

# THE EXAMINER.

No. 196 SUNDAY, SEPT. 29, 1811.

## THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

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

No. 191.

### SPAIN AND ST. DOMINGO.

THE creation of new forms of government, of kingdoms, and of empires, has been a matter of so much ease and frequency in these latter times, that the announcement of a new constitution in any quarter of the globe, is received with almost as much indifference as the plan of a new insurance office or the brilliant promises of a benefit club. In one of the daily papers of last week, two new constitutions made their appearance together, no less interesting from the combination of circumstances under which they are produced, than for the recollections they awaken of the difference of past times. The one is a sketch of a limited Monarchy presented to the Spanish Cortes for their discussion, the other a resolution passed by an extraordinary Council at St. Domingo for the erection of their State into what would appear to be an absolute Monarchy. Beyond this general apprehension of the matter, it is not easy to gather what are intended to be the precise provisions of the two governments. The Spanish Constitution, with its Monarch directly stripped of absolute authority, and its Cortes or Representative Assembly rendered permanent, seems to be a loose imitation of the English, not going so far with regard to religious toleration, but if a judgment can be formed from its very vague expressions, going much farther in diminishing the kingly power. It says that "the nation only can make fundamental laws;" a sentence which leaves it doubtful whether the King is or is not included in the legislative power; and we are told, further on, that "the Cortes shall make the laws," and that "the King shall sanction them." At one provision, it is impossible to help indulging in a melancholy smile. The Council of State is to consist of 40 Members, 12 of whom are to be Americans, and "four of the number are to be Grandees of Spain of acknowledged merit and virtue." Such are always the provisions of a people forming a government for themselves; but they are mere words; and "merit and virtue," like the temperance and Christian heroism professed by our Knights of the Garter, only become more disregarded by losing their character in the worldliness of official cant. The Spaniards, however, seem destined to do every thing too late. Had the present proposal to re-model the Government been brought forward at an early and proper period of their struggle, it would run like a vivifying fire through all ranks of the people, and into every corner of the Peninsula; but they have delayed to pronounce them-

selves free, till they were shut up in their last strong hold, allowing the Usurper not only to anticipate them, and set them the example in extending many privileges to the people at large, but to go beyond them in granting one of the most vital liberties of all,—the liberty of conscience. It is evident, that no example and no lesson they have received will rid their present authorities of their old bigotry; and it is equally clear, that this bigotry, clinging about them, and restraining them from the best and most necessary measures of policy, will paralyse their efforts to the last.

What images of singular contrast, of opening prosperity, of a young and promising intelligence, instead of a dying and repentant one, are not raised by the growing importance of the Black Empire of Hayti! Spain, formerly mistress of the best part of that important island, is literally dying of prejudices, while her slave is rising to power by subduing them in every direction. Little is to be collected from the Articles of the Constitution lately proclaimed by the Black Council, but that the new King is an unlimited Monarch,—a creation not very consistent with our better notions of liberty, but naturally resulting from the latter state of things in St. Domingo, and still more so from the feelings of a nation in its infancy, whose Chieftains are alike calculated to dazzle them by their superior intellect, and to excite an enthusiastic gratitude by the success of their struggles for independence. If any thing indeed was ever calculated to astonish a people bred up in ignorance, and at the same time to beat down all the prejudices of their betters in arguing against a possibility of their sense, it must have been to see a succession of intelligent Generals arising out of the very bosom of slavery, and successively conquering the intrigues or the actual power of Spain, France, and Great Britain, The Black Commanders, BOUKMART, FRANÇOIS, DESSALINES, PETION, CHRISTOPHE, and TOUSSAINT, form a list which it would be certainly difficult to match nowadays in the first of those three countries; and if such are the men that shone forth under the most untoward circumstances, what has not the impartial observer a right to expect from the blessings they have conferred upon their countrymen, with education at the head \*!

\* It is affecting to observe the sensibility which the enslaved negroes have always manifested with regard to the necessity of education; and without meaning to impeach the feelings of individuals among us, who, in their zeal for particular theories and without the least approbation of slavery, have doubted the possibility of improving the negroes intellect, it cannot but be regarded as a most monstrous and iniquitous inconsistency, that Europeans should do all in their power to keep down the negro mind by systematically denying it the commonest helps of education, and then argue that it is not to be improved. They first

CHRISTOPHE, the new monarch of Hayti, who ascends the throne under the title of HENRY the First, is a relation of TOUSSAINT, and by the good policy he has hitherto shewn with regard to the commerce and general management of the country, seems to have proved himself worthy of his illustrious kinsman and instructor. It argues well to, for his sound sense, that, unlike his predecessor, he has been content with common royalty, and foregone the vanity of calling himself Emperor. Hayti, though not of sufficient magnitude or importance to give an imperial title, will make an excellent kingdom. It is a size larger than England; and with its happy climate and luxuriant fertility, is acknowledged to be the finest island of the American Archipelago. Its troubles are not yet concluded, and they are the worst of all troubles,—civil ones; but PETION, the opponent of CHRISTOPHE, appears to be growing weaker every day:—indeed the two principal causes assigned by the Extraordinary Council for the erection of the government into its present Monarchy is, that it is particularly “suited to the more favourable condition of affairs, which by the grace of the Chief Magistrate, and his sublime and brilliant talents, are approaching to order, prosperity and happiness;” and “that in the flourishing state of agriculture,

tie it hand and foot, and then tell us it has no powers of progression. At the Coronation of DESSALINES, Capt. RAINSFORD tells us, that a “profession was formed, representing the different functions of the State, depicted so as to shew how they affected its interest, thereby producing a grand and impressive picture, highly descriptive of the manners and principles of the people. In this procession Education took the lead, as the first and most prominent local good; the Arts next, as little inferior; and Agriculture the third, as partaking of the first class and at the head of the second; Foreign and National Commerce succeeded; then Justice and Legislation, followed by the Officers of Health; and last of all, Military.” There was something very delicate and even philosophical in the spirit of this concluding touch. The same author, speaking of the manners of the Black Republic in 1799, (History of St. Domingo, Chap. 4.) says that “the men were in general sensible and polite, often dignified and impressive; the women frequently elegant and engaging. The intercourse of the sexes was on the most rational footing, and the different degrees of colour which remained, had lost most of that natural hostility which formerly existed.” Painting had at that time begun to be cultivated as an accomplishment; the author “saw a play of Moliere’s performed with an accuracy that would not have disgraced the first theatre in Europe;” and “in many instances he heard reasoning and witnessed manners of acuteness and elegance, the relation of which would appear incredible, from those who were remembered in a state of servitude, or whose parents were in situations of abject penury.”—The question about the possibility of improving the general intellect of negroes, must thus be reduced (in spite of all reference to former arguments or to the exaggerations of those theorists who would make the worst specimens of the enslaved negro stand for the whole powers of the race) to the simple matter of opinion, whether such facts respecting the West India Negroes are conclusive or not in their favour.

commerce and navigation, which are re-establishing morals and religion, and advancing to the highest discipline the public force; such a prospect of security and permanence is afforded, as justifies the establishment of a firm and stable government to insure that prosperity.” Such a country must, at no great distance of time, have great influence in the affairs of the West Indies; and the world has double reason to thank the English nation for abolishing the slave-trade, and thus preparing the way for a gentle change in the condition of the negroes, when it considers that, first or last, it would have been impossible for slavery to continue in the neighbourhood of an independent Black Government. Raised, then, to secure to their hitherto despised and degraded race the regenerating spirit of freedom, blest with a land of romantic luxuriance, fixed as it were in the very seat of empire of the American seas, celebrated for exertions not to be paralleled by many nations of the earth formerly reckoned their superiors, and entering upon all the advantages and enjoyments of civilized life, the people of Hayti may well be regarded as creating a new æra both in the political and intellectual history of mankind; and the advocates of their progressive improvement have just ground, even on the most calculating principles, to anticipate the happy time when the arts of peace shall succeed with superior reputation to the arts of war; when their rude music shall harmonize into science; when painting, convinced by their own practice, shall again shake hands with philosophy, and acknowledge the omnipotence of education; and when the voice of the sable poet, inspired by the glories of his countrymen, shall resound in the Paradise of Columbus.

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## FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

### FRANCE.

OFFICIAL NEWS FROM THE ARMIES IN SPAIN.  
ARMY OF THE SOUTH.—REPORT FROM THE MARSHAL  
DUKE OF DALMATIA TO HIS SERENE HIGHNESS THE  
PRINCE OF NEUFCHATEL AND WAGRAM.

BAZA, AUG. 13.—I had the honour to state to your Serene Highness in my report of the 7th, that the English army having repassed the Guadiana, and abandoned the Spaniards, I availed myself of the opportunity to proceed against the army of Murcia.—Gen. Blake, a few days after his arrival at Cadiz, had again embarked with some thousand men, which he landed at Almeira, and joined the army of Murcia, which was entrenched at Venta del Baul.

Gen. Level, commanding the 4th corps, had orders to put the column which was to leave Grenada in motion on the 7th. Gen. Soult, commanding the cavalry of the 4th corps, had also the command of the advanced guard. Gen. Latour Maubourg was charged with the command of the reserve of cavalry. I left the 9th infantry of the Grand Duchy of Warsaw, and several detachments of French infantry, the 3d of the Spanish line, and the 12th Dragoons, at Grenada, to form the garrison of that place, and to manœuvre in the direction of Moteil, against the division of the enemy commanded by Count Montejo, who occupied different passes on the Rio Grande, and made frequent incursions into the neighbourhood of Grenada.

On the 8th, in the morning, I left Grenada, and joined at Diesma the advanced guard of the 4th corps. Gen. Soult had

began his march. In approaching Guadix he reconnoitred and charged a corps of 900 cavaliers, who occupied that city, and who were driven at the point of the sword to Gor. Many were killed, and some taken.

On the 8th, at night, I reached Guadix, and ascertained that the two Spanish divisions commanded by Blake, which had landed at Almería, had joined with the insurgent army of Murcia, on the 4th and 5th of August, at Venta del Baul and Baza. This increased the force of that army to 21,000 fighting men, 2,500 of whom were cavalry.

