them, by riotous and tumultuous proceedings, to admit persons to the Theatre at half price.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL (Mr. Serjeant COCKELL) observed, that the Public had, by designing persons, been grossly deluded with respect to the law upon the subject of the conduct to be observed in Theatres and other places of public entertainment. They had, he said, an undoubted right to express their disapprobation of a theatrical performance, or the performers, provided it was done *bona fide* and fairly; but any tumult, which was the result of any previous concert and conspiracy, either against particular Actors or the Managers, was an offence of equal magnitude with that of conspiring to injure any other individual in his person or property. He severely censured those who had been instrumental in deluding the unwary, describing them as men, who, under the pretence of liberty, were in disposition the veriest tyrants. He pointed out the danger which was to be apprehended from a lawless mob, whatever might be the supposed cause for exciting it; and he cited as an instance the dreadful riots in 1780.—He paid a high compliment to Mr. Lewis, and regretted that the evening of his life, spent in the service of the public, should have met with the return it had. Having stated that persons had never been admitted at half price to the Liverpool Theatre

since its original establishment, and commented upon the propriety of such an exclusion in that populous and turbulent town, he proceeded to detail the facts, which were deposed to by the witnesses, and concluded his address, by expressing his firm persuasion that the verdict on this occasion would convince the defendants, and the public at large, of the illegality of that conduct which had called for the present prosecution.

A vast number of witnesses were examined, who proved a variety of acts of violence, and the evidence completely implicated all the rioters named in the record.

Mr. RAINE addressed the Jury on the part of the defendants. The scope of his argument was chiefly directed to repel the charge of conspiracy.

Mr. Baron GRAHAM was of opinion, that the evidence went sufficiently to the proof of a conspiracy; but, as the consequences of a conviction for that offence were so highly penal, he recommended that the count in the information for the conspiracy should be given up.

This proposition, after some discussion, was acceded to by the Attorney-General, who observed, that the prosecution was not carried on by Messrs. Lewis and Knight, but by the Magistrates of Liverpool.

The defendants were then acquitted of the Conspiracy; and found Guilty of the Riot.

THE KING v. CARTER.

This was a prosecution of a similar nature, and the defendant was also found Guilty.

TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

Downing-street, Sept. 18, 1810.

A Dispatch, of which the following is an Extract, was on Sunday morning received at Lord Liverpool's Office, addressed to his Lordship by Lieut.-Gen. Lord Wellington, K. B. &c. dated Cacerico, Aug. 29, 1810.

The enemy opened their fire upon Almeida late on Saturday night or early on Sunday morning, the 26th inst., and I am concerned to add that they obtained possession of the place in the course of the night of the 27th. I have no intelligence upon which I can rely, of the cause of its surrender. An explosion had been heard at our advanced posts, and I observed on Monday that the steeple of the church was destroyed, and many houses of the town unroofed. I had a telegraphic communication with the Governor, but unfortunately the weather did not allow of our using it on Sunday, or during great part of Monday, and when the weather cleared on that day, it was obvious that the Governor was in communication with the enemy.

After I was certain of the fall of the place, I moved the infantry of the army again into the valley of the Mondego, keeping a division upon Guarda, and the out-posts of the cavalry at Alverca. The enemy attacked our picquets twice yesterday in the morning, but feebly, and they were repulsed; in the afternoon, however, they obliged Sir S. Cotton to draw in his posts to this side of Fraxedas. Captain Lygon, of the 16th Light Dragoons, was wounded in the morning, and two men of the Royal Dragoons were wounded in the afternoon. A picquet of the regiment made a gallant and successful charge upon a party of the enemy's infantry and cavalry, and took some prisoners.

The second corps under Gen. Regnier has made no movement of any importance since I had the honour of addressing your Lordship last. A patrol, however, belonging to this corps fell in with a squadron of dragoons, consisting of one troop of the 13th British, and one troop of the 4th Portuguese, belonging to Lieut.-Gen. Hill's corps, under the command of Captain White, of the 13th, and the whole of them were taken, with the exception of the Captain and one man, who, I since understand, have been killed. I inclose a copy of Brigadier General Fane's report to Lieut.-Gen. Hill of this affair, which it appears was highly creditable to Capt. White, and the allied troops engaged. No movement has been made, and nothing of any importance has occurred in Estremadura since I addressed your Lordship last. In the North, the enemy moved a small body of infantry and cavalry on the 20th to Alcanizas; but

Gen. Silveira moved towards them from Braganza, and they immediately retired.

Escalhos de Cima, Aug. 22.

SIR—I have the honour to report to you, that the troop of the 13th Light Dragoons, and one of the 4th Portuguese Dragoons, forming the squadron under the Command of Captain White of the 13th, at Ladoera, this morning fell in with a patrol of the enemy's dragoons, consisting of one Captain, two subalterns, and about sixty men. Captain White fortunately succeeded in coming up with them, when he immediately charged and overturned them; and the result has been the capture of two Lieutenants, three Serjeants, six Corporals, one Trumpeter, and 50 Privates, and about 50 horses. The Captain was also a prisoner, but escaped during the bustle on foot. I am happy to say, this has been performed without the loss of a man on our side. Six of the enemy are wounded. Captain White expresses his obligation to Major Vigoreux, of the 88th regiment, who was a volunteer with him, and to Alferes Pedro Reymundo di Oliviera, commanding the Portuguese troop (which he states to have done its duty extremely well, and to have shewn much gallantry), and also to Lieutenant Turner, of the 13th Light Dragoons, to whose activity and courage he reports himself to be indebted for several of his prisoners. I trust the whole will be considered to have merited the approbation of the Commander in Chief. I have the honour to be, &c.

Lieutenant-General Hill.

H. FANE.

BANKRUPTCY ENLARGED.

C. Spilbury, Angel-court, Skinner-street, printer, from Sept. 18 to Nov. 27, at ten, at Guildhall.

BANKRUPTS.

W. Endall, Chipping-Norton, mercer.  
T. Bayley, London, and J. Foothorape, Birmingham, iron-mongers.  
R. Arscott, Pynes Mills, Exeter, merchant.  
T. Whitmarsh, New Sarum, carrier.  
J. Simpson, Holbeck, merchant.  
C. Miller, Hackney, dealer in cattle.  
J. Langdon, St. Thomas the Apostle, Devonshire, tallow-chandler.  
W. Hollamby, Leadenhall-street, merchant.  
A. Mackenzie, Hammond's-court, Mincing-lane, merchant.  
T. M. and W. Phillips, Twyford, Wiltshire, menmen.  
T. Gordon and T. Steadman, Tower-street, merchants.  
S. Lee, Birchin-lane, merchant.

SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

This Gazette contains a Letter from Capt. Cockburn, of the Implacable, to Admiral Keats, detailing the particulars of a descent and successful attack, in conjunction with the Spanish General Lasey, upon a strong corps of French troops posted at Moguer, on the 25th of August. The French not being prepared for the visit, were soon driven from the town; but having rallied in the neighbourhood, they attempted to regain what they had lost, and in their turn made several desperate attacks on the Spanish line; but being worsted in every attempt, they fled to Seville with considerable loss.—The Spaniards had about 40 killed and wounded.

The Gazette also contains an account of the capture of L'Alexandre French privateer, of four guns, by the Venerable, Capt. Sir Home Popham; also an account of the destruction of two Danish armed vessels, by two row-boat luggers, under the command of Lieutenants Streatfield and Stackpoole, of the Gauges, without any loss on our part.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

R. Pearson, Teunterden, Kent, draper and tailor.

## BANKRUPTS.

J. Thacker, Bury St. Edmunds, brandy-merchant.  
 T. Thomas, Charter-House-square, jeweller.  
 J. F. Bethell, Wells-street, Hackney, baker.  
 J. Haywood, Wood-street, Cheapside, woollen-draper.  
 R. Kennett, Cheapside, hatter.  
 F. Everett, Woolley, Wiltshire, clothier.  
 T. Lewis, Cushion-court, Broad-street, ironmonger.  
 J. A. Johnson, Friar's-street, Blackfriar's-road, melter.  
 G. Jarritt, Piccadilly, hatter.  
 R. Shaw, Stoke-upon-Trent, Staffordshire, merchant.  
 T. Parkin, Broad-street, London, merchant.  
 T. Knowles, Leeds, ironmonger.  
 J. and T. Price, Bristol, wine-merchants.  
 R. Heath, jun. London-road, Southwark, coach-maker.  
 J. Stark, High-Holborn, dealer in flour.  
 E. Butler, Depford, brewer.  
 J. Jewel, Angel-street, Butcher-Hall-lane, taylor.  
 J. Gill, Upper Mary-le-bone-street, leather-cutter.  
 W. Nicholls, Piccadilly, linen-draper.  
 A. Salmonson, Wellelose-square, merchant.  
 J. Munt and T. Adams, Leadenhall-street, hat-makers.  
 T. Hewlett, Southborough, Kent, gunpowder-manufacturer.  
 W. Loat, Little Ormond-street, Middlesex, plasterer.  
 T. Loud, Devonshire-street, piano forte-maker.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The Prison Abuses in Ireland under the Earl of HARDWICK'S Administration, shall not escape notice.

A REFORMIST,—A MAN OF WESTMINSTER,—F—R,—and other Communications,—next week.—C. D. is received.

## THE EXAMINER.

LONDON, SEPTEMBER 23.