On the 9th, I pushed the advanced guard in front of the entrenched camp at Baul; a false attack, and several demonstrations that were made, kept the enemy's troops in position during the whole day.

The position of Venta del Baul was very strong: the ravine was deep, wide, and of difficult access; the windings which it forms are in many places broken and rugged, and difficult to be penetrated by troops; yet Gen. Gazan found out in the evening a passage, and dispositions were made for attacking and carrying the camp next morning at day-break. But the enemy, informed of the reverses which his right had just experienced, retired in the night, and took through Baza the road to Murcia.

The movement of Gen. Godinot had completely succeeded. On arriving at Quesada, he came up with several bands of Guerrillas, amounting to 800 infantry, and 300 cavalry. Adjutant Com. Remond at the head of the sharpshooters, soon dispersed them; the division continued its march on Pozo Alcon; at the passage of Rio Guadiana el Menor, it joined the advanced posts of the division of Gen. Quadra, who occupied Pozo Alcon; the excellent disposition made by Gen. Godinot, and the cavalry charge of Col. Lallenant, forced the enemy to retreat. Col. Delany, of the 12th infantry, was sent with a battalion of his regiment, and a squadron of the 21st Dragoons, in pursuit of this troop, which threatened marching upon the rear of Godinot's division; he charged it with vigour, killed many, and made many prisoners.

However, the advanced guard of Gen. Godinot made continual progress. At the passage of Rio Guadalentin, it joined the advanced posts of one of the divisions of Blake, which had been sent to the assistance of Gen. Quadra, and had arrived about two hours. It drove them to Rio Barbata, where the whole division, formed in three lines, was posted.—Gen. Godinot immediately gave orders to attack it: with this view, Adjutant Com. Remond, having with him the sharpshooters, and battalion of the 12th, supported by Gen. Regnoux's brigade, descended the ravine, passed the river, and attacked the enemy with impetuosity, notwithstanding the warmth of their fire. Not a single man of the division would have escaped, if that of Gen. Quadra, which had again united in part, had not obliged Gen. Godinot to send against it all his cavalry, and a part of Regnoux's brigade. However, these dispositions had all the success that was to be expected: the two divisions of the enemy were forced to retreat, and were completely routed. The field of battle remained covered with the dead, and with arms thrown away—each troop saved itself as it could in all directions. In the pursuit we killed numbers, and made 400 prisoners. At night, Gen. Godinot took up a position in front of Zugar, in the road of Baza.

On the 10th, in the morning, Gen. Godinot's column, and that of the centre, which had followed the high road, united in front of Baza. Gen. Latour Maubourg had orders to take the command of all the cavalry, and to pursue the enemy.—At noon, the rear-guard was joined beyond Cullar. Gen. Sault had the advanced guard, with the 10th Chasseurs, the 1st of the Lancers of the Vistula, and the 27th Dragoons. On arriving at Los Yertientes, he found 2000 of the enemy's cavalry in position, who covered the retreat of the rest of the troops. His dispositions were immediately made to attack them, and a general charge took place.

The Spaniards were overthrown, and so completely routed, that 200 cavaliers, among whom were several Officers, remained dead on the field, and 800 were taken prisoners, with all their horses. The fall of night, and the extreme fatigue of the horses, who had travelled that day twelve Spanish leagues, prevented

our deriving all the advantage we should have done from this success; but a panic had seized the Spaniards, the troops that remained dispersed in the night, and tried in all directions to gain the province of Murcia.—Gen. Freire, who commanded the army, was wounded in the charge, and saved himself by flight. The other Generals did the same.

On the 11th, at day-break, Gen. Latour Maubourg arrived with the cavalry at Velez el Rubio, from whence he sent off parties to the different *debochés* that lead to Murcia, particularly to that of Lumbreras, three leagues from Lorea.

The loss which the enemy sustained in these different affairs, is very considerable—several thousands of men have been killed; a great number, wounded, are wandering in the mountains, where the greater part will perish. Seven or eight thousand men have disbanded themselves, and crowd back to their homes, cursing the chiefs of the insurrection, and those who, by deceitful hopes, led them to ruin—hitherto we have collected but six or 700 prisoners, among whom are 30 Officers. We have also received 500 deserters, the greater part French or foreigners, who, being prisoners of war, had been forced to serve. The regiment of Walloon Guards has been entirely destroyed, and its colours taken. It is thought, that of this army, which, since the arrival of Blake's division, was in a condition to make a fine defence, not seven thousand men will enter Murcia—all the rest are dispersed. I hope that the different columns which I have sent in pursuit of them to the *debochés* of Vera and Almería, where they wish to embark, will bring in a good number.—Our loss in these affairs is 30 men killed, and 150 wounded.

General Leval informs me this instant of large captures made of ammunition, arms, equipage, and provisions. He hopes to make further captures, and he tells me that prisoners and deserters are coming in every instant. Gen. Sault's advanced guard is at Lohreras, from whence he sends out strong parties to Torre de Aguilas, where the enemy's troops must pass, who have thrown themselves on the right to enter Murcia. It is probable that a part of these troops will be cut off, as other columns are in pursuit of them.—I am, &c.

Marshal Duke of DALMATIA.

ARMY OF PORTUGAL.—Five divisions of the English Army have passed the Tagus, and directed their march to the Coa; two divisions remain on the left bank of the Tagus. This movement, at this season, is very fatal to the English. It increases diseases which have fatigued them much for some time. The heat, which is very great this year, is more prejudicial to the English, who are little used to it, than any other nation.—Our army is in good cantonments, and is recovering from its fatigues. It has received a great quantity of horses to remount its artillery entirely.

#### SPAIN.

The Cortes have now under consideration a Constitution for Spain. The 19th of August was appointed for the reading of the two sections which have been finished by the Committee appointed to draw it up. They consisted of 212 articles; and included the following:—

##### PRELIMINARY AND FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES.

Spain belongs to the Spanish People, and is not the patrimony of any Family.

The Nation only can make Fundamental Laws.

The Roman Catholic and Apostolic Religion, unmixed with any other, is the only religion which the Nation professes, or will profess.

The Government of Spain is an Hereditary Monarchy.

The Cortes shall make the Laws, and the King shall execute them.

##### SPANISH CITIZENS.

The Children of Spaniards, and of Foreigners married to Spanish women, or who bring a capital in order to naturalize themselves to the soil, or establish themselves in trade, or who teach any useful art, are Citizens of Spain.

None but Citizens can fill Municipal Offices.

The rights of Citizenship may be lost by long absence from

the country, or by condemnation to corporeal or infamous punishments.

THE KING.

The person of the King is inviolable and sacred.

He shall sanction the Laws enacted by the Cortes.

He may declare War and make Peace.

He shall appoint to Civil and Military Employments on the proposal of the Council of State.

He shall direct all Diplomatic Negotiations.

He shall superintend the Application of the Public Revenue, &c. &c.

RESTRICTIONS ON THE KINGLY AUTHORITY.

The King shall not obstruct the Meeting of the Cortes in the cases and at the periods pointed out by the Constitution, nor embarrass or suspend the Sittings, &c.

All who may advise him to any such proceedings shall be holden and dealt with as traitors.

He must not travel, marry, alienate any thing, abdicate the crown, raise taxes, nor exchange any town, city, &c. without having first obtained the permission of the Cortes.

Don Ferdinando VII. is declared by the Cortes, King of Spain, and after his decease, his legitimate descendants shall succeed to the throne.

The King shall be a minor until he has completed the age of 18 years.

The eldest son of the King shall be called Prince of the Asturias, and, as such, shall, at the age of 14, take an oath before the Cortes, to maintain the Constitution, and to be faithful to the King.

During a minority, a Regency shall be formed, which shall superintend the education of the young Prince, according to the orders of the Cortes. The Regency shall be presided by the Queen Mother, if she be in life, and shall be composed of two of the oldest Deputies of the Cortes, who shall be replaced from year to year, and of two Counsellors of the Council of State, chosen in the order of their seniority.

The Cortes shall fix the salary proper for the support of the King and his Family, and shall point out the places destined for his recreation, &c.

The Infantes may be appointed to all employments, but cannot be Magistrates, nor Members of the Cortes, and must not leave the kingdom without the permission of the said Cortes.

There shall be eight Secretaries of State, including two for South and North America; they shall be responsible for the affairs of their respective Departments, and the remuneration which they shall receive shall be determined by the Cortes.

A Council of State shall be formed, consisting of 40 Members; four of this number are to be Grandees of Spain, of acknowledged merit and virtue; four Ecclesiasties, of which two shall be Bishops; twelve Americans; the remaining twenty Members to be chosen from among the most respectable Citizens of the other classes of the community. This Council shall meet every year on the first of March, and shall sit during three months. This period can only be extended on the request of the King, or for some reason of great urgency. In such cases the Session may be prolonged, but not beyond one month.

THE CORTES.

The Election of the Cortes shall take place conformable to the mode prescribed by the Constitution, and one Deputy shall be chosen for each 70,000 souls.

The Sittings of the Cortes shall be opened by the King, or in his name, by the President of the Deputation of the Cortes, which ought to remain permanent, in order to watch over the fulfilment of the Constitution.

[The above are the chief Articles of the Report which has been presented to the Cortes. It is ordered to be printed, and when the copies are received from the press, will be fully discussed.]

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

Tuesday week a most unnatural crime was perpetrated—A person who was formerly in the army, and has

lately been working as a shoemaker, after making an attempt on the life of his wife, who escaped with a slight wound, put to death one of his children, a fine boy of four years of age, by repeated wounds on the head and body. The man is now in custody, and has said in his declaration, that he was at the time in a state of intoxication, which in his case always creates a temporary insanity.

A deplorable instance of domestic bereavement and sorrow has occurred in the family of Mr. Hamer, a respectable farmer at Cozway, near Bishop's Castle, in Leicestershire:—Three weeks ago, he was a happy father, in the midst of seven sons and daughters, several of whom had attained maturity; but the ravages of a putrid fever have now reduced the number to three; his wife is almost sunk into a state of insanity, and he himself is unable to rise from his bed. Few persons daring to go into the house, his grain was let out to be reaped, and his dairy cows have been driven to another farm.

A melancholy accident happened on Sunday at Sheerness, being the Anniversary of his Majesty's Coronation. The guns on the battery were preparing to fire a Royal Salute, when John Brown and James Tramp were in the act of loading the same, and ramming home the wadding, one of the guns unfortunately discharged its contents, and the unfortunate men were blown almost to atoms. Two other men, named Springate and Godwin, who were assisting at the guns, were most dangerously wounded; the unfortunate sufferers have left wives and families.

CHELTENHAM, Sept. 19.—Early yesterday morning, a most outrageous attack was made on the keeper of the London-road turnpike-gate, in this town, by a man mounted on an unsaddled horse, who endeavoured to pass without paying. On being resisted, he struck the keeper a violent blow across the arm with a bludgeon, and was immediately pulled from his horse. Several severe rallies then took place; doubtful of his escape, the villain fired a pistol at the toll-man, and the ball penetrating the thick part of his thigh, he fell. The assassin threatened to instantly deprive him of life if he dared to create the least alarm. Influenced by fear, he lay weltering in his blood, whilst the perpetrator went in pursuit of the horse, which had strayed some distance. When he had recovered it he returned, picked up his stick, and effected his escape. The poor man's cries soon drew assistance, and he was conveyed into the turnpike-house; his wound was dressed; but there are faint hopes of his recovery. A reward has been offered for the villain's apprehension. He passed Frog-mill gate about two hours after committing the act, and left a broach as security for the payment of the toll. A person, in every respect answering his description, on Tuesday purchased a packet of gunpowder at the shop of Mr. Fisher, in High-street, and made enquiries relative to what soldiery were in the town, the distance to Birmingham, &c.

On Monday week, Mr. James Wilkie, of Bonnington, Scotland, while looking after some shearers, incautiously went into a field where a young bull was grazing; the animal ran at him, and struck him on the breast, when attempting to seize him by the horns, Mr. W. was thrown down, trampled upon, and tossed about for some time, when the bull was joined by two bullocks which were feeding with him; and such was the fury of the animals, that although this melancholy scene took place within view of a whole field of shearers, it was quite impossible to render him the slightest assistance. When Mr. Wilkie was taken up he was still alive,—with his breast, back, and almost every bone in his body broken; he was able to speak a little, and drank some water, but expired two hours afterwards.

IMPOSTOR.—A fellow on Monday last was detected in practising the following imposition upon female servants in this town.—He begins his story by representing that he is troubled with fits, and that he has been advised by a Mrs. Owen, of Boroughbridge, to collect thirty pence, by a penny a-piece, from each of thirty maids. With these he is to purchase a silver ring, by wearing of which he will be cured of his fits! The libellous rogue had the impudence to assert, that he had experienced great difficulty in his collection. The stocks were re-



presented to him as a better remedy for his complaint than a silver ring; but the fellow had no faith in this recipe, and accordingly decamped with the utmost celerity.—*Taunton Courier.*

### TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

*Admiralty-Office, Sept. 24, 1811.*

*Copy of two Letters transmitted by Rear-Admiral Foley, Commander in Chief in the Downs.*

*His Majesty's ship Naiad, off Boulogne,  
7 a. m. Sept. 21.*

SIR,—Yesterday morning, while this ship was lying at an anchor off this place, much bustle was observed among the enemy's flotilla, moored along shore close under the batteries of their bay, which appeared to indicate that some affair of unusual moment was in agitation. At about noon, Bonaparte, in a barge, accompanied by several other officers, was distinctly seen to proceed along their line to the centre ship, which immediately hoisted the Imperial Standard at the main, and lowered at his departure, substituting for it a Rear-Admiral's flag; he afterwards visited others, and then continued in his boat for the rest of the evening.

Since it is so much within the well-known custom of that Personage to adopt measures that confer supposed eclat on his presence, I concluded that something of that kind was about to take place. Accordingly, seven praams, each having twelve 24-pounders long guns, with 120 men, and commanded by Rear Admiral Baste, weighed and stood towards this ship, being expressly ordered by the French Ruler, as I have since learned, to attack us. As the wind was S. W. with a very strong flood-tide setting to the N. E., while the enemy bore nearly south from us, it was clear that by weighing we could only increase our distance from him; so that our only chance of closing with him at all was by remaining at an anchor.

The Naiad, therefore, quietly awaited his attack in that position, with springs on her cable.

It was exclusively in the enemy's own power to choose the distance: each ship of his squadron stood within gun-shot, gave us successively her broadsides, tacked from us, and in that mode continuously repeated the attack. After this had so continued for three quarters of an hour, ten brigs (said to have four long 24-pounders) and one sloop (said to have two such guns), also weighed and joined the ships in occasionally cannonading us, which was thus kept up for upwards of two hours without intermission, and returned, I humbly hope, with sufficient effect by this ship.

At slack water the Naiad weighed her anchor and stood off, partly to repair some trivial damages, but chiefly, by getting to windward, to be better enabled to close with the enemy, and get within shore of some at least of his flotilla. After standing off a short time, the Naiad tacked and made all sail towards them; but at about sun-set it became calm, when the enemy took up his anchorage under the batteries of Boulogne, while the Naiad resumed her's in her former position.

In this affair not a British subject was hurt, and the damages sustained by this ship are too trifling for me to mention or report. I have, indeed, to apologize for dwelling so long on this affair, but my motive is the manner in which I understand it has been magnified by the enemy, and the extraordinary commendations lavished on the Frenchmen engaged in it by their Ruler. It is fitting, therefore, that his Majesty's Government should know the real state of the case, and the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty may rest assured, that every officer and man on board the Naiad did zealously and steadily fulfil his duty.—I have the honour to be, &c.

PHILIP CARTERET, Captain.

*F. Foley, Esq. Rear-Admiral of the Red, &c.*

*His Majesty's ship Naiad, off Boulogne, Sept. 21.*

SIR,—This morning, at seven o'clock, that part of the enemy's flotilla which was anchored to the eastward of Boulogne, consisting of seven praams, and fifteen smaller vessels, chiefly brigs, weighed and stood out on the larboard tack, the wind

being S. W., apparently to renew the same kind of distant cannonade which took place yesterday: different, however, from yesterday, for there was now a weather-tide. The Naiad, therefore, weighed, and getting well to windward, joined his Majesty's brigs Rinaldo, Redpole, and Castilian, with the Viper cutter, who had all zealously turned to windward in the course of the night, to support the Naiad in the expected conflict. We all lay-to on the larboard tack, gradually drawing off shore, in the hope of imperceptibly inducing the enemy also to withdraw farther from the protection of his formidable batteries. To make known the senior officer's intentions, no other signals were deemed necessary, but "to prepare to attack the enemy's van," then standing out, led by Rear-Admiral Baste, and "not to fire until quite close to the enemy."

Accordingly, the moment the French Admiral tacked in shore, having reached his utmost distance, and was giving us his broadsides, the King's small squadron bore up together with the utmost rapidity, and stood towards the enemy under all the sail each could conveniently carry, receiving a shower of shot and shells from the flotilla and batteries, without returning any, until within pistol-shot, when the firing on both sides of his Majesty's cruisers threw the enemy into inextricable confusion. The French Admiral's praam was the principal object of attack by this ship: but as that officer in leading had of course tacked first, and thereby acquired fresh way, and was now under much sail, pushing with great celerity for the batteries, it became impossible to reach him without too greatly hazarding his Majesty's ship. Having, however, succeeded in separating a praam from him, which had handsomely attempted to succour his Chief, and which I had intended to consign to the particular care of Captains Anderson and Macdonald, of the Rinaldo and Redpole, while the Castilian attacked others, it now appeared best preferably to employ this ship in effectually securing her. The Naiad accordingly ran her on board; Mr. Grant, the Master, lashed her alongside; the small arms men soon cleared her decks, and the boarders, sword in hand, completed her subjugation. Nevertheless, in justice to our brave enemy, it must be observed, that his resistance was most obstinate and gallant, nor did it cease until fairly overpowered by the overwhelming force we so promptly applied. She is named *La Ville de Lyons*, was commanded by a Mons. Barbaud, who was severely wounded, and has on board a Mons. La Coupe, who, as Commodore of a Division, was entitled to a broad pendant. Like the other praams she has 12 long guns, 24-pounders, (French) but she had only 112 men, 60 of whom were soldiers of the 72d regiment of the line. Between 30 and 40 have been killed and wounded.

Meanwhile the three brigs completed the defeat of the enemy's flotilla, but I lament to say that the immediate proximity of the formidable batteries whereunto we had now so nearly approached, prevented the capture or destruction of more of their ships or vessels. But no blame can attach to any one on this account; for all the commanders, officers, and crews did bravely and skilfully perform their duty. If I may be permitted to mention those who served more immediately under my own eye, I must eagerly and fully testify the merits of, and zealous support I received from, Mr. Greenlaw, the First Lieutenant of this ship, as well as from all the excellent officers of every description, brave seamen and Royal Marines, whom I have the pride and pleasure of commanding.

I have the honour herewith to inclose reports of our loss, which I rejoice to find so comparatively trivial, and that Lieut. C. Cobb, of the Castilian, is the only officer who has fallen. I have the honour to be, &c.  
P. CARTERET, Capt.  
*T. Foley, Esq. Rear-Admiral of the Red, &c.*

#### *List of Killed and Wounded.*

*Naiad.*—Two seamen, killed; Lieut. W. Morgan, Mr. James Dover, Midshipman, and 12 seamen, &c. wounded.  
*Castilian.*—Lieut. Cobb, First Lieutenant, killed; and one landman, severely wounded.  
*Rinaldo.*—Mr. J. Swinard, pilot, wounded.