ALMEIDA has fallen. The French opened their fire on the 26th ult. and in 24 hours the gallant and patriotic Portuguese opened their gates and surrendered themselves prisoners of war. Lord WELLINGTON seems quite ignorant of the cause of its submission; but if any reliance is to be placed on MASSENA'S account of the conquest, it appears to have been accelerated by the disposition of the inhabitants themselves, "who," according to the French General, "loudly expressed their satisfaction at being freed from the yoke of the English."—Notwithstanding the reiterated complaints of the Ministerialists of the "false intelligence" transmitted from the seat of war by ill-affected persons,—notwithstanding my Lord WELLINGTON has himself officially charged certain nameless Officers of his army with being the authors of such incorrect information, Ministers still persevere in giving us only "an Extract" of his Lordship's dispatch. Why an extract merely? Why not shew, from the "best authority," that the dismal reports from head-quarters are indeed fabrications?—The Journals in the service of Ministers tell us, that the French army is suffering under numerous privations,—that its ranks are daily thinned by disease and desertion,—and that Portugal is safe. Doubtless all this is from the "very best authority," yet Ministers, instead of publishing the good news at length, mortify their adherents and disappoint the public by meagre and garbled extracts. The farce, however, is rapidly closing: it is even said that

a battle has been fought, which terminated in the full retreat of the allied army. This news is not confirmed; but it is evident, as well from Lord WELLINGTON'S account as from that of MASSENA, that the crisis is approaching. "The enemy," says his Lordship, "attacked our picquets twice yesterday (Aug. 28.) in the morning, but feebly, and they were repulsed; in the afternoon, however, they obliged Sir S. Cotton to draw in his posts to this side of Fraxedas."—This is the usual forerunner of a general engagement; and the following passage in the French General's Letter, which is dated the very day when the British posts were thus driven in, confidently indicates the intention of the enemy to bring the English to battle:—"The soldiers are in good health; the army is well provisioned, and burning with desire to teach the English that which we have already taught the division of CRAWFORD. The Emperor may rely on the bravery and dispositions of the army, as well as on my zeal and respectful devotion."—The behaviour of the Portuguese at Almeida, though headed by a British officer, gives but a sad promise of their conduct in the approaching hour of peril. Reinforcements from France have been pouring into Portugal; the enemy is in motion; and the next accounts are expected to be decisive of the fate of that harassed and unhappy country.

There is a speech in this day's Paper of Mr. RANDLE JACKSON, a Bank Proprietor, which is not less amusing than instructive.—The Report of the Bullion Committee has given the utmost offence to the paper-makers in Threadneedle-street, who loudly complain of its injurious recommendations, its fallacies, its preposterous assertions, and its ignorance of commercial operations.—All this was to be expected: Mr. PERCEVAL was in a minority in the Bullion Committee; and though Mr. PERCEVAL had confessed in the House, with much modesty, that he was not well informed on the question, yet some new light must have broken in upon him, as he chose to differ from those Gentlemen of the Committee who are confessedly (the Bank Proprietors excepted) the best qualified to form the public judgment.—The Report was considered by the sober and disinterested part of the community as a paper drawn up with much ability, containing sound views of policy, and recommending the adoption of various salutary measures.—But never were men so mistaken! The Bank Proprietors, with the Governor at their head, assure us, with many harsh words, that the Committee are not only in error, but that they are wilfully so,—that their Report is in direct opposition to the evidence before them,—that the issue of Bank Notes has been rather parsimonious than excessive,—that their recommendation to pay in specie at the end of two years would be ruinous to the "Monied Interest" and the public,—that the Nation is under great obligations to the Bank,—and that the Directors are the most patriotic and disinterested of men. This, it must be confessed, is

somewhat hard to be believed, particularly as it comes from the parties themselves: still the information afforded will have its uses. From undoubted authority, the public know the full extent of their obligations to the Bank Directors. Had it not been for those Gentlemen, Mr. PITT could not have sent our cash to the Continent by ship-loads; their timely advances "enabled Government to subsidize our Allies;" but for them, our army in Flanders, which did so much and cost so little, must have been withdrawn; and finally, but for their patriotic sacrifices, Mr. PITT's "Government could not have gone on." Sincerely is it to be hoped, that the public will never forget what they owe to the Bank for these multiplied services. No; they never can and they never will forget the obligation, and in due time will repay it, as in duty bound, with an overwhelming interest. What a picture does Mr. JACKSON draw of the patience and patriotism of these disinterested Directors! Twenty-nine times did they prostrate themselves before the Premier, beseeching him not to have recourse to the proposed restriction; but all in vain: he prevailed; and "the sacrifices the Bank made for the public safety, produced the inconvenience it then suffered;"—the inconvenience of compelling the Public by law to take their notes instead of cash, which has filled their pockets and emptied those of the people.—Mr. JACKSON'S appeal to an "intelligent House of Commons," was not necessary. The Report is opposed by the Minister; it appears to be directed by policy and wisdom, and seems calculated to alleviate (if any thing can alleviate) the evils produced by an immoderate issue of paper money. Such being the case, he may rest assured that it will ultimately be rejected by the House.

Dispatches were yesterday morning received at the Admiralty from Oporto, dated the 5th inst. which state, that intelligence had been received from Lord WELLINGTON, two days later in date than the Dispatches from his Lordship announcing the surrender of Almeida. The British head-quarters were still at Celerico, and the divisions of the army in their former positions. Skirmishes with the different out-posts were daily occurring.

Dispatches were yesterday received at the Admiralty from Cadiz. They have brought an Extraordinary Gazette of the Regency, dated the 30th ult. The Expedition under General LASEY has, it is said, been completely successful. An immense booty had been taken, which was divided among the army on the spot. The French are said to have fled in all directions.

The following very distressing information was posted at Lloyd's yesterday forenoon; it rests on the authority of a private letter received in the morning by a house of the first respectability:—

"GOTTENBURGH, SEPT. 10.—We have just heard, that out of a convoy of thirty-five sail, bound to the Baltic, twenty-one have been lost, with all their crews, a few days ago, not far from Marstrand."

N. B. The Gottenburgh list, received yesterday, is of the same date as the letter, and makes no mention of the circumstance.

The French cartel Eliza arrived at Falmouth, on Wednesday, from Morlaix. She brought over Mr. RIDGEWAY, the American Consul at Antwerp, who was the bearer of dispatches from General ARMSTRONG to Mr. PINCKNEY. General ARMSTRONG had left Paris, and was expected to embark for America last Monday. When the cartel sailed, it was reported at Morlaix that Generals JUNOT, MACDONALD, and BELLIARD, had incurred BONAPARTE'S displeasure, and had been recalled from Spain. Mr. POWELL, Secretary to Mr. PINCKNEY, sailed from Plymouth in a cartel on Saturday, and landed at Morlaix on Sunday.

PROPHETRY!—In MOORE'S Almanack, for the present year, are the following lines, descriptive of what is to happen in the month of November next. The great national cause of *Law against Privilege* is to come before a Jury for decision on the 20th of that month:—

"Something is a'goin' for the PUBLIC GOOD,  
" And those dispers'd, which once the same withstood;  
" This seems a month of gen'rous pleasing action,  
" Which to the People's hearts gives satisfaction!"

At the Old Bailey yesterday, *Henry Griffen* was indicted for the murder of his wife, on the 4th of September, by cutting her throat. It appeared in evidence that the deceased lived with her husband in Quaslow-street, Saffron-hill, at the time of the murder, and she was a woman given to every vice, drunkenness, infidelity, &c. She had been from home a day and a night previous to the murder, and her husband, accompanied by his brother and sister, met her in Bartholomew Fair, and at her suggestion they drank gin together; after which they all returned together to the prisoner's lodgings. They went into a room without a light, and shortly after the neighbourhood was alarmed by the sister of the prisoner calling out "Murder." On the neighbours entering the house the deceased, on being questioned, gave them to understand by signs that her husband had murdered her. She died on her way to a hospital.—The prisoner, on being interrogated, did not deny the murder, but stated he hoped she was dead, and then he would not mind being hanged, as he should die happy. He also asked those who were interrogating him, how any one of them would like to have another man brought to his bed in his presence, and then for a wife to tell him that this said man would chastise him with his fists the next day.—This was the substance of the evidence, which left no doubt as to the prisoner having killed the deceased.—BARON WOOD in his address observed that this was a distressing case. There was the evidence of the brother and sister of the deceased wanting. They were in the room when the deceased was killed, and it did not appear that any act of the prisoner had kept them away. If the prisoner had killed a person in the act of adultery, it would have been manslaughter,—and if in chiding his wife for infidelity she had struck him, and he in a moment of passion had snatched up a razor, it would have been manslaughter also,—but if the prisoner had cut his wife's throat on the score of infidelity, it was murder.—The Jury, after consulting together for more than six hours, returned a verdict of *Manslaughter*.

Seven of the miscreants who constituted the Vere-street gang were yesterday convicted at the Middlesex Sessions. *Cook*, the landlord, was sentenced to three years imprisonment, and the pillory; five to two years, and the pillory; and one for one year, without the pillory.

A Gentleman, who has within these few days arrived from Bourdeaux, and who resided there a considerable time, says, that at least 50,000 men had lately marched from thence towards Bayonne, to reinforce the French armies in the Peninsula.

Invitations have been sent to BERNADOTTE, both by the Emperor of Russia and the King of Denmark, to do them the honour to pass through their territories on his way to Stockholm.

A duel was fought early on Saturday morning on Wimbledon Common, between Mr. ROBE, a Purser, and a Veterinary Surgeon, lately returned from Portugal, whose name is said to be LEVER. The dispute arose from Mr. ROBE persisting in trespassing with dog and gun over the grounds of his antagonist, near Kingston, after having been warned off. The parties fired twice; and Mr. ROBE was wounded in the hand.

As a further preventative to Stage Coaches carrying a greater number of Passengers than they are allowed to do by Act of Parliament, the following Penalty, in addition to others already in force, is suggested by a Correspondent:—*That every Person who shall become Passenger, when the Coach has already its full number, shall HIMSELF be liable to the Penalty of 5l.* This, or a similar clause, inserted in the Act; would, he is convinced, be attended with infinite advantage, as it would be the means of preventing many accidents that are daily occurring, from the circumstance of the Stages being overloaded. At present, the Passengers of Stage Coaches not being subject to any penalty themselves, and, consequently, having no share in the risk of the Coachmaster being informed against, never find the least difficulty, by offering an ample fee to the Coachman, of obtaining a conveyance.