*Extract of an enclosure from Rear-Admiral Boyles.*

*His Majesty's ship Thames, off Porto del Infreschi, July 21.*

SIR,—Capt. Clifford, of the *Cephalus*, having the look-out off Paleajuro on the 20th instant, informed me by a Sicilian privateer of a convoy of 26 sail attempting to gain that port, which he with his usual activity prevented from doing, and compelled them to take shelter in Porto del Infreschi, off which place we arrived this evening.—I immediately desired Captain Clifford to lead in and anchor, which service he performed in a most handsome style, and was closely followed by this ship, who soon silenced eleven gun-boats, and an armed felucca carrying six eighteen-pounders, two iron six-pounders, and 280 men, moored across for the protection of fifteen merchant vessels, and 35 spars for the line-of-battle ship and frigate at Naples, and under cover of a round tower, and the adjacent hills lined with musqueteers from the merchantmen and peasantry. The Marines were then landed under their Lieutenant, M<sup>r</sup> Adami, and got possession of the tower, performing the light infantry manoeuvres in a very pretty style, taking an officer and 80 prisoners, and driving the rest before them; the boats, at the same time, under Capt. Clifford, took possession of the convoy, together with all the spars, except two, which could not be got off; all of which were alongside and the ships under weigh, in less than two hours, without the loss of one man, and only the boatswain and another man badly, and three of the brig's men slightly wounded; on entering the bay her sails and rigging were a good deal cut up. The whole of the officers and ship's company behaved in the most steady manner; which ever reflects the greatest credit on my predecessor, Capt. Waldegrave, for the excellent discipline on board. Capt. Clifford likewise speaks in the highest terms of his First Lieutenant, Richardson, officers, and crew.—I have the honour to be, &c.

Rear-Admiral Boyles, &c.

Total captured.—11 gun-vessels (of one gun each), 1 armed felucca with oil, 14 feluccas, &c. merchantmen—26.

Extract of a Letter from Captain Chamberlayne, of the *Unité*, transmitted by Vice-Admiral Sir Edward Pellew.

*His Majesty's ship Unité, off the Tiber, July 4.*

SIR,—I am to acquaint you, that in complying with your orders delivered to me by Capt. Orway, of his Majesty's ship *Ajax*, on the 2d instant, I was led near the Roman coast off Port Hercule, where a brig being discovered at anchor, at day-light this morning a part of the boats of this ship under the command of Lieut. Crabb, accompanied by Second Lieut. Victor of the Royal Marines, Mr. M. Dwyer, and Mr. H. Collins, Master's Mate, and Mr. Hutchinson, Midshipman, were sent to bring her out. On approaching the coast, they were vigorously attacked by the brig, carrying four six-pounders, and a number of small arms, protected by a battery of two nine-pounders on the beach. Very light and variable winds preventing the ships closing, the launch was detached, under the command of Lieut. M<sup>r</sup> Dougal, to support the other boats; but ere she could reach them, the crew had been beaten out of the brig, her guns dismounted, and the boats were bringing her out in a very handsome manner, under showers of grape from the battery; at seven she joined us, and I had the satisfaction to find, that although the vessel was materially damaged in her hull, masts, and rigging, no man was hurt. She proves to be the French brig *Saint François de Paule*, partly laden with ship timber, of the largest dimensions.

During this affair a sloop of war was observed to leeward, and at nine I was joined by his Majesty's brig *Cephalus*. On proceeding along the coast at five p. m. several vessels were discovered at anchor, between Civita Vecchia, and the mouth of the Tiber. Capt. Clifford, in a most handsome manner, instantly offered to lead into the anchorage, and to head the boats in performing any service which might appear to me practicable; I therefore directed him to anchor the *Cephalus* as near the battery and vessels as possible, and to point out the soundings by signal, a service he performed in a masterly style, bringing his sloop up within the range of grape, under a fire from four nine and six-pounders. The *Unité* being anchored shortly

after in four fathoms water, the enemy were quickly driven from their guns, and the boats sent to Capt. Clifford under those officers who had distinguished themselves in the morning, and three vessels, (the others proving fishing-boats), were brought out under a smart fire of musketry from their crews, and the soldiers collected on a height above them, with the same great good fortune that had attended our previous enterprize. The only person hurt in either ship being Mr. Simon, Master of the *Cephalus*, who was slightly wounded in the face by a grape-shot while bringing the sloop to an anchor. To Capt. Clifford I feel much indebted for his gallantry and able assistance.—He speaks in high terms of his own officers and men, as well as those from this ship, who were employed under him. Permit me to remark to you, Sir, that this is the third time within two months I have had the satisfaction to bear testimony to the zeal and bravery of the officers I have now mentioned.

Vice-Admiral Sir Edward Pellew has transmitted to this office a letter from the Hon. Capt. Waldegrave, late commanding the *Thames* (now in the *Volontaire*), giving an account of the destruction, on the 16th of June last, in the gulph of Policastro, of ten large armed feluccas, on their way from Pizzo to Naples. They had been hauled up on the beach under Cetraro, where they were taken possession of under a heavy fire of musketry, by a detachment landed from the *Thames* and *Cephalus*, under the direction of Lieut. Whiteway, of the former, and set fire to and burnt, being found too large and heavily laden to allow of their being launched and brought away. In the performance of this service one Midshipman (Mr. Cornwall), and two men only were wounded.

Vice-Admiral Sawyer, Commander in Chief on the coast of North America, has transmitted a letter from Captain Molcaester, of his Majesty's sloop the *Emulous*, giving an account of his having, on the 26th of last month, captured the French brig letter of marque *L'Adèle*, pierced for 16 guns, only two mounted, with 35 men, bound from Charlestown to Nantes, with a cargo of cotton.

#### BANKRUPTCIES ENLARGED.

T. C. Webb, Bath, money scrivener, to Oct. 11.—D. Solomon, Whitechapel, weaver, from Sept. 28 to Oct. 8.—G. Ludeman, Limehouse, baker, from Sept. 28 to Oct. 29.—G. Crow, Fitchbourne-street, man's mercer, from Oct. 5 to Nov. 23.

#### BANKRUPTS.

D. Chandler, Stowupland, Suffolk, coal-merchant.  
W. Bate, jun. Bilston, Staffordshire, brick-maker.  
W. Graham, Liverpool, liquor-merchant.  
C. Ward and J. Brown, Bolton-le-Moors, hay-merchants.  
J. Smith, Manchester, cotton-manufacturer.  
J. Ogden, sen. Pendleton, Lancashire, bleacher.  
J. Downie, Limehouse, merchant.

#### SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

This Gazette contains an account of the capture, after a chase of three hours, of the French lugger privateer *Le Prospere*, mounting two long six-pounders, and one eighteen-pounder carronade, with thirty-nine men, by the *Leveret* sloop, Capt. Willes. And Admiral Sir Charles Colton has transmitted a letter from Capt. Ballard, of the *Sceptre*, giving an account of the capture of a French merchant sloop and five chasse mares on the coast of France, by the boats of that ship, under the directions of Lieutenant Chrystie.

#### BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

T. L. Brown, Whitecross-street, leather-pipe-maker.

#### BANKRUPTS.

W. Maskew, Whitehaven, Insurance-broker.  
T. Heselwood, York, grocer.

W. Wilson, Knottingley, York, corn-dealer.  
 W. Midlane, Gosport, grocer.  
 W. Brown, Loftsome, York, corn-dealer.  
 J. and C. Brackenbury, Ely, Cambridge, bankers.  
 M. Mecrow, Dover, hoyman.  
 Q. Levitt, Kingston upon-Hull, merchant.  
 R. Scotton, Cannon-street-Road, Middlesex, victualler.  
 T. Inkersley and Co. Leeds, merchants.  
 J. T. Whitgrove, Kildetminster, tanner.

## PRICE OF STOCKS ON SATURDAY.

3 per Cent. Con..... 63 $\frac{1}{4}$  | Omnium.....  $\frac{1}{2}$   $\frac{3}{4}$  dis.

## THE EXAMINER.

LONDON, SEPTEMBER 29.

A CONSIDERABLE sensation has been excited in the political circles by the abrupt return of our Ambassador, Lord WILLIAM BENTINCK, from Sicily, after residing there a few weeks only. His departure could hardly have been occasioned by any thing short of dismissal; but whatever may have been the case, it will afford little surprize to those who know any thing at all about Sicily, with its vile government, and its still viler Court. The jealousy with which the creatures of that government have ever regarded us while defending them, is a compliment which they could not but pay to the decency of our manners, the necessity of our protection, and the *dangerous* example of our *good condition*, physical, moral, and political. Englishmen have that about them, wherever they go, which makes prejudice and corruption shudder, even though they go to defend them. The better part of the Sicilians must for a long time have been forcibly impressed with the comparison between their countrymen and their allies; and it is probable that the mere presence of the latter may have not been without its influence in animating them to submit less easily to the gross injustice and corruptions of their miserable Court. It was but a few months back that the Sicilian Barons resident at Palermo drew up a paper, protesting against an unwarrantable demand which the King had made upon the property of his subjects without a regular application to what is called the Parliament. Several of these Noblemen have been subsequently arrested and exiled to the neighbouring islands, and the State is now supposed to be in a high ferment, owing principally to the intrigues of the Queen, who is said to have manifested the greatest bitterness against the English. What Her Majesty's motives may be, it is impossible to tell; but it is not improbable that, in her taste for intrigue, she has suffered herself to be enjoeled by that of the French, and that the late alliance of her relation the Emperor of Austria with the House of BONAPARTE, may have given her old and debauched imagination some golden dreams of future indemnity and enjoyment, with which her English connexion may interfere. As to King FERDINAND, whose only passion is for the sports of the field,—whose fowling-piece is his sceptre, and whose happiest throne is a dog-cart, he is only less contemptible

than his Consort, inasmuch as his pursuits are somewhat less scandalous. It is certainly perplexing to know what to do with this august pair. The Editor of the *Times* thinks it would be "no impolitic scheme to land them on the continental part of their dominions, in order that they, and particularly the latter of them, might head the partisans which they possess there, and rescue Naples from the grasp of MURAT." There seems to be nothing objectionable to such a scheme, particularly if his Majesty's dogs be lauded with him, as he will then have all his resources at his command, both of comfort and of kingly dignity.

Dispatches from Lord WELLINGTON were received yesterday, dated from Fuente de Guinaldo, the 11th inst. —Neither the dispatches nor even extracts from them appear in the Gazette of last night; but the Ministerial journals say that "no movement had taken place on the part of the Allied Army. The French troops had not concentrated at Salamanca, as was expected. MARMONT's head-quarters were at Placentia."

Lisbon Papers have also been received to the 18th. —They state that "MARMONT has lately received some reinforcements, and was expected to march to the relief of Ciudad Rodrigo. A battle was expected in the plains of Rodrigo. Part of the Imperial Guard arrived at Salamanca on the 1st."

These papers assert that about 10,000 of the enemy were beat near Villafranca, by 20,000 of the Guerillas, with the loss of 500 men, one General, and two guns.

The cause of the heavy firing off Boulogne is at length explained. The Gazette contains a detailed account of the action which took place, and in which all the characteristic bravery of British seamen was eminently displayed.

The account brought by the Peacock brig of war, of the action between the Melampus and President American frigate, is altogether a fabrication.

The President of the United States of America, according to *The Halifax Weekly Chronicle* of the 23d ult. is said to have declared, that the conduct of Commodore RODGERS, in the late affair with the Little Belt, was *not* authorised by any orders from the American Government.

The Ex-king of SWEDEN has arrived at Altona. With what view BONAPARTE tolerates the Continental peregrinations of this unfortunate Monarch, no conjecture has yet been hazarded.

The Tartar frigate has been lost in the Baltic. She struck on a rock on the 18th ult. and remained in that perilous state till the 23d, when it was found impracticable to save her. Not one of the officers or crew were lost.

The equinoxial gales have at last set in with considerable severity. A storm took place on Tuesday, which has done much damage among the shipping on the coast of the Channel, and there is reason to fear that its ravages have not been confined to that quarter.

The Sceptre, of 74 guns, which lately captured some French chasse-marees, is stated to have sustained the following loss by a stratagem of the enemy:—After the Sceptre had captured two of these vessels, she observed a

ligger lying at anchor up the river, and immediately sent her launch, with thirty men and two officers, to cut her out: they accordingly proceeded nearly along-side, without any appearance of resistance, when a masked battery suddenly opened upon them, and two hundred troops, who had been concealed behind a hill, advanced to a small neck of land, within pistol-shot of the launch, upon which they opened a most destructive fire, which our brave fellows most gallantly returned, till their boat was completely knocked to pieces. Twenty men were either killed or desperately wounded, and the remainder taken by the enemy. The lugger (so say the men belonging to the prizes sent in) contained only two or three hogsheads of wine, and is supposed to have been placed there by the enemy as a decoy.

The following account of the circumstances attending the capture of his Majesty's ship *Alacrity*, was brought by the Express Packet, which has arrived at Falmouth from the Mediterranean:—"The French brig *Abeille* was at anchor in a port of the island of Corsica, when discovered by Capt. PALMER, of the *Alacrity*, who dispatched three boats, manned and armed, to cut her out; but from some unforeseen circumstances, this attempt failed, and the boats and crew were taken by the enemy, who immediately took the boats in tow, got under way, and hoisted English colours over the French, came out of port, and on coming up to the *Alacrity* (who fully expected she was a prize), ran on board of her, and carried her immediately by boarding, before any measures could be taken for resistance."

A Court-Martial has been held on board the *Raisable*, at Sheerness, for the trial of Mr. JOSEPH DAVIS, Second Officer of the Lord Keith East Indiaman, Capt. CAMPBELL, for disobedience and contempt of his Captain's orders, and for mutinous language in the ship during an alarm of fire, on her homeward-bound voyage. The Lord Keith carried letters of marque, like all the other ships of the Company, which are, by a recent Act of Parliament, as letters of marque, placed under the laws and regulations of the British Navy. After three days investigation, the Court, of which Admiral Lord COLVILLE was President, on Thursday gave sentence, that the charges were not proved; and the defendant was accordingly acquitted.—Some particulars of this extraordinary case in our next.

Two French prisoners were on Wednesday brought from on board one of the prison-ships in Hamoaze, and lodged in Plymouth jail, on a charge of forging Bank of England Notes, in conjunction with other prisoners, to a considerable extent. It is astonishing to think, considering the privations under which they labour on board a prison-ship, how they contrive to bring their forgeries to such perfection. In the present instance, however, the notes are so well executed as not to be distinguished from real ones. The men were remanded for a future examination to give the Solicitor to the Bank, or an Agent for him, an opportunity to attend.—The Bank of England have published repeated advertisements, informing the public that there are a great number of forged notes in circulation in the neighbourhood of all the depots for prisoners of war; but it would have been more *civil* and *genteel*, if they had at the same time informed the public *how they were to distinguish the said notes.*

The abominable system of Military Torture will never be done away unless the Legislature make a special en-

actment on the subject.—A young man, of respectable connexions at Plymouth, belonging to the corps of Royal Artificers, having absented himself for a few days, was apprehended and tried for desertion, and sentenced to receive 300 lashes. Lord MOUNT-EDGECUMBE, much to the credit of his humanity and goodness of heart, wrote to the Commanding Officer in behalf of the culprit; but it had no effect. The answer returned (whether verbal or written, it is not certain) was in substance, that he had been sentenced by a Court-Martial to be flogged,—and flogged he should be!—He was accordingly tied up to the halberts, at a place called the Timber Pound, near Plymouth, where he received nearly 200 lashes; but agonized nature could sustain no more; he sunk under it, was cut down, and sent to the hospital; but whether he will suffer that refinement on torture, by being brought out to receive the remainder of his sentence when his back is healed, is not certain.

Counterfeits of three-shilling Bank Tokens are in circulation; they are of the same size as the true one, but the bust and dress of his Majesty are fainter; the letters are thicker; the wreath is badly executed, appearing swelled and indistinct, and to rise higher than in the true one; the figure 3 is larger; and the letter O in the Token, and the figures 1811, hardly legible, from the flatness of the die. Their appearance is much whiter, and they sound very dull when rung; they are of copper, thinly plated, and worth about a penny. On the whole, they are executed nearly as well as those issued from the Bank; and it is to be lamented that the wretched workmanship of the Bank Token has admitted of so easy a counterfeit.

A duel has been fought at Heligoland, between Lieut. MASTERS, third of the *Horatio*, and a Mr. OWEN; the parties fired four times; on the fourth fire, Lieut. MASTERS fell. His wound, however, was not considered dangerous.

SLAVE TRADE.—The following paragraph, extracted from a Jamaica Paper of July 25, shews that attempts are still made to continue that infamous traffic:—"The Liberty brig, of 12 guns, Lieut. GUNZ, has arrived at Barbadoes from this island, and carried in with her the ship *Falcon*, of Liverpool, which she seized for having on board 318 African slaves, with which she was apparently steering for this island when the Liberty fell in with her."

LUCIEN BONAPARTE'S Poem is now in the press. It begins thus:—

"Les soldats Bizantins campent aux pieds des murs;" and treats of the achievements of CHARLEMAGNE.—The stanza is of the above measure in every verse except one, which is short. Each stanza contains ten lines; there are seventy stanzas to every canto; and the cantos amount in number to twenty-two, which makes the whole poem consist of fifteen thousand four hundred verses. LUCIEN has sold it; and, ambitious to have it translated into English, he has, through the bookseller, made an overture to Mr. CAMPBELL, the author of "The Pleasures of Hope," to undertake it for a remuneration of 2000l.—*Herald.*

The following remarkable instances of longevity occur in the Bills of Mortality for the whole extent of the Russian Empire, during 1809:—Died, 307 persons between the age of 95 and 100; 188 between 100 and 105; 86 between 105 and 110; 36 between 110 and 115; 23 between 115 and 120; 8 between 120 and 125; 5 between 125 and 130; 1 between 130 and 135; 1 between 135 and 140; 1 between 145 and 150; and 1 between 155 and 160.



The Assembly of Jamaica, in their last Session, passed an Act, by which persons applying for licence to preach in that island are to take the same oaths and make the same declaration as are required of dissenting preachers in this country. The Supreme Court of Jamaica are appointed judges of the fitness of the applicants for licence. Persons preaching or teaching in any meeting composed chiefly of mulattoes or negroes, without a licence, are subjected to heavy penalties. Persons attending a meeting where the house is not duly registered, or the preacher duly qualified, to forfeit, for the first offence 5l. and if a slave, to receive a public flogging, not exceeding 39 lashes!!

### THE KING'S ILLNESS.

#### MEDICAL BULLETINS

“ Windsor Castle, Sept. 22.

“ His Majesty remains in the same state.”

“ Windsor Castle, Sept. 23.

“ His Majesty has passed the night without sleep, and is not quite so well this morning.”

“ Windsor Castle, Sept. 24.

“ His Majesty had some sleep during the night, and is much the same as he was the day before yesterday.”

“ Windsor Castle, Sept. 25.

“ There is no change in his Majesty to-day.”

“ Windsor Castle, Sept. 26.

“ His Majesty continues in the same state as yesterday.”

“ Windsor Castle, Sept. 27.

“ His Majesty's state has not varied for the last three days.”

“ Windsor Castle, Sept. 28.

“ His Majesty continues in the same state as yesterday.”

### COMETS AND WOMEN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

“ Nihil tam absurdum, quod non dictum sit ab aliquo philosophorum.”—CICERO.

If astronomico-philosophers, in place of vague hypotheses, had informed us of the nature and uses of Comets with as much truth and accuracy as Mandeville and others have unveiled the secret springs and movements of the human heart, the above quotation, however applicable to others, would not have been so to them. But the fact is, that those Gentlemen are deficient in that precise point wherein we most want information; for though, from the Newtonian principles, they may shew us by what laws their motions are regulated, they can proceed no further; and were we to ask of them their nature, &c. they would be at their wit's end; or, as the French more happily express it, “ils ne sauroient quel pied danser.” It is true, they might tell us, that these bodies recruit the heat expended by the sun in warming the planets; that they are planets themselves, only moving in more eccentric orbits; that they are the abodes of the damned; that one of them was the cause of the deluge; and that another, coming in contact with the sun, struck off a piece of it, which formed the globe on which we live; and much more to the same purpose. But I would beg leave to ask, what real information would these “aniles fabulæ” (for they are nothing better) convey? About as much, I conceive, as the answer of the Rev. Dr Spintext, who while quaffing his pipe over a “jorum of nappy” with a friend, was asked, “Brother Spintext, what is your opinion of a comet?” when after much deliberation, he sapiently re-

plied, “Brother, it is a *luminous body of light*!” or that of my much esteemed friend Dr. Pottingen, the learned professor of astronomy in the university of Gottingen, who terms them in his lectures, “*corpora ignea in vacuo bombalaria*!” that is, as my other learned friend Count Reginald de St. Leon would translate it for the benefit of his unlearned readers, *fiery meteors sporting in empty space*.