POOR ARIS was finally dismissed from his governorship on Thursday last by the Middlesex Magistrates. Neither Mr. MELLISH nor Mr. MAINWARING, his old and much valued friends, could save this respectable gentleman. All his past services were unheeded; his "loyal" professions were of no avail, and his attachment to "religion and social order" was useless in this his last extremity!—Mr. JOHN BOWLES has suggested that a Petition in his behalf be handed about for signatures,—a proposal which gives much satisfaction to the Society for the Suppression of Vice, who sympathize deeply in the sad situation of their old and tried servant. His friends are still sanguine as to his reinstatement: they calculate upon the exertions of all the admirers of "the Prerogative;" and though Mr. PERCEVAL, they say, does not like at present to stir in the business, yet they have not the smallest doubt that he will yet exert himself to the utmost at the proper season.—May their exertions be crowned with merited success.

A law for the suppressing of Duelling has passed in the Illinois territory, in America, founded on the Virginia code. The punishment of the surviving duellist (if his antagonist die within three months) the aiders, abettors, and counsellors thereof, to suffer death by hanging. The challenger, or person accepting a challenge, is declared incapable ever of holding or being elected to any office of profit or trust, civil or military, within the territory. Persons when entering upon the duties of office are to swear or affirm, that they have never been engaged in a duel, either directly or indirectly, in any wise whatever.

The Princess ALEXIA's indisposition still continues.

"To read while eating, was always my fancy," says ROUSSEAU, "in default of a tete a tete. 'Tis the supplement of society that I want. I alternately devour a page and a plateful."

#### AN O. P.'s RETORT; OR THE N. P. ANSWERED.

With what,—cry'd a wretched N. P.,—pale and wan,  
Will KEMBLE re-open his House?—injur'd man!  
With what?—an exulting O. P., said with pride,  
With six Private Boxes—just three on each side!  
Sept. 20, 1810. H. G.

#### ON GOING TO CHURCH.

Some go to Church just for a walk.  
Some go there to laugh and talk,  
Some go there for speculation.  
Some go there for observation.  
Some go there to meet a lover;  
Some the pulse oft discover.  
Some go there to meet a friend.  
Some go there the time to spend.  
Some go to learn the Parson's name.  
Some go there to wound his fame.  
Many go there to dose and nod;  
But few go there to worship God.

Chelsea, Sept. 7.

BARTHIUS.

#### THE BULLION COMMITTEE AND MR. JACKSON.

SIR,—I have been much edified by Mr. Randle Jackson's satisfactory Observations on the Report of the Bullion Committee, and infinitely amused by the Emendations his Speech has received from the luminous *Post*.

Alluding to the evidence of Mr. Merle, so ably stated by Mr. Jackson, I must profess my astonishment at the pertinacity of the Committee who resisted the weight of his answer to the Quere, How it could be that he knew of no difference between Bank Notes and Guineas, when he could sell the Guineas for more Money? \* Every body must now be satisfied that much evil cannot be done by the overbearing properties of gold, since a resistance to its bullying superiority will henceforward be the criterion of a good subject. The extreme delicacy which characterises commerce as to the mode of its gain, is notorious to every merchant's clerk who is admitted to that awful sanctum sanctorum, the inner counting-house. To make the world at large equally knowing, it is only necessary to publish the names of the proprietors of those guineas whose disloyal transit has been so roughly arrested. I fear the name of Mr. De Yonge alone will not satisfy the dreadful sceptics who doubt if the scite of the temple of virtue, disinterestedness, and patriotism, is exactly situated in that circle, the half of whose diameter is any line of a quarter of a mile from the Royal Exchange.

The opacity of the Bullion Committee is further made manifest by the further acute remark of Mr. Jackson, that had Mr. Merle been asked if he could not have bought of a Woollen Draper as much Cloth for one hundred and five pounds bank as for 100 guineas? he must inevitably have answered in the affirmative. I will not be the means of stigmatising any trade, Sir, having no doubt that woollen drapers are virtuous men, and that

\* "To this he replied, that if he chose to be a bad Subject, he could; but regulating his Conduct, as he did, by the Law of the Land, he knew no earthly difference between Bank Notes and Guineas to an equal amount."—*Mr. Jackson's Speech; Morning Post, 21st Sept.*

none among them would forfeit the title of a *good subject*, by the illegal acceptance of a premium on gold. The only fear to be entertained is, whether the most innocent dealer in broad cloth on earth, may not slip into the venial error of receiving more *commodity* for his gold, than he can get for his paper, as long as *bad subjects* are to be found disposed to give it to him.

After all, Sir, by Acts of Parliament, 1051. Bank are equal to one hundred guineas, although the natural operation of affairs have produced a difference. Now to call this difference a Discount on the one or a Premium on the other, in the face of the Act, savours of Jacobinism: why not be satisfied with calling it merely a *fact*?

Some of the flights of the Bank Orator are less ambitious, deserving no more than the praise of simple good sense. Such is that, I fear, which asserts the Bank, as a Company, to be clear of the blame of the restricting system, or the evils growing out of it. But so horrible is the heresy of these times, there are many who will object to his corollary, that the facilities afforded by the said Company to the support of Continental Armaments or Expeditions, undertaken on Mr. Perceval's bold principle of seeing what will turn up, have been of any service to the country at all.

I hasten to conclude, Mr. Examiner, my humble remarks on this very prominent subject, being a very simple man, much unversed in the mystery of money. I however mean to master it, if possible; and that I have some resolution will not be doubted, when I declare I have perused in my time parts of Sir John Sinclair's *Treatise on Longevity*, and am about to attack his *Right Honourable* Lubbing Pamphlet on the Bank Restriction.

I am, Sir, your constant Reader,  
Hunter-street, Sept. 21, 1810. AMICUS.

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MR. HORNE TOOKE.

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TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR,—Among the absurd propensities which tend to introduce a contempt for the popular opinion, there is, perhaps, no one more ridiculous, and at the same time more mischievous, than the disposition observable among the adherents of party, of every description, to indulge in the grossest abuse or most extravagant praise of public men, with many of whose particular actions and principles they are often totally unacquainted, even by report. It may be, that they have heard the general term "designing traitor," or "staunch patriot," annexed to a name; and, without any consideration, or inquiring respecting the conduct by which a man has earned so distinguished a title, they adopt the idea which it conveys, if consistent with the interest of the cause they have espoused, and circulate it with all the zeal of party spirit.

If the persons who act thus, were only the interested and dishonest, who consider no means objectionable, if conducive to their ends, they would not be worth noticing; but, unfortunately, (whatever may be the cause, whether it is indolence, or indifference respecting the truth, or the blindness of zeal, I know not,) we find the same spirit even among those, whose honesty, in other respects, we have no reason to doubt. I am by no means an advocate for concealing the faults of public men, or even for passing them by in silence: the freedom with which the conduct and characters of such men are discussed in this coun-

try, is the best security we can have for their honesty and integrity. Recent events, I am sorry to say, have proved it to be but a bad security, but still it is the best, since public opprobrium will reach them, when beyond the power of the law, and even when protected by a Court. Nevertheless, I cannot avoid thinking that general abuse, without the support of specific charges, is extremely unjust: it is a weapon that may be wielded by the most contemptible hand, and against which the most virtuous individual has no means of defence.

There are few men, if any, who, being conspicuous on account of their political conduct, have not, at some time or other, been the subject of this inconsiderate censure or praise; but I recollect no one who has lately been assailed by coarser and more violent invective, than Mr. John Horne Tooke. The arch hypocrite, the political fiend, the arch traitor, are some of the civil expressions with which I have seen the columns of the *Morning Post* ornamented, when the Editor has had occasion to mention that gentleman, as the fountain from which Sir Francis Burdett imbibed all his political principles; and in language nearly similar I have heard him abused by persons, who, when pressed to state the particular actions by which he had deserved so severe a treatment, were compelled to acknowledge that they were ignorant of any direct charge against Mr. Tooke, but said, they had always heard him spoken of as a very bad man.

I know nothing of Mr. Tooke, but that he is a very learned man, to whose literary labours this country is much indebted; and the sentiment of respect towards him, which was excited in my mind by that knowledge, has, I confess, been greatly increased by my being accustomed to consider him as a firm friend to the liberties of his country. However, it is very probable that he may be as bad as he is represented, without my knowing it; if he is so, I have no inclination to palliate his offences; but, as I wish to appreciate the character of every public man justly, I should be much gratified by seeing in your paper a short account of the most conspicuous parts of Mr. Tooke's political life: I say *political life*, for respecting his private history, as I have nothing to do with it, I have not the smallest curiosity. It is by their public actions that public men should be judged; for it is of them only that we can see the whole.

If, Sir, by the publication of this letter, or by a hint from yourself, (which will, perhaps, be better, as I am not accustomed to write for the public eye) you can stimulate some one who is competent to undertake the task, and enable us to form a correct estimate of Mr. Tooke's character, you will do an act of justice to the individual; and if his conduct will bear the test, an act of kindness; at the same time that you will oblige your constant reader and well-wisher,

VALERIUS.

September 14.

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ECONOMY.

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TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR—In these times, when nothing but groans are to be heard in the streets, and we are obliged to have recourse to the *Morning Post* or the *Courier* to be gratified with the flourishing state of the Empire, nothing, I conceive, can be more comfortable to the industrious who *batten* (not the Placemen and Contractors who *fatten*) on a war no less *glorious* than it is *just and necessary*, than to shew how, by an equally necessary economy, a man may live in the



hardest of times. Under this impression I am induced to send you an anecdote, which I have extracted from a small volume just published in Caledonia's capital, entitled *An Account of the Life and Character of Alexander Adam, L. L. D. Rector of the High School of Edinburgh.*"

Dr. Adam, it appears by this well-written memoir, was born in 1741, the son of one of those little farmers who then abounded in Scotland, but are now swallowed up in the vortex of monopolists, or rather pluralists. His father, though poor, had the honest ambition, so creditable to Scotchmen, of giving his son a liberable education—and the son appeared no less ambitious of profiting by this parental attention.—“Having gone through the routine of the Latin language, as it was then usually taught in a parochial school, Mr. Adam turned his steps towards Aberdeen, with the intention of contending for a Bursary, an exhibition of small value.” Being however unsuccessful, he proceeded to Edinburgh, and here comes the economical anecdote which was the cause of this letter, and which I shall give in his Biographers own words:—“His studies were continued with unremitting vigour, and his finances were so straitened, that in his anxiety to go forward to the grand object of his career, he even abridged his portion of the necessaries of life. He entered the Logic Class, in the vicinity of Edinburgh, 4th Nov., 1758, and about that time began to assist young Mr. Maconochie (now a Lord of Session, by the title of Lord Meadowbank) in that capacity which is commonly stiled a private teacher. For his services he received only one guinea in three months; yet, as he had no other method of raising a sixpence, he contrived to subsist upon this sum, and in a manner that will now appear incredible. He lodged in a small room at Restalrig, in the north-eastern suburbs; and for this accommodation he paid four-pence per week. All his meals, except dinner, uniformly consisted of oatmeal made into porridge, together with small beer, of which he only allowed himself half a bottle at a time. When he wished to dine, he purchased a penny loaf at the nearest baker's shop, and if the day was fair, he would dispatch his meal in a walk to the meadows, or Hope Park, which is adjoining the southern part of the city; but if the weather was foul, he had recourse to some long and lonely stairs (*the old houses in Edinburgh have all common staircases, mostly of an unconscionable height, one in particular being fourteen stories*) which he would climb, eating his dinner at every step. By this means all expence for cookery was avoided, and he wasted neither coals nor candle, for when he was chill, he used to run till his blood began to glow, and his evening studies were always prosecuted under the roof of some one of his companions. The youths of Scotland have hitherto been remarkable for parsimony and perseverance; but no man was ever more completely under the influence of a virtuous emulation than Mr. Adam. The particulars of his conduct which are here related, have not been exaggerated in any manner, for he frequently told the same story to his pupils. At a convivial meeting between Mr. Adam and Mr. Luke Fraser, another of the Masters of the High School, the latter, who was very sceptical as to Mr. Adam's parsimony, took the trouble of bringing together upon paper the various items of his friend's expenditure, and actually found that in six months it did not amount to two guineas!”

Now, Mr. Examiner, although I will allow that since the year 1758, the necessaries of life have been doubled,

or even trebled, I will ask where is the industrious man that cannot gain by the meanest employment ten times Mr. Adam's income?—and I would therefore recommend to your readers, instead of railing at the intolerable pressure of the times, to imitate the economy of Mr. Adam.

This address being meant only to give publicity to the preceding anecdote, I shall beg leave to refer your readers to the book itself for Dr. Adam's merits as a scholar, a teacher, a grammarian and an author; but I may just mention that during the forty-three years he held the Rectorship, by his talents and assiduity he raised the School (especially the higher class, which it was his immediate province to teach) from a very low state to the zenith of prosperity, and he was enabled for many years to live and entertain his friends in a stile of excellence perhaps not inferior to the Learned Lord his former pupil. I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

J. B.

Surrey, September 10.

#### MONEY LENDERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR,—I wish through the medium of your Paper to caution all your readers, particularly those in the Army and Navy, against having any transactions with the advertising *Money Lenders* who daily offer their services in the newspapers. In the *Metropolis*, at this time, we have about *twenty-six* of these *accommodating* concerns, and although they go under *different* firms, the majority of them are under the management of the well-known *Jew*, who has so often made his appearance in the different *Courts of Justice*.

AN ENEMY TO ROGGERY.

Lincoln's Inn.

#### THE APPEAL.

MR. EXAMINER,—In your Paper of the 16th I observe a letter signed *Philanthropos*, containing an Appeal to an imprudent young man, nearly allied to me. I have no idea that it will ever meet his eye; but should it, he cannot mistake the source it sprung from; and I can assure him it contains sentiments in *direct opposition* to those of his parents and friends, who (happy as they will ever be to serve him), upon reflection, view his absence as the most proper step to shake off the connection into which (at so very early a period of life) he has unfortunately been tropaned; and which they know to be now equally hateful to himself, fatal to his future happiness, and disgraceful to his family and friends.

J. P.

Great Coram-street, September 20.

#### IS BONAPARTE A MAN OF GENIUS?

In your Paper of the 9th instant, a Letter signed “Zenobio,” containing observations on the genius of Bonaparte, caught my attention: as the arguments advanced therein are such, I presume, as any impartial man may feel disposed to object to, I trust the author will pardon me for attempting to give my reasons for dissent.

In the first instance, Zenobio sets out with attempting to contradict what has been as widely asserted as universally acknowledged, viz. that *Bonaparte is a man of genius*. I will not cavil at his classical definition of the word *genius*; but if common sense be permitted to step in to our assistance, it will be found to apply in a more enlarged sense than is here assigned it. That a man must be *morally good*, must be “*something* di-

vine? before he can possibly be considered a genius, is a doctrine, which time has either rendered obsolete, or we moderns are more liberal in our notions of talent than the sages of antiquity; for which of us ever sees or reads a production of exquisite wit or invention, but immediately pronounces its author a man of genius, without any inquiry respecting his moral character? Nay, should he be found to be attached to the most depraved and vicious habits, it would not militate one atom against his claims to the rank of genius.—On these grounds solely, the most splendid characters of antiquity, as well as all those who fill up the gap of Time, and stand between them and us, may safely rest their pretensions to immortality. That Virgil was a good man has been as generally admitted, as that he was a man of genius; that Homer was a genius of the most exalted rank none can deny; yet, which of us know enough of Homer to say that he was a good man? That Ovid was a man of bad morals, and has done much to injure the happiness of society, surely none can doubt, though it would be Gothic barbarism in them to assert, that Ovid had not an exquisite genius! What, then, is this something divine, so necessary for the construction of a genius?

Having premised thus much, it next remains to examine in what respect we shall consider Bonaparte a man of genius? With some, the bare circumstance alone of having elevated himself from the ranks to the Emperorship of France, would be sufficient, for this is not the work of a fool, any more than a man of ordinary talents. Cromwell, a dissembling villain, performed a similar exploit; Cromwell has always been considered a man of genius, yet it is on this ground chiefly his claims to genius are rested. But not to insist too much on this point, have we not beheld Bonaparte, since his elevation, forming plans of the most comprehensive magnitude, and executing them with the most astonishing facility? You will say, they have not been accomplished by him individually:—Very true; but the genius of a man in Bonaparte's situation is not displayed so much in personal achievements, as in devising schemes for operation, and selecting discreetly proper persons for their execution. "I was in Brunswick at the time of the battle of Jena;—Bonaparte knew that the aged Duke had both his eyes shot away, but no mercy could be found in the hard heart of the Conqueror."

Surely this is raking up the ashes of one monster to spurt them in the face of another.

I will not defend Bonaparte—I will not defend the wanton acts of cruelty in any man. Mercy is an angel that pleads "trumpet-tongued," and savage is his heart who heeds her not; but, surely, I may be permitted to ask the Count Zeno-bio, as the day that decided the fate of Jena is so fresh on his mind, whether he has forgotten the day when that identical Duke, whom he so pathetically compassionates, marched forward with the celebrated Manifesto at the head of his army, threatening the most deliberate butcheries to all who should oppose him, from the confines of Germany sheer to the gates of Paris? But the arm of the Almighty thrust between him and his bloody intentions, and in the battle of Jemappe gave a victory, in which (to use the manly language of Mr. Fox) "every friend to human nature must rejoice." The marches of the Duke of Brunswick (as well as those of a certain other Duke) are now, it is hoped, completed,—but they can never be forgotten, so long as we possess the means of conveying to posterity the powerful feelings of indignation and contempt!

Notwithstanding the Count's attachment to the established order of things, I will not suspect that he, or any other good man, can feel a sentiment of regret at the abolishment of the Inquisition. If the exercise of this ferocious machine, in the primitive ages of religious barbarity, be considered as an evil of the most aggravated nature, surely its final destruction must be contemplated as a proportionate blessing; and since the sufferings of so many of our fellow-creatures were connected with it, its total annihilation must be a more positive good than its existence, under any modification whatever. If the recurrence to inquisitorial terror, for the last century, has been less frequent,—had they even wholly subsided,—it was not because the terror were defunct, but because its members, in their

discreet humanity, suffered them to sleep; the "snake might be scathed, but was not killed;" and if it were possible in this enlightened age to conceive that the improvements of mankind would, for the next half century, move in a retrograde direction,—the lurking vengeance would start from its recess, and once more make itself awfully respected by the multitude of its victims!

Surely then, some thanks are due to Bonaparte on this head, particularly so, as the dissolution of a religious Inquisition was not a necessary step for the erection of a political one; and still more so, when it is presumed, that any other man in Bonaparte's situation would most probably have cherished it, as a fit instrument for the furtherance of his iron despotism; and by this means, shutting out, as much as possible, every ray of intellectual light from the minds of men, rendered their submission more cheerful, and his own tyranny more secure. By pursuing a similar line of conduct, that "odious compound of bigotry, cruelty, and lust," Henry VIII, gave the death-blow in England, to a religion that had long disgraced our ancestors; by this single blow, the papal arm, that had never been lifted but to add terror to excommunication, became paralyzed, and a few succeeding ages saw it fall, innocuous as the curbs that accompanied it! From such an example, men took courage to examine the holy phantom, and soon learned to blush for their credulity; England became emancipated; and if toleration be considered a blessing, it is to Henry VIII, we are indebted for it; that it is a blessing, surely few will deny, and in proportion to its magnitude; its author (though he was the very reverse of a good man) must be ranked as a genius or a hero, or perhaps both.

After weighing the observations of the Count respecting the legitimate King of France,—after reading his panegyric thereon,—his assertions that nearly every Frenchman in existence sighs for the destruction of Bonaparte,—that out of 360 Generals in his service, more than 300 are disgusted with him,—that, in short, he has not one solitary friend left,—after all this, and perhaps transiently glancing at the propriety of another Expedition, I recognized so much of the old leaven of political insanity, that nothing but painful reflection could suppress inordinate risibility.

No Englishman, who sees at all, but must perceive the disgrace and contempt to which such hair-brained adventures expose us; and feeling as an Englishman for the calamities of his country, he cannot joke with them. INSKIT.

London, Sept. 14.

September 13, 1810.