Now, Mr. Examiner, though I will not, like these men of learning, attempt to tell you what a comet is, I will tell you to what I think it is most analogous, and that is—to Woman. Yes, Sir, to woman, lovely, bewitching, enchanting woman; she who for an apple damned mankind, who laid Old Troy in ashes, and who lost Mark Anthony the world.

Comets doubtless, answer some wise and good purpose in the creation; so do Women. Comets are incomprehensible, beautiful, and eccentric; so are Women. Comets shine with peculiar splendour, but at night appear most brilliant; so Women. Comets are enveloped with a lucid nebula, through which their forms are visible; so are those of Women, through their light and elegant attire. Comets confound the most learned when they attempt to ascertain their nature; so do Women. Comets equally excite the admiration of the philosopher and of “the clod of the valley;” so do Women. Comets and Women, therefore, are closely analogous; but the nature of each being inscrutable, all that remains for us to do is, to view with admiration the one, and to adoration love the other.

A.

Nelson-square, Sept. 25.

### PUBLIC NUISANCES.

MR. EXAMINER,—Amongst other nuisances to which this metropolis is subject, we may reckon that which I am about to mention as a very offensive one:—The worshipful Company of Dustmen (like other great men in various departments) seem to have come to an agreement amongst themselves to keep his Majesty's subjects in the dark as much as they possibly can:—with this difference, that the former gentlemen commit their depredations with an unblushing front in the face of day, while the latter act under the shades of darkness. To have done however with those comparisons, I wish to state, Sir, that the Dustmen's Representatives, every morning, in *sultry hot* and melting weather, particularly when there are *pleasant gales* of wind to raise the dust, invariably sweep the streets:—about nine, ten, or eleven o'clock, are the hours selected for this purpose, and men of business and every one else, whose avocations call them out during those hours, never escape without inhaling as much of the offensive element as their eyes and mouth will contain.—I say nothing of its effects upon one's teeth, but it is very dangerous and hurtful to the eyes.—To tell you the truth, I can afford to have a new coat but seldom, and frequent *dustings*, you know, Mr. Examiner, are very detrimental to old clothes. I would gladly submit to the inconvenience, if there was no remedy; but as I think the streets ought to be cleaned in dusty weather before the hours of business, particularly when it is day at three in the morning, I wish to be informed where I am to apply to have my wishes fulfilled, and the nuisance removed?—I wonder the Attorney-General does not file a criminal information against the perpetrators of this horrid offence.—Your's, in haste, J. C.

## THEATRICAL EXAMINER.

No. 100.

A new Afterpiece, attributed to Mr. Hook, and, like most of that gentleman's pieces, demanding little or no criticism, has been produced in the course of the week at the Haymarket Theatre. It is in the old style of love-plotting, equivocating, and house-breaking; and is called *Darkness Visible*, in allusion to the single concluding scene, which brings together all the parties concerned to cheat, mistake, or maul each other in the dark. The author has shewn no advancement in any of the necessary qualifications for a sound dramatist; and probably never will. Like his last production, however, it is tolerably free from puns; and with the help of ELLISTON'S dry humour, and the rapidity of Mr. JONES'S utterance in the part of a gabbling servant, there is altogether a hurry or whirl about it which may help to give the spirits a filip during these rainy evenings.

## NEGRO FACULTIES.

MR. EXAMINER,—I wish not to prolong this dispute, but merely to explain where I have been miscomprehended, which I hope you will allow me an opportunity of doing. What, says my antagonist in full blaze at the supposition of completely annihilating me, "a radical defect of mental organization may be remedied by *perseverance*;"—no, I do not admit it, nor have I ever said it from myself.—I quoted it once against you, *from him*, to shew the *consistency* of my antagonists.—I mean a great capacity for brutal enjoyments may be conquered by mental effort, when the superior intellectual power exists at the same time.—I do not admit, nor did I say, that the outward characteristics of Socrates *became* the characteristics of superiority of intellect to sense *by perseverance*; but that they were *always* so from his cradle; he was born *naturally organised* for sensual enjoyments, and he was also born with a natural organization for high intellectual effort; and the superiority of his formation in the one case enabled him to conquer his radical brutality in the other. This I maintain was exemplified in his face by his immense capacity for intellect, in comparison with his capacity for his senses:—and why I deny the negro that power of conquering his brutality is for this simple reason, because I suspect (on what ground I have shewn) he is without the intellectual power. Does he presume to say, that Socrates had ever a radical defect in mind, when he has affirmed him to have been the most *perfect* in mind of the human species?—Pretty consistency! That we are all children of first impressions I readily grant;—but are we all *equally* impressed upon?—If fifty children were at the same instant to perceive the same thing, would they all be *equally* impressed?—Certainly not—they would be all impressed according to their respective *capacities* to receive impressions—Knowledge is *not* innate, but the capacity to acquire it *is*. I did *not* say the *language* of the Bosjemans and Hottentots, &c. was unintelligible—but their *utterance*—as the utterance of an Englishman—is unintelligible who speaks without a roof to his mouth.—And that as monkeys are physically incapable of utterance from their formation about the larynx, Hottentots, &c. approach this incapacity from their utterance also; and that *here* the gradation was regular. He may try to escape as much as he pleases about his unfortunate manuscript, but

he must have thought it pretty strong collateral evidence, to say—"If I had seen it, I should not have published my gratuitous assertions."—He is an ingenious gentleman, and he has made an ingenious reply:—but where are his proofs *ad infinitum*?—Granting him that all the heads in the British Museum, as well as the Sphinx, have negro characteristics (which I do not grant), for the sake of quieting the man, what does this prove?—Does it prove the Egyptians *ever* to have been negroes, any more than when they represented man under the form of the monkey, that they were *ever* monkeys?—Certainly not.

Besides, all Sphinxes, as well as the great Sphinx before the Pyramids of Memphis, are *emblematical* figures, and therefore have *nothing* to do with the national character of the features or form of the Egyptians, any more than their patriarchal monkies or their dog-headed *Latrator Anubis*. We must look into the tombs of Thebes and the temples of Elephantina and Tyntyra, where they have represented *themselves*, for specimens of their national form and features; and *there*, wherever they have represented themselves, their features and form are the *reverse* of the negro.

"Of all descriptions of men, (says Browne in his *Travels through Egypt to Darfur*, pages 71, 72,) the Copts, or *original inhabitants*, most interest curiosity:" he did not observe, he says, any resemblance of the negro *features* or *form*, their hair and eyes were of a dark hue, and the former often curled; but not in a greater degree than is occasionally seen among Europeans; the nose was often acquiline,—and though the lips were sometimes thick, by no means generally so, &c.; and that their complexion, like that of the Arabs, was of a dusky brown, of the same colour as in the paintings which he saw in the tombs of Thebes.—Again, in page 162,—"The two harpers, and several human figures in the caverns of Thebes, called Biban-el-moluck (tombs of the kings), and in which the colours are perfectly well preserved, have the features and complexion exactly resembling the Egyptians of the present day:"\* therefore they are *not now* nor were ever an ugly race.

\* "The complete silence of ancient authors," he continues, "concerning the negro character of the Egyptians, if all arguments were equally balanced, would be sufficient to decide this point in the negative."—And again,—"The apparent testimony of Herodotus, the earliest historian whose works have reached our days, is not so strong as might at first appear. The terms, *μελάγχροισ και ουλότριχες* (black coloured and crisp haired) are merely relative, and apply to the greater or less degree of blackness or crispature of the Egyptians, as compared with the Greeks, to whom the writer was addressing himself; and certainly cannot be confined to positive blackness or wooly hair. To corroborate this testimony from Herodotus, may be adduced a similar one from Ammianus Marcellinus, lib. xxii. That author says, the Egyptians were *atroti*, a term of equally strong import with the *μελάγχροισ* of Herodotus; but, like it, evidently applied in a comparative sense; for in the very next sentence he says, *erubescunt*,—they blush or grow red. It is true, indeed, negroes suffer a certain change of countenance when affected with a sentiment of shame; but it would be rather a bold assertion, that the word *erubescere* can ever be applied to characterize the effect of that feeling on a negro: even in the vernacular idiom of modern Europe, by the term *black man*, is daily designated one of darker complexion than ourselves." The whole of Browne's chapter on the ancient Egyptians is interesting and conclusive. Chap. xii. is the one from which all the extracts that follow above are taken.

"But if all the arguments" (continues Browne) "to confute this new theory (viz. that the Egyptians were negroes) should fail, one fact remains, which is *invincible*: the persons of the ancient Egyptians,—preserved as it were entire by the prescience of that people concerning the errors into which posterity might fall,—exhibit an irrefragable proof of their features and of the colour of their skin, which is now, by the quantity of mummies that have been imported into Europe, subject to the inspection of the curious almost throughout that quarter of the globe. This resurrection of witnesses also evinces that the Copts are genuine descendants, and preserve the family likeness in their complexion of dusky brown, dark hair and eyes, lips sometimes thick, but the nose as often aquiline, and other marks of a *total dissimilitude* between them and the negro race."

It is not to be wondered at, that any man who ventures to suspect the intellect of negroes in consequence of their bodily alliance to animals and long brutality, should be assailed as a brute, a sophist, or a pedant: it bears too much the appearance of sanctioning the cruelties and oppressions negroes have suffered for 300 years, and which have awakened the best feelings and affections of all the enlightened men of Europe.—Men are not yet recovered from their heat to bear with calmness any *truth* that tends to lessen the rank of those for whom their sympathies have been so long awakened. As to my antagonist's charge of *ipse dixit*.—every assertion is an *ipse dixit*, if not followed by direct exemplification and proof. If I have asserted any thing erroneous about the forms of negroes, &c. let him *prove* me wrong, and not *ipse dixit* in return.—The limits of a correspondence like this will not allow a detail of dissections and facts. For more enlarged information, I refer your readers to Blumenbach, Camper, Bell, White, &c. and then to the highest of all authorities, *Nature*: and for what I have laid down as the standard of Greek form, to the exquisite, unrivalled, inspired Elgin Marbles †, which, when they are publicly studied by the Students, will enable England in art as in arms to bid defiance to the world.