MR. EXAMINER,—Permit a constant reader to offer a few remarks on the position advanced by the Count Zeno-bio in your paper of last Sunday,—that "a person totally destitute of virtue can never be called a man of genius."

In the first place, I do not think that the Count's definition of the word genius is altogether correct; he defines it from "genii, something above human nature, something divine." Now, MR. EXAMINER, with due deference, I submit that the meaning of the word genius, (and in this I am partly supported by Johnson, Sheridan, and other lexicographers), in an extended sense, signifies a person of general superior faculties; and in a more collected sense, a person of superior skill in any one art or science. If this meaning be right, the Count's second position—that warriors cannot be called men of genius, is also unfounded. We say, such a man has a great genius for mechanics, another for poetry, a third for music, &c. And why not for war? a science which brings in play almost every faculty of the human mind. Has the glorious science of war less rank in the scale of merit than music or poetry? Must we allow him who composes a sonnet or a sonata to be a genius, and not him who, by superior skill, penetration, and valour, directs the motions of armies, and guides the uncertain steps of thousands to victory over equally experienced, and, it may be, more numerous antagonists? No! I think that the Count himself, when he duly considers the subject, must allow that a warrior can, in the strictest sense of the word, be a man of genius. Had our immortal Nelson so

genius, when, by his brilliant achievements at Egypt, Hafsia, Trafalgar, &c. &c., he rooted our naval dominion so deeply, that no human power can shake it for a moment? Had he no genius? But I must hold; I am going to intrude too largely on the limits of your paper, and am also straying from my original purpose, which was to shew that vice and genius may be possessed by one person. However, if we allow the possession of all the natural talents and acquirements necessary for the formation of a good warrior, to constitute a genius, (and, I believe, no one who fully comprehends what those talents and acquirements must be, will doubt it),—why then, as the Count allows Bonaparte to be an excellent general, we certainly must allow that you are right when you say he is a man of genius.

It is a well established fact, that a person must be born a genius; art may improve, but cannot make him one. This admitted, are we to suppose, that because he is born a genius, he is prevented from having the same passions of virtue and of vice as other men? Does this possession of superior faculties guard him against possessing the same foibles and failings the best of us are subject to? If this is the case, genius is *divine* indeed! But it will be found that history and biography will give us too many proofs that it is possible for a man to be possessed of the most refined talents, and yet at the same time to be disgraced by the most debased passions. Without travelling to find examples on classical ground, I will instance a few among our own countrymen,—the Count's extensive and various reading will no doubt point out numerous other instances to him.

## POETRY.

Savage, author of the *Wanderer*, &c.,—mean, ungrateful, and convicted of murder.

Dodd, an accomplished and elegant writer,—executed for forgery.

Dermody, a most exquisite though neglected poet,—guilty of the lowest debauchery and vice.

## POLITICS.

Wolsey, a consummate statesman,—artful, avaricious, and overhearing.

Cromwell, gifted with every talent necessary to form a great ruler,—a tyrant!

## PAINTING.

Morland, in his particular line one of the best English painters,—a prey to the most dissolute passions.

In short, with the vulgar, is not a clever, sharp man, always dubbed a "genius," if his conduct happens to be irregular or eccentric?

Bonaparte is certainly a most atrocious villain; but who that reads the history of the last twenty years can deny that he is a truly extraordinary man and possessed truly extraordinary powers?—The Count says, what wonder that with 500,000 such soldiers as he now commands, headed by such generals as Bernadotte, Soult, &c. &c., he should be able to "beat weak princes, decrepid generals, and disorganized armies." Why truly there is no great wonder as the case stands here; but is there not wonder, nay even astonishment, when we reflect that from a private and obscure individual of Corsica, he has had the art to get placed upon his head the crowns of France and Italy, and to make subservient to his every god these 500,000 soldiers, and those generals, some of whom, Count Zenobia himself hints, are his superiors in military experience and skill, and who has placed upon the heads of his beggarly relations and fellow-officers the most powerful and ancient crowns of the Continent? I think, if these are not causes for wonder, all sense of wonder must be suspended.

I am, MR. EXAMINER, your obedient servant,

W. G. T.

### TERMINATION OF THE DISTURBANCES AT COVENT-GARDEN THEATRE.

On Monday morning the Proprietors published the following Address to the Public:

"The Proprietors of the Theatre-Royal Covent-Garden, in justification of themselves, do solemnly disavow any intention of violating the Contract made last season with regard to the Annual Boxes.

"Some time before the close of the season, they called on such Gentlemen as they knew of the Committee, with whom the agreement, specifying that only three annual boxes on each side of the third circle of the Theatre were to be retained, was made—and distinctly informed them, that they were ready to carry that agreement, if insisted on, strictly into execution; but, at the same time told them, as the Legislature, in the Act for re-building Drury-lane Theatre, had recognized the right of letting annual boxes, and as, by the agreement, very great loss would be suffered by the Proprietors, with scarcely any advantage gained to the general accommodation of the Town, that they hoped, on a fair and open appeal to the liberality of the public, the rigid performance of that Treaty would be dispensed with.—The Proprietors accordingly, on the concluding night of the season, made this Appeal. They acknowledged the Contract which they had formed; but solicited, as a boon from the Public, to be relieved from the weight of some part of it, and to retain the same number of annual boxes as was in the old Theatre before the fire. The general sentiment of the whole audience, expressed in loud applauses and acclamations, granted this boon. On the faith of that sentiment in the Public, so expressed, the Proprietors employed the whole summer in making very expensive alterations in the Theatre:—on the faith of that sentiment, they let the eight annual boxes in question for the present season, and immediately applied the rent received for them to the payment of part of the heavy debt they had incurred, in consequence of their zeal and exertions in erecting for the Metropolis of their Country confessedly the finest Theatre in Europe.

"The Proprietors could not foresee nor imagine that, at the opening of the Theatre, another audience would demand the reversal of the grant, unanimously conferred on them by a former one. Most sincerely they regret their unfortunate mistake. No consideration, however, of emolument will induce them to risk the peace of the Theatre and of the Metropolis. They therefore do explicitly declare, that next season (when they will again have returned into their possession) the eight annual boxes shall be given up, and let out to the public at large at nightly boxes. And the proprietors request thus much indulgence of the public, as the only means of extricating them from their present embarrassed situation."

It was generally supposed that this concession would have been satisfactory and that the performances of the evening would have proceeded without interruption; but the fact was far otherwise.—The Pit was quite crammed at first price, and the rising of the curtain was the signal for every modulation of the human voice, aided by the powerful accompaniments of rattles, horns, bugles, whistles, cat-calls, and sticks. This continued without intermission during the entire performance—exceeding, perhaps, the most furious night of the O. P. war. At one time no fewer than seven rattles were in rapid motion!—It was in vain that Mr. KEMBLE attempted to allay the storm by addressing the audience. The opposition insisted either that all the Private Boxes, stipulated in the Contract to be given up, should be immediately opened to the public, or that the old price should be restored. There was no resisting a demand so enforced, and on Tuesday the Proprietors announced that the Theatre would be closed till Monday, in order that the alteration of the boxes might be made in the mean time.

### THEATRICAL CORRESPONDENCE.

MR. EXAMINER,—A short time since, when in the country, I read a critique in your Paper on a piece per-

forming at the Haymarket theatre, called *Bombastes Fusoso*. Arriving in town yesterday, I spent my evening at the theatre, and although I perfectly agree with you, in your observations on the piece, yet some parts appeared to me in a point of view in which you had not considered them. Most of the characters reminded me of some recent circumstances, although the piece, take it altogether, is a jumble of nonsense, the same allegory not being continued throughout: but some of my friends say the burlesque is the better for it. King *Artaxominous* brought to my recollection a certain Emperor when plotting to divorce his *Griskinisa*, and

"Force her to resign the regal chair,  
"And place the rosy *Distafina* there."

When *Bombastes* entered with his "brave army," although the ridiculous appearance was truly laughable, yet it brought to my mind a most melancholy circumstance: it reminded me of a certain General (not a French one) returning from the "Golgotha Expedition" with the skeleton of a "brave Army," which had perished by pestilential vapours. But *Fusos*, the Minister of State, was kinder than our Ministers are, and it would be well for us if they would follow his example, and

"Take the hint themselves, and walk away."

September 15, 1810.

G.

#### O. P. SUBSCRIPTION.

The *Examiner* is requested, by a Gentleman belonging to the O. P. Committee, to state, "in answer to *Publicola*, that the claims (upon the Committee appointed to manage the Subscription for persons supposed to be unjustly prosecuted by the Proprietors of Covent Garden Theatre) have, with the exception of four, been discharged, and that to enable the Committee to settle those will require another Subscription. The Committee intend having their accounts audited by two Gentlemen of character, not of their own body, to publish the result, and to leave the Books and Papers at the Treasurer's for the inspection of the Subscribers."

#### THE BANK.

On Thursday, the Bank Proprietors met in Threadneedle-street, when the Chairman proposed that the dividend upon their profits should be 10 per cent.—This motion was subsequently agreed to, but on its being put,

Mr. RANDLE JACKSON took the opportunity of calling the attention of the Proprietors to the late Report of the Bullion Committee, which, he said, contained very serious charges against the validity of Bank Stock. The fallacies of the Report were most glaring. It states that Bank notes are below par, because 105*l.* would not buy gold enough to make 100 guineas. The fact was, the market price of bullion had risen 16 per cent. above the Mint price. But 105*l.* in notes would buy as much of gold as 100 guineas, if the gold were not preferred for the criminal purpose of melting it. For every honest purpose the one were quite as efficient as the other. Mr. Merle, Mr. Goldsmid, and many others, gave evidence that there was no difference between the value of Bank notes and coin, yet the Bullion Committee thought proper to express a different opinion, and it was not therefore surprising, that a celebrated writer (Mr. Cobbett) should have asserted that their Report made him rejoice as much as if he were appointed Lord of Hampshire. Such a feeling of gratulation was quite natural, upon finding a favourite proposition recommended by so high an authority.—The next fallacy in the Report was, that the Bank had issued an excess of paper, to which

the Committee attribute the advanced price of the necessaries of life. Did the Committee seriously mean to make the lower classes believe that the increased price which they pay for provisions was owing to the conduct of the Bank? What do the Committee mean by an excess of issue? It was a fact, that the issue had been rather parsimonious than excessive. In 1797, when the Restriction took place, the issue was about 11 millions. Previous to that alarm, it was about 14 millions. Including the one and two pound notes, without which society must have stood still, the issue at present averaged about 20 millions. So that the increase has not exceeded six millions, although the increase of commerce, from 1797 to the present period, was in his opinion not overrated at 50 millions. Thus the increased paper issue has been trifling when compared to the rapid extension of our commerce.—The Country Banks, which now amount to 7 or 800, have issued no less than 30 millions, yet the Committee did not charge them with an excess of issue. No; the whole sin was confined to the Bank, for its increase of six millions in 13 years. The cause of this increase, too, had escaped the Committee,—the commercial accommodation the Bank had afforded. But the circulation of Bank paper being confined chiefly to London and its vicinity, is a proof that it cannot have an effect on the country markets, which must proceed from the Country Banks. It was not however his intention to disparage those institutions, for they were of peculiar utility in a country requiring a large circulating medium.—The balance of commerce was in no degree attributable to the Bank. It would be preposterous to maintain that an issue of 20 millions of paper would have the effect ascribed to it upon the commerce, the provisions, and the general currency of the country. Whether the circulating medium was in paper or specie, the effect upon the price of provisions would be the same, though undoubtedly that price would be affected by the quantity in circulation. In the eagerness of the Committee that the Bank should pay in specie, they omit to notice that out of the 20 millions of notes the Bank have in circulation, the public owe it 18 millions, so that the public have a security in their own hands for nine-tenths of the whole issue. If the public therefore think Bank issues an evil, they may annihilate them in 24 hours. If they wish to dissolve the Institution altogether, let them pay their debt of 18 millions, and the Bank would make up the remaining two millions by subscription in an hour, so as immediately to discharge all their notes!—But the public derive important advantages from the Bank, which the Report has declined to notice. The Bank actually pay to the public 210,000*l.* per annum, in consideration of existing circumstances, by lending three millions gratuitously until the conclusion of peace, and by an abatement of interest on a former loan to the amount of 60,000*l.* And this was not the only grant made to the public, which have been sufficiently ample; for independently of the above sum, the Bank has abated its claim for the management of the public debt to the amount of 70,000*l.* per annum, besides relinquishing the advantage it derived from unclaimed dividends. Thus do the public share in the profits of the Bank; but these facts are not alluded to in the Report.—Notwithstanding this liberal participation of profits, a suggestion has been thrown out to the Bullion Committee to seize upon the surplus profits of the Bank. Yes; to seize upon the profits arising from the legal and honourable exertion of its trade! upon that which was the result of labour and hazard, conducted upon the same just principles, and standing upon the same fair footing, as other merchants! This idea was indeed extraordinary; and it was almost equally so that the Committee, instead of merely expressing its disapprobation, did not reject it with all the horror and indignation which such an iniquitous proposition was calculated to excite in virtuous minds. A similar proposition was made by Marat in the National Convention, and he had many supporters. Yes; that demagogue and his coadjutors, having succeeded in prostrating the aristocracy of rank and birth, wished also to break down the aristocracy of wealth! The public necessity was their pretence, but revolution was their object: Supply was their profession, but equality their principle!—The conclusion of the Report,

mid Mr. Jackson, he did not hesitate to pronounce a most extraordinary one. The Committee recommended that the Bank be compelled to pay its notes in specie in two years. The most mischievous consequences would result from such a proceeding, and the Bank cannot too soon enter its protest against it. If the Committee had not been hostile or indifferent, why, in the name of justice and common sense, should they demand that which is nothing less than that, whatever may be the price of bullion, the Bank shall be obliged to buy it, in order to pay specie at a fixed period. Here is an encouragement held out to imposition, by pointing to the Bank as being compelled to buy bullion upon any terms! Could any proposition be more unjust and ungenerous, or more injurious to the commercial world? In the name of justice and generosity,—in the name of all orders and professions interested in sustaining the monied and mercantile interest,—he entered his protest against this extraordinary proposition!—By whom was the Bank exhausted of its bullion in 1797? The public interest was then in the utmost peril, and had it not been for the sacrifices made by it, our army must have starved in Flanders. The Bank besides made advances which enabled Government to subsidize our allies. It is not now necessary to inquire into the policy of such subsidies; but it is undeniable that the circumstances of the times, and the sacrifices the Bank made for the public safety, produced the inconveniences it then suffered. But the Bank then wished to continue its payments in specie. In 1795 and 1796, the Board of Directors remonstrated with Mr. Pitt no less than twenty-nine times against the proposed restriction. However, the public had the money; and had not the concession been made to Mr. Pitt, the Government could not have gone on. It was now for that public to say to the Bank, "You have exhausted yourself of bullion to sustain us in the day of need, and yet we will now compel you to buy bullion at any price, in order to give it in exchange for your notes, or even for the notes which we have borrowed from you." But what would be the effect of this compelled payment at a fixed period? It would encourage speculators to hoard the coin, in order to make the Bank pay through the nose for it. The moment it was ordered to pay, it must prepare by limiting its issues, by confining its discounts; and what a convulsion would that occasion in the mercantile world! Those who recollect the events of 1797, must be able to foresee the calamity the advice of the Committee would produce, were it possible that it ever could be acted upon by an intelligent House of Commons. It would seem, from parts of the Report, that it was drawn up by persons not at all acquainted with commercial operations. Why not leave the resumption of cash payments to the discretion of the Directors? and why doubt the proper exercise of that discretion, which even the Committee applauded? It can be proved, that such a compulsive resumption would be much more fatal to the commercial world than to the Bank, for it would naturally, in its own defence, forbear to issue notes, to pay which they must buy bullion at an advanced price.—No one can deny that it is a solecism that the Bank should not pay its promissory notes; but, under all the circumstances of the times, the time of payment should be left to be settled by slow progression and deliberate caution. The Report states, that cash payments would cure the evil of exchange; but does any thinking man suppose that these payments would continue for any time? In fact, all the gold would vanish in a week after its issue. The restriction must then again be resorted to; and he would ask, whether it would not be better to make no pledge, than to give a promise which cannot be performed? But the exchange with Hamburg is the same now as it was in 1797, which is a proof that the rate of exchange has not been affected by the state of the Bank. Before the Committee had recommended cash payments, it would have been only becoming in them to have advised the re-payment of the 18 millions owing by the public to the Bank, as also the restoration of the 210,000l. derived from the Bank in consequence of the supposed advantages resulting from the non-payment in specie. This would have been common justice.—Mr. JACKSON concluded a speech which was repeatedly cheered by the Bank Proprietors, by exhorting the

Directors to continue that upright and firm course which had already so much distinguished their conduct, unmoved by power and unmoved by faction,—to continue the same liberal advances to the mercantile interest, and to persevere in the same cautious principle by which they had been governed. Thus by identifying themselves with the best interests and with the truth and honour of the public, they would be sure of public support, or at all events be enabled to convince those who would inquire into their affairs, that they well deserved that support.

Mr. PEARSE, the Governor, and Mr. PAYNE, a country banker, gave their hearty assent to the opinions held by Mr. Jackson. The Governor hoped that the public would pay more attention to the evidence before the Bullion Committee, than the Committee had done, and not suffer themselves to be implicitly guided by the Report, which was by no means founded upon that evidence.

### THE SAMPFORD GHOST.

[CONCLUDED FROM THE LAST TAUNTON COURIER.]

The sale of the premises belonging to Mr. Talley took place on the 11th of June last; and, after it was over, which was not until the evening, he proceeded to Chave's, and signified his wish to sleep in any room of the house that might be assigned him. A good deal of opposition was made to this, under the pretence that he would be sure to pass a troublesome night, but Mr. Talley persisting in his object, and observing that he had never experienced the least inconvenience during the two years in which he occupied the house, at last obtained Chave's consent to sleep in the room, in which of all others the knockings were most frequent. Mr. T., however, stipulated that none of the servants should remain in the premises, and this was also with much reluctance acquiesced in.

About ten o'clock Mr. T. went to the house; and, on reaching the shop-door, he observed a man leaning on the counter, and Mrs. Chave, on the opposite side, in apparent earnest conversation with him. Mr. T. halted a few seconds on his entrance, and distinctly heard Mrs. Chave say to the man with whom she was conversing—"Now be sure you come when we send for you."—The man promised obedience, and retired by the door at which Mr. T. was then entering. This man's name was DODGE, (a most alarming personage for the Ghost!) a cooper, who lives at Sampford, and whose habits and character render him a worthy associate for Chave, and his hopeful brother-in-law, young Taylor.

Mr. Talley, advancing to Mrs. Chave, told her he came to take possession of his room; and she assured him, that in compliance with her engagement, all the servants were sent away, and that no one would remain in the house except herself, her husband, and an apprentice lad, about 14 years of age. Mr. T. then said, as he knew his way, he would go up stairs at once. He accordingly proceeded to the anti-chamber which Taylor usually occupies, and which communicates, by a door in a thin deal partition, to the adjoining room wherein Sally sleeps. It is this room that the Ghost selected for the principal scene of his vagaries.

On Mr. T.'s arriving at the aforesaid anti-chamber, he was much surprised to observe a man sitting on the bedside, half concealed by the curtain. Advancing towards him, and drawing back the curtain, he found him to be the identical Dodge, the cooper, who had appeared to leave the premises when Mr. Talley entered. This fellow contrived to get up stairs by one of the three entrances which lead from other parts of the premises to the room in which he then was. The fact of there being these several entrances, has always been studiously concealed by Chave from the numberless visitors who have been drawn by curiosity from all parts of the country to attend the Ghostly Lectures.