As to his affecting dullness at my waggery about thumbs and fingers, I again explain, that the poor gentleman may

† With respect to Mungo Park's testimony and his *very despicable* terms "exquisite forms," "overthrowing in an instant" the system of those *ridiculous fellows*, the Greek Artists, those who had the honour of knowing Park, Mr. Examiner, should certainly have asked him, were not their feet fat, their calves high, their jaws protruded, their foreheads receding, and their fore-arms long, &c. &c.? Perhaps he would have answered, as Winterbottom answered White,—it did not strike him.—With all my enthusiasm and love and veneration for such a man, I should certainly in such a case have been bold enough to say,—it would have much *more* surprised me if it had.—Would a jeweller depend on any man's judgment of the genuineness of a jewel, whose knowledge had been collected from casual glances at the glittering graceful head-dresses at routs? And does it require less judgment and less discrimination to understand the refinements of such a science as form, than mechanically to distinguish the differences of jewels?—"Let me concede to him as much as I will," proceeds my opponent, "let me concede to him, that the present physiognomy of negroes announces their present degradation."—Amiable Philanthropist! (as you would have said, Mr. Examiner) to grant me what Newton could not have denied!

no longer have an excuse:—I meant, if he argued that the Egyptians had negro characteristics from that imbecile scrawl on the manuscript, I might as justly argue they had no fingers, from another scrawl on a similar manuscript.—My antagonist's opinion of *my logic*, is about as great I see as mine of *his comprehension*; but his rattling letter and witty quotations have amused me, as they have amused, I have no doubt, all your readers.—I thank you, Mr. Examiner, for this opportunity of explanation, and for defending myself from imputations which I venture to think are more applicable to my antagonist.

AN ENGLISH STUDENT.

### DARTMOOR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR,—A second letter from *Humanitas* having appeared in your paper a few days since, I beg leave to trespass on your goodness by desiring the insertion of this in reply. *Humanitas* has conceded several points, and from his last letter I judge, that on a perusal of this he will be candid enough to own that he has been mistaken yet further. I will believe that *Humanitas* did not deliberately commence his attack on the honour of his country. I will pass over his comments on the letter of T. H. and also the idea that French soldiers who have slept amid the snows of the Alps, and on the ice of the Vistula, cannot exist on Dartmoor; and though he may reply that some of the prisoners have been sent there from foreign regions under a torrid sun, as from Martinique for instance, yet the number of these is so small, and an assimilation to the climate must take place so speedily, that I will not engross your attention by noticing this part of the subject any farther. I will allow a little less rain in Middlesex, and still say that the quantity asserted by *Humanitas* to fall annually in Devon is monstrously exaggerated.

But these are not the principal points of dispute: the mortality alleged to have taken place is the most important thing to disprove, which, I trust, I shall do to the satisfaction of *Humanitas* and of the public. *Humanitas* stated as follows:—"Were not the number of the dead in this prison for the first three years of the war estimated at *one thousand a year*? Did not about *fifteen hundred* prisoners die, and were there not *three thousand* sick, so that *all the rooms were occupied* with patients, and the hospital was *over-loaded three years ago*? Were there not *five or six hundred* perished the winter before last?" Now the ignorance of the informant of *Humanitas* is evident. Dartmoor prison has been built long since the commencement of the present war, and the first prisoners sent there were sent May 22, 1809. What can therefore be meant by the first three years of the war? Four thousand and ninety-one prisoners were sent to Dartmoor depot that year; yet *Humanitas* asks, were there not three thousand sick at that period (three years ago) so that all the rooms were occupied with patients, and the hospital overloaded?—Out of this number too 1500 died; an excess of mortality greater than any known in Walcheren or the West Indies, more than one-third of the whole number of prisoners!!!—The hospital must indeed have been overloaded, for it was built for two hundred and fifty patients only, allowing a proper space between each cradle, though *Humanitas* says

for 1000: but by putting the beds very close on an emergency, it might be made to hold three hundred, and this is the highest number it can possibly be made to contain: here is a very prominent error. I will now shew *Humanities* that Dartmoor had nothing to do with the sickness which did prevail in the prison. The first appearance of sickness took place in September, 1809, when Dartmoor is as warm as it is in July; therefore the cold of the climate could not have been the cause. Previous to this period, the greatest number that ever was in the hospital at any one time did not exceed 120 patients, who were chiefly affected with pneumonia, catarrh, and common fever affections, which did not assume any decided or specific character, and certainly altogether devoid of contagion.—The disorder which subsequently occurred was not asthma and consumption, as has been ridiculously asserted, but typhus, and the cause principally arose from a great number of prisoners having been at the same period sent to the depot, from a great variety of sources; many of them old and infirm, several in a valetudinary state from chronic complaints, and others not only diseased, but predisposed to sickness, from the effects of protracted service in tropical climates. Without ascribing to it any inhospitable or deleterious quality in the climate of Dartmoor, this circumstance in itself is sufficient to account for the appearance of disease in the prison; for it is a fact, incontrovertibly established, that the junction of a number of strangers together, however healthy they may be, almost uniformly induces disease, until their habits, &c. become assimilated. This is illustrated by every day's experience in the manning of our navy, under the strictest attention to health, and the greatest regard to the economy and discipline of the ship. This was the true cause of the disorder, and at this period between 500 and 600, when the contagion was at its height, were sick, and a temporary hospital was formed of a room in one of the neighbouring buildings; to accommodate the extra number of sick.—In the above numbers the surgical, medical, and convalescent cases, are all included; and of the former there were not a few. Cases of ulcer also confined many, and all assisted in promoting contagion.—By the unremitting exertions of the medical gentlemen employed, the prison was in a few weeks restored to comparative health, and subsequent regulations have rendered it the most healthy depot in the kingdom, perhaps in the world. A week or two since, when I was at the prison last, there were 6570 prisoners, and only forty-nine sick and convalescent; this stands as an unexampled instance in history of health.—The total number of the prisoners sent to Dartmoor, from May 22d, 1809, to the present time, is 7799; the number now there is 6570, consequently there are 1229 unaccounted for, this number therefore includes *dead, invalided and sent home, or exchanged by cartel, for the last three years and half.*—These things are facts, and I feel pleasure in communicating them to the world. I have every facility of enquiry, and aver the truth of my statement. When last in the prison, within ten days from the date of this, the establishment afforded me much satisfaction; large numbers of the prisoners with tickets on their persons, were suffered to come out of the prison and work, 30 or 40 under the care of a single centinel. They receive pay for their labour, and are as healthy and as orderly as men can be.

Our soldiers who mount guard day and night, four hours

each by turns, in the open air, are always healthy and well; and surely the prisoners must be so, under a dry roof, and in winter with stoves to warm their apartments, with every attention that can be bestowed for their comfort, in point of cleanliness and victualling, by the humane and good officers who superintend them.

There is no doubt that Lord Cochrane was influenced by good motives in bringing forward this subject, but a great error with him, is that of not examining minutely into things himself, seeing for himself, and not relying on the reports of others.—If Dartmoor were as *Humanitas* has been led to think it, I would aid Lord Cochrane, with all my heart, in destroying an establishment which would dishonour my country.—I am Sir, your humble servant, &c.  
*Plymouth, September 9th, 1811.* VERITAS.

#### BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK.

Mr. H. Thornton and Sir Thomas Turlton, who at present represent this opulent and populous borough,—almost the only one in England in which the people have really a voice,—are certainly neither of them abject followers of the Minister, but yet they have not actually devoted themselves to the great cause of Reform.—Mr. Calvert, the brewer, who has announced himself as a Candidate on *Whig* principles, it is impossible to say any thing about, for if his principles are like those of the leaders of that body, very little good is expected from his services.—In this state of things, it is every way satisfactory to learn, that many of the Electors are anxious to obtain a Representative, who would not lend himself to half measures, but would at once honestly join the people in their endeavours to obtain Reform. The person they are solicitous to elect is Mr. W. J. Burdett, the brother of Sir Francis, who has already distinguished himself as the warm advocate of the rights of the people. In such hands the Electors would be safe, and notwithstanding the objections urged by Mr. Burdett against becoming a Member of the House of Commons, it is to be hoped that the Electors will persevere in their intention, if it be only to shew the Corruptionists, that wherever the Public have a voice, that voice will be effectual against them.—The Borough Committee, in the name of three hundred Electors, having acquainted Mr. Burdett with their wishes, he has returned them the following answer:—

*“Rochampton, Sept. 23, 1811.*

“GENTLEMEN—Your application to me was wholly unexpected. It is extremely gratifying to my feelings to receive so flattering a testimony of the favourable opinion you entertain of my principles, and I am fully sensible of the honour you do me by your handsome offer of proposing me a Candidate for the Borough of Southwark; at the same time I scruple not to declare, that I take more pleasure in witnessing any honourable expression of public sentiment, than I could derive from any circumstance, however honourable, to myself alone; not because I estimate lightly public opinion, but because I am fully convinced that if our country can yet be saved from the ruin with which it is menaced, its salvation can be effected only by those genuine, independent, constitutional principles, which you, Gentlemen, profess yourselves anxious to support.

“You correctly state my humble opinion, that a Reform in Parliament is become absolutely necessary. It appears to me equally essential to the interests of the Crown and of the People. I am persuaded it is for the benefit of both, that the Executive should have full possession of all the Constitutional Powers, unrestrained by the oligarchical influence of a Borough Faction; but whilst such a power exists, I cannot help thinking that it must interfere with, or rather that it must command, those Pre-

rogatives of the Crown with which it is entrusted by and for the benefit of the people, and which it ought to exercise according to the Constitution, under no other controul than that of an uncorrupt House of Commons.