On recognizing Dodge (for Mr. Talley could not be mistaken in him, having known him for years) he exclaimed, "Why, cooper! how came you here?" He replied— that he came to sleep with the apprentice-boy, who, having seen an old wo-

man descend through the ceiling a few nights ago, was afraid to sleep alone. Mr. Talley then begged him to undress himself, and get into bed; which the other declined, saying he would rather lie down with his clothes on. Mr. Talley then took the precaution to lock all the doors; and, taking the keys with him, went into the bed prepared for him in Sally's room. Having kept awake some hours, and finding the Ghost not so complaisant to him as it invariably is to his charge d'affaires, the Rev. Mr. Colton, he went to sleep, perfectly unmolested either by slaps or sounds of any description.

When Mr. Talley drew back the curtain the preceding night, on discovering Dodge, he observed against the wall a mop stick which he immediately suspected was to become the instrument of the sounds to be produced underneath Sally's room.

On quitting his apartment in the morning, Mr. T. went into the chamber where Dodge was (who could not quit his room until Mr. T. rose to let him out of it, he having taken the key) and on looking for the mop stick, found it had been removed into another part of the room. Our readers must pay attention to this and to the ensuing points of this narrative, as the knavery now rapidly unfolds itself.

Taking up the mop-stick, Mr. T. said to Dodge—"How came this stick here?" The other answered, that he supposed it was always there, and knew nothing about it. "That (replied Mr. T.) is impossible, for this is the third situation in which I have seen this stick since I came to these premises last evening. I saw it standing by the pump trough in the court when I first entered. I saw it a second time, last night, behind the curtain where you was sitting; and now, for the third time, I find it removed to another part of this chamber. You must certainly have used it, or intended to have used it, had I not prevented you by locking the doors last night." The fellow made no reply—and Mr. T. on examining the end of the stick, found it battered into small splinters, and covered with whitewash. "Now," says Mr. T. "I think I can play the Ghost with any person in the house."—And having left the premises, he returned some time after, and begging Mrs. Chave to go into the pantry with him, said, if she was ignorant how the roguery was managed, he would explain it. They accordingly went into the pantry, where Mr. T. found the ceiling in a state of considerable mutilation from the ghostly thumps it had received. Mr. T. then shewed, by striking on the battered walls, and on the joists of the floor, how the sounds were produced which have so puzzled the Greek Scholar Mr. Colton.

At the very time that Mr. T. was underneath, explaining the roguery, as we have just mentioned, Chave himself was in Sally's room, exhibiting to a man who resides at Sampford named Karslake (formerly a serjeant in the South Devon Militia) the place where the knockings were chiefly heard. At this place, two planks of the floor had been removed—and when Mr. Talley, who was underneath, was bestowing his explanatory thumps on the ceiling, Chave, who did not know that any one was below; told the serjeant that the Ghost was come again, and that that was the exact spot where it was chiefly heard. Serjeant Karslake instantly seized the enchanted sword (which once, with tyger-like ferocity, flew at Mr. Colton's head, and which, for one reason, it is surprising it made no impression on) and exclaiming—"By G—d, I'll find thee out now,"—plunged the sword through the ceiling. Mr. Talley vociferated his name, and went instantly up stairs to give the necessary elucidation of the mystery. The serjeant then went below with Mr. T. who explained how and where the blows were given; and shewed him how exactly the end of the mop-stick corresponded with the marks it had made in the ceiling.

On examining a narrow chimney, a stout willow bludgeon was found, forked at one end for the convenience of holding perpendicularly, which, like the mop-stick talisman, was likewise jagged and beaten at the extremity, and was also covered with plaister and whitewash. The serjeant placed the stick under his feet, and, by a violent effort, broke it, saying, he was determined that no more knavery should be practised with that instrument.

So much for the knocking. Now for Sally and the Monster.

Taylor, we have before said, sleeps in the adjoining room to Sally. This young man is a wag of the first order; and that he might carry his talent to the utmost pitch of its original direction, he placed himself, while at Honiton, (where he lived with Mr. Sellon, the grocer,) under the tuition of the celebrated Moon, who, by the bye, has conjured himself into the possession of a very snug little estate, on which he resides, not far from Honiton.) Having become a satellite to this Moon, Taylor was entrusted with the conduct of all the secrets of confederacy; and became versed in the various arts of necromancy, from the occult exercise of telling the thoughts of people; to the simple contrivance of shaking bed-curtains. Thus qualified he came to Sampford, where his father resides; who being peremptory in dispensing with the filial attentions of his son, his brother-in-law, Chave; received him into his premises. Here he displayed his cabalistic attainments; and having ascertained Sally's thoughts; he found them so congenial with his own, that he admitted her to participate in all the secrets of confederacy.

Chave's apprehension of being obliged to turn out of his house we have already noticed; and the hope of deterring Mr. Talley from such a determination, by raising a formidable objection to his finding a future tenant, together with the expectation of so effectually depreciating the value of the premises; in case they were sold, as to be enabled to purchase them at a very small sum, constitute the obvious motives for the organization of this infamous plot; which, no doubt, was suggested by Taylor, and rendered irresistible by the assured confederacy of Sally.

The slaps which Mr. Colton has heard in the dark have been inflicted by the girl herself. Several Gentlemen who have sat up are perfectly satisfied of this; and, if the fact wanted confirmation, her continued sleeping in a situation where she is nightly attacked by a powerful and invisible hand, is alone conclusive on that point. We doubt whether Mr. Colton himself, though provided with his Greek Testament, on which he made the family swear (sapient man, to make them swear in Greek!) would have been content to sleep in the same room for months together under such circumstances. Two intelligent Ladies from Tiverton also slept at the house a few nights ago; but as they would neither be kept in the dark, or put their heads under the bed-clothes, which they were advised to do, they were entirely undisturbed.

The story of the bear without claws, the inexpressible weight of the monster, and all the rest of the childish trumpery, by which Mr. Colton has rendered himself the BUGBEAR of our nurseries, are all the offspring of the original plot; and the IMP which Chave informed Mr. R. (a very worthy Gentleman of Tiverton), he has twice caught in his arms, but which was too strong for him to hold, is of the same base origin.

It will be recollected that Mr. Colton promised to give a considerable sum to the poor of his parish whenever the circumstances he stated shall be proved to have been the work of human agency; in other terms, when he shall be satisfied that they are not the effects of witchcraft. This sum, at one time, he fixed at 100l. but the reward is now considerably lowered; a circumstance which we are extremely sorry for, as we think we are fairly entitled, in behalf of the said poor of his parish, to claim at once the payment of the reward; and we do hereby claim it accordingly.

It is a matter which must be very surprising to the public, and which, but for one little anecdote, would have been equally astonishing to us, that Mr. Colton should be so amused—so absolutely infatuated with Sally and her monster above stairs, that he never should have explored the premises underneath, or have ascertained the several communications from the rooms below to the upper part of the house. The building is a very ancient one, and is, what carpenters call, battened from top to bottom, from one extremity of the premises to the other. This battening consists of pieces of timber inserted in the walls and partitions, within which the stone or other principal materials of the walls are placed, and assist in their support. Thus

blow made on the battening, even at a considerable distance, in whatever way it may be struck, will be heard throughout all its connecting joints, and it is in this way that some of the blows have been effected, and which blows Mr. Colton has been so silly as to affirm were impossible to be produced in a stone wall. From this construction of the house too, proceeds the facility of shaking every room and window it contains. Mr. Tally produced these magical effects, as Mr. Colton believes them to be, in the presence of several persons, by agitating different parts of the floor.

All this any mason's apprentice, however stupid, must well know; and it is a pity that Mr. Colton had not been brought up to some such useful exertion, or other handicraft employment, instead of having been designed to flourish as a Greek scholar, and becoming an incumbrance on the Church, of which, judging from his conduct on this occasion, it might be happily relieved without the least danger to its interests.

When this Reverend Gentleman commenced the statement, which accompanied his affidavit, by indulging in his ever-memorable hypothesis, "that a belief in Ghosts was favourable to virtue," we only smiled at his folly and pitied his credulity. Many an honest man has been misled by the artifices of rogues, but no honest man will persist in an error when the truth is presented to him in the simple garb of self-evident facts. Having given him credit for sincerity in the impressions which had occurred to him from his visitations to Sampford, charity led us to hope that he would have taken the earliest opportunity of undeceiving the public, whose understandings he had grossly insulted by his specious affidavit. Instead of this, he allows a whole month to elapse, though he has been no less than fifteen times to the premises, and suffers the poison of his superstition to settle in the minds of ignorant country people, and young children, without the slightest effort towards an honest exposition of the adopted knavery. So far indeed from making such attempt, he has strove all in his power to suppress this narrative, and to bully us into a base abandonment of a duty, the pleasure of performing which, from the consciousness of its utility, we would not exchange for the happiness of Mr. C.'s opinions.

Among these opinions, we have been well informed, that Mr. Colton, when at College, principally ranked his attachment to the Manichean Philosophy, and actually penned a Treatise in support of the mummery of its founder MANES! This at once accounts for his bold offer of giving money to the poor of his parish when the Sampford Conspiracy shall have been proved to be the contrivance of Human Agency. This accounts for his belief in the invisible agency of Demons; and this accounts for his unwillingness to give any explanation or statement of the facts of which he must have been fully satisfied. Mr. Tally lives within half a mile of him—is a person of considerable property—bears a most irreproachable character, and will swear, not on a Greek Testament, but on an English Bible, if required, to all the facts we have stated, in regard to his detection of the plot. Finally, this shows, that having suffered his Will-o'-the-Wisp notions to conduct him into the foul bog, wherein he now presents so ridiculous a figure on this subject, his apprehensions of being called upon to pay the money to the Poor of his parish, which he promised to do (we beg you will not forget that, Mr. Colton, for be assured it shall not be forgotten by the Public), induces him, most disingenuously, to persevere in sanctioning an infamous imposture, and in maintaining an opinion so unworthy a Clergyman and a Greek scholar withal; that its absurdity can only be equalled by the random jokes of a Merry Andrew.

The Magistrates, very properly, are about to interfere on this subject; and we will engage to prove the foregoing statement in any Court of Judicature in the kingdom.

#### OLD BAILEY.

On Thursday, John Wheeler was convicted, on the most satisfactory evidence, of stealing a horse, a cart, a quarter and a piece of beef, and four carcasses of lambs, the property of Thomas

Powell. The moment the Jury had returned their verdict the Prisoner, who wore his left arm in a sling, seized on a large pewter ink-stand, which lay near the dock, and had his right-hand elevated, in the act of hurling it at the head of some one, when his hand was fortunately arrested by the vigilance of the Assistant Jailor, then in attendance. The ink stand in consequence dropped from his hand harmless; but the malignity of the Prisoner's intention was sufficiently betrayed in the horrid expression of his countenance. He was carried off, guarded on both sides by persons belonging to the prison; and Mr. Shelton, the Clerk of Arraignment, in consequence of instructions from the Bench, after the conduct of the prisoner was made known there, ordered Mr. Newman, the keeper of Newgate, to see that he was securely locked up.

On Friday, Emanuel Joseph, a Portuguese sailor, was indicted for the wilful murder of Joseph Jones, an English sailor, on the 24th of August last, by stabbing him in the belly.—The deceased, and another sailor in his company, went to the Dundee Arms on the 24th of August, but they were refused admittance; they then walked on the pavement in Great Hermitage-street, where they met the prisoner and several other Portuguese sailors, to whom the deceased, by his dying deposition, said he gave no offence. They, however, attacked the deceased and his companion with stones and their sticks. The deceased grappled with the prisoner, beat him off, and then attacked another, whom he also had got the better of, when the prisoner returned, and with his knife stabbed the deceased in the belly. He then attempted to run away, but was secured. The bowels came out of the wound of the deceased, who held them in his hand, and exclaimed he was no more for this world. He was conveyed to the London Hospital, where he died the next day.—For the prisoner several witnesses were called, by whom it appeared that the Portuguese sailors lived in Plough-alley, and that there was a feud between them and the American sailors, who had attempted to force their way into the house, and that the prisoner during the whole time always endeavoured to avoid getting into any fray, and was of most peaceable demeanour.—The Learned Judge told the Jury, that the facts of the case amounted to Manslaughter. It was a killing in the heat of blood, and not by malice afore-thought, which was necessary to constitute the crime of Murder.—The Jury withdrew for some time, and then found the prisoner guilty.—Manslaughter.

Elizabeth Hinchcliffe, a girl of the age of 14 years, was indicted for administering arsenic to her mistress, Anne Parker, with intent to poison and murder her.—The evidence of Mrs. Parker stated, that the girl was taken by her from her parents, with a view to bring her up in a better state than as a common servant; that the prisoner in August last complained that the kitchen was overrun with rats, and advised her to get some poison to destroy them. She by her persuasion sent her to Midgely's, a Chymist in the Strand, with a note to procure some arsenic. This the prisoner brought home, and it was put into a bureau where the Prisoner knew it was, and had access to it. On the morning of the 18th August the mistress perceived a strange taste in her first cup of tea, and she was going to take a second cup but declined: she was soon afterwards seized with a vomiting, and all the symptoms of mineral poison. Two children, who had also drunk some of the tea, were seized with the like symptoms; she accused the Prisoner of having put poison in her tea, but she denied it, and said she would find the paper in the same state in which it was given her by the chymist.

Mr. Midgely proved the sale of the arsenic to the prisoner; that he afterwards examined the parcel; that it was not in the same state in which he made it up, but that it had been opened, and a part of it taken out. He afterwards mixed some of it with some of the same sort of herb-tea which Mrs. Parker had drunk, and it tasted just the same as that which remained in the other pot.

The girl, in her defence, said her mistress had used her ill. The Jury, after some hesitation, found her Guilty—but they and the prosecutrix recommended her to mercy on account of her youth.

## POLICE.

## BOW-STREET.

On Thursday evening the cry of "Stop thief" was heard near the above Office. Clark, belonging thereto, followed the cry into Brydges-street, where he found a man had been stopped, charged with picking a Gentleman's pocket, and discovered him to be John Harvey, alias Blackwall Jack, alias the Fighting Coachman. He observed a something pass between him and Dick the waterman, belonging to the stand of coaches in Charles-street, which he appeared to put up a water-spout; and on Clark's searching the prisoner, and not finding any of the Gentleman's property upon him, he searched the spout, and found a silk handkerchief belonging to the Gentleman. Clark then took the waterman into custody, he having assisted the robber in concealing the handkerchief. The prisoners were committed for further examination till Friday morning, when Mr. NARES discharged the waterman, and ordered Blackwall Jack to be sent on board the Tender. Jack, however, positively refused to be taken, or to quit the bar, and kept six or seven men off at arm's length. Clark and Joe Townsend closed in upon him; but he broke their shins in such a shocking manner, by violent kicks, that they were obliged to give in; and at length he was secured by a number of the patrol falling upon him at once; but they were obliged to carry him to the Brown Bear, where they managed to handcuff him, and pioned his elbows with ropes. Finding himself conquered, and that he should be conveyed to the Tender, he had recourse to the desperate means of disabling himself, by putting his right fore-finger into his mouth, and actually gnawing the flesh to the bone; and, forcing his left-hand against his chin, endeavoured to break the first joint off, which he could not accomplish; he afterwards tried to break the joint, by pressing it with the other hand upon a table. He refused to desist from this horrid conduct.

## ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &amp;c.

Another escape was attempted on Monday night by a prisoner under confinement in cold Bath Fields. On Mr. Newport, the officiating Governor, going round to lock up at the usual time, he missed his prisoner, and the uttermost consternation prevailed. The Governor immediately called together all the servants employed in the prison, and informed them that he would not suffer one of them to leave the prison until the lost man was forthcoming or some information given relative to his escape. Search was made, and the prisoner was found concealed in what is called the drying room.—On him was found a rope with a huge stone at the end of it, by which he might have scaled the prison wall. The prisoner was lodged more securely, and the possibility of his escape prevented.

A shocking accident happened on Tuesday morning at Bell's Buildings, Chelsea road; a fine boy, four years old, and the only child of Mr. Roswell, was playing in the window seat of the first floor, when he fell out at the window and was killed on the spot. A female servant of the name of Williams, in attempting to stop the fall of the child, fell out also, and she is not expected to survive. The child fell on the corner of the pavement, and was literally dashed in pieces.

Wednesday evening a girl about twelve years of age, daughter of a poor man who lives at the stables, the back of the premises belonging to Mr. Peckham, of Gray's Inn-passage, was nursing her sister, a child only twelve months old, she accidentally fell from the hay-loft on the pavement, and was nearly killed on the spot, her head being actually split. She survived only a few hours. The infant is also so shockingly bruised, that her life is despaired of. What adds to this melancholy affair is, that the mother is dying of a consumption, and the father is laid up with the rheumatism.

SWINDLING.—A man of genteel appearance, and insinuating address, has been practising depredations on the town for about a fortnight, to a very considerable extent, by assuming different characters and titles. He first made his appearance

at a family hotel, under the feigned name of Colonel Smith, and obtained articles to a considerable amount in jewellery, &c. He afterwards took a house in Great Coram-street, called himself the Reverend Mr. Jenkins, and obtained expensive furniture of different upholsterers, all of whom he has defrauded. He is about 35 years of age, near six feet in height; with a good face, and wears powder in his clerical disguise. He is supposed to be now levying contributions at the East end of the Town, as a merchant.

HORRID MURDER.—A German paper states that there lately happened in the neighbourhood of Frankfort-upon-the-Oder, an event, which is considered as an infliction of the Divine vengeance.—A woman, conceiving that her husband had been killed in the battle of Jena, married another man. It turned out that her husband had been only wounded and taken prisoner. A cure was soon effected, and the soldier joined one of the Prussian regiments which entered into the pay of France. After serving upwards of three years in Spain, he returned to his native country. On reaching his old habitation he appeared to be greatly rejoiced to find his wife alive. She received him with every mark of affection. It is probable that she did not avow the new matrimonial connection she had formed. After partaking of some refreshment, he retired to rest. His wife immediately conceived the horrid purpose of instigating her new husband to dispatch the unwelcome visitor in his sleep. They accomplished their object, by strangling the poor man, and put his body into a sack. About midnight, in conveying it to the Oder, the weight of the corpse burst the sack, and one of the legs was protruded. The woman set about sewing up the rent, and in her confusion, sewed in at the same time the skirts of her accomplice's coat. Having reached the river, and making a great effort to precipitate his load as far into the stream as possible, he was dragged into the river with the corpse. He contrived to keep his head above water, for several minutes. The woman not considering how important it was to keep silent at this critical moment, filled the air with her cries, and brought to the spot several peasants, who extricated the drowning man from his perilous situation. Their surprize at finding so large a substance attached to him was great, but much greater when they found that it was a dead body. On inspection there appeared such marks of violence about the throat, as not to leave any doubt that the man had been murdered. The man and woman made a full confession, and were consigned to the officers of justice.

## BIRTHS.

On Tuesday, the 18th instant, Mrs. Lane, of Conway-street, Fitzroy-square, of a son.

## MARRIAGES.

Last week, at Gisbourn Park, Yorkshire, Samuel Skurray Day, Esq. of Burnett, to the Hon. Catherine Lister, eldest daughter of Lord Ribblesdale.

## DEATHS.

On the 1st inst. in his 79th year, Edward Southouse, Esq. formerly one of his Majesty's Judges in British America.

At her lodgings, No. 19, Weymouth-street, at an advanced age, Jane, widow of the late Mr. Morris Robinson, of Carey-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields, Attorney at Law, and one of the Six Clerks in Chancery. She was, in an advanced age, mother of Lord Rokeby, of Princes-street; Hanover-square, author of Mortimer, and many other poetic compositions, and of Matthew Robinson Montague, Esq. his brother, the Member for St. Germain's, "himself a muse," and the fortunate successor of the learned Mrs. Montague; his aunt, in the Sandwich estates. The deceased was distinguished through life by the name of the British Pamela, or Virtue rewarded. It is remarkable of this family, that all of them have for an age been authors.

On the 17th inst. Sarah, the wife of Mr. Wm. Wilson, upholsterer, Strand.

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