"To be elected into such a House of Commons, seems to me more gratifying to the feelings of an honest Englishman, than any distinction in the power even of the King to bestow. To become a Member of a House of Commons that does not represent the people, cannot, in my judgment, be either honourable or useful, could not advance your interests or those principles you entertain; and as for myself, I had rather decline aiding the delusion, which I conceive the House of Commons, not representing the People, is calculated to promote; and had rather not assist in deceiving you, or practising an imposition on the Public, being fully persuaded that in a House of Commons, collected by means which it is not longer necessary to describe, the most splendid abilities, combined with the most unimpeached integrity and virtue, must fail in producing any lasting benefit to the country, and does appear to me worse than useless to keep alive such an expectation in the Public mind, because it tends to mislead the People, and to divert their attention from the real source of all their grievances, the now universally acknowledged corrupt state of the Representation.

"Entertaining such sentiments, you will not be surprised at my declining the intended honour of your proposal to become a Candidate for the Borough of Southwark.

"I beg of you, Gentlemen, to accept my grateful thanks for your handsome conduct. It is with great satisfaction I receive this mark of the approbation of many and respectable Electors of the Borough of Southwark, and consider this as a testimony of their good opinion, next to the approbation of my own mind, as one of the most pleasing circumstances of my life. I remain, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

WM. JONES BURDETT.

The subject of this communication having been taken into consideration, the Committee, notwithstanding Mr. Burdett's objections, have very properly resolved to exert their influence to return him on independent principles, similar to the manner in which Sir Francis Burdett was elected for Westminster.—Books are opened for the signature of "The Friends to the Purity of Election," in which it is said, upwards of 1000 Electors have already subscribed their names. The following Resolution has been unanimously passed, and subscriptions are to be received to promote the election free of expence:—

"That the circumstances in which our country is now placed renders it more necessary, more urgent, and more important than ever, that we should recur to the old principles of English Freedom, and call upon honest, independent men to serve us in Parliament, to correct the abuses of Administration, and to guard the Constitution. That William Jones Burdett, Esq. possessing these indispensable qualifications, it would be to the immortal honour of the Borough of Southwark (following the example of the City of Westminster), and afford a great and glorious example to the Electors of the United Kingdom, that they should return him to Parliament free from every sacrifice and expence to himself, upon independent principles, consonant to the genuine spirit of the Constitution of England, which declares, that Elections shall be free and without corruption."

#### MIDDLESEX SESSIONS.

On Monday, Robert Ackerly Taylor, the pretended Vicar of Hertford, stood indicted for fraudulently obtaining from Major J. Cartwright the sum of two pounds, on the 12th of February last, under fraudulent pretences.

It appeared from the evidence of Major Cartwright, that the prisoner came to him on the day stated, and presented him with a letter of introduction from Sir Francis Burdett (who was equally imposed on), stating the bearer to be the Rev. Mr. Taylor, Vicar of Hertford, who wished to be introduced to

him on particular business. The prisoner was shewn into the room where the Major was sitting in conversation with a gentleman; but the prisoner desired a private audience of the Major, which being granted, the prisoner signified the object of his visit was to solicit aid for an unfortunate Gentlewoman at Hertford, whose husband had lately died, leaving his widow and children in very indigent circumstances: the house and furniture of this poor Gentlewoman were stated to have been seized for a debt of 100*l.* and must be sold, and she and her orphans turned into the street, unless the amount of her debt could be paid. The prisoner said, that he, commiserating her hard case, had undertaken to solicit a subscription for her relief; that Mr. Plumer, of Hertfordshire, had humanely contributed 20*l.* and Mr. Brand the like sum; that Sir Francis Burdett had also contributed very liberally, but had desired the sum he gave and his name might be kept secret. Major Cartwright, not doubting the truth of this plausible story, presented the prisoner with a two-pound Bank-note towards the subscription. On returning to the first room, the prisoner joined in conversation with the Major and his friend upon a variety of topics; and amongst others, upon Parliamentary Reform and clerical affairs, upon which latter he took occasion to mention his own labours in the vineyard of the Gospel. He lamented the alarming growth of Methodism, to the great injury of the Established Church; and said, that this fanatical sect had been for a considerable time rapidly increasing about Hertford; but that he had taken effectual means to check its progress, by introducing extemporaneous sermons to his congregation, by which means he had not only put a stop to the rapid desertions from his flock, caused by the fanatical artifices of the Sectarian Preachers, but had actually brought back several of the stray sheep who had wandered from his fold; that at one of these extempore sermons, Mr. Wilberforce was an auditor, and had afterwards written to him a letter, controverting some points of doctrine which he had promulgated. He then took his leave. Some time afterwards, Major Cartwright learned from various quarters that he was a common impostor, who had levied singular contributions upon several of his acquaintances; that he was a prisoner in the King's Bench, and had actually come out of that place upon a day rule on the very morning when he had practised this notable manœuvre. The Major, upon discovery of this fact, was determined to punish the impostor; and, as a first step, lodged a detainer against him at the prison-gate for the forty shillings. On the 25th of July following, the Major received a letter from the prisoner, expressing his contrition for having improperly obtained from him the sum in question; but earnestly entreating that he would not follow up the step he had taken with any severity towards an unfortunate gentleman, to whom any such severity would be totally ruinous; that he was thoroughly sensible of his error,—felt the greatest contrition,—was determined for the future to persevere in the paths of rectitude, and to maintain most strictly the *mens sibi consci recti*. But as he was about to take the benefit of the Insolvent Debtors' Act, and had settled with his creditors by post-obit securities upon the property of his reverend father, who was rector of Bishop's Castle, he entreated the Major to send him by the bearer a discharge for the debt of two pounds, which he solemnly promised to repay. Major Cartwright, however, not thinking it proper to comply, he, a short time afterwards, received a second letter, much to the same effect, acknowledging that he had unworthily received the money.

A person who was in the Bench at the same time with the prisoner, proved his hand-writing in these two letters.

The prisoner, after apologizing that his embarrassed circumstances debarred him of the means of retaining Counsel, undertook to cross-examine Major Cartwright; which he did, in a style of insolence rarely paralleled at any bar even towards the vilest witness. He interrogated Major Cartwright whether he had not tampered with him about Parliamentary Reform, and endeavoured to lure him, by pecuniary offers, to exert his influence at Hertford in the cause? To which the Major answered decidedly in the negative. He asked the Major what was the number of the note he pretended to have given him; and what was the name of the woman for whom he was accused of so-

liciting charity? But the answers he received by no means assisted his purpose. He then charged the Major with having sworn falsely, and wished of all things to examine Mr. Walker (the gentleman who was at Major Cartwright's when the prisoner was), Mr. Brand, and Mr. Plumer. These gentlemen's names were called, but none of them were in attendance.

The prisoner being now called on for his defence, had no witnesses either to facts or character, but addressed the Court and Jury in a short speech. He again lamented his incapacity to employ Counsel; but he felt that he was standing before a British Court and Jury, where the accused, as well as the accuser, was sure of a fair and impartial hearing. The charge this day brought against him, false and unfounded as it was, proceeded from a man who had offered him *eight hundred pounds* if he would exert his influence in his native county in the cause of Parliamentary Reform; and he might have had *thousands* from him and his party, if he would only have consented to lend himself to their purposes; but he rejected their overtures *with scorn*, because he was convinced that their true object was to overturn Church and State!! Hence it was, that, instead of being this day extolled, caressed, and largely recommended by Major Cartwright, Sir Francis Bardett, and their partisans, as an advocate of their *wicked purposes*, he was now a persecuted prisoner at that bar; and as to those pretended letters that were produced by his prosecutor, they were only proved by the evidence of a *vile prisoner for debt* in the King's Bench—a man who was a common dram-drinker, and frequently brought before the Marshal for selling spirits in the gaol. He was himself, it was true, an embarrassed man, and had been three years and a half a prisoner for debt. He felt that he was a degraded man—and still more deeply degraded by having his name coupled with that of *Major Cartwright and his associates!* He had nothing more to offer, but to cast himself on the commiseration of the Court and Jury.

The Jury, without a minute's hesitation, found the prisoner guilty.

The CHAIRMAN then addressed the prisoner, saying, that to attempt giving any advice to such a man upon the nature of his crime, who seemed so competent to advise himself, was quite unnecessary; and to remonstrate with a person obviously so hardened in his iniquity, would be only a waste of words. However, the Bench feeling it indispensably necessary to put a stop to the career of such an impostor, and to relieve the public from his farther depredations, had judged it right to send him out of the country.

He was sentenced to transportation for seven years.

On Tuesday, *Richard Andrews*, and *Alexander Hall*, were tried for obtaining, upon false pretences, the sum of 131. 5s. from Isaac Kendall, of St. Clement's Church-yard, on the 12th of February last.

When the prisoners were put to the bar, Andrews stated, that he was destitute of the means of employing Counsel, and was not prepared with the necessary witnesses for his defence; that, besides, he felt he could not go safely to his trial with the hope of a fair and impartial issue, as the publick mind was so generally prejudiced against him, owing to the exaggerated statements and misrepresentations which had gone forth, wherein he was stiled *Doctor Andrews*, *Major Andrews*, and *Parson Andrews*; whereas, he had always passed by his own simple name.

The Court, however, refused the application, and the trial proceeded.

From the statement of Mr. ALLEY, for the prosecution, and the evidence adduced, the following is a brief display of the circumstances:—On the 12th of February last, the prisoners came to the house of the prosecutor, who keeps the St. Clement's Coffee-house, in St. Clement's Church-yard. They ordered dinner; after which, and their desert and wine, they called for the bill, which was sent in; and Hall presented in payment a check upon the bank of Messrs. Drummond and Co. Charing-cross.

Some objections having been made to the check by Mr. Kendall, for some informality in the wording, Mr. Andrews, whose check it was, in favour of Hall, immediately looked at

it, and acknowledged and apologized for the error, adding, he would immediately draw another; and, taking out his check-book, immediately wrote one for the like sum, and gave it to the prosecutor, who, having known Hall for about a year before; called him aside, and asked him whether all was right to which Hall answered, "Oh, most certainly; Mr. Andrews is a man of the first respectability;" upon which, the prosecutor gave Hall the difference in change. On the following morning, Mr. Kendall sent the check for payment to the banker's, but was not a little surprized on being told, the drawer had kept no cash there for five years past. Mr. Kendall found he was duped, and never afterwards saw the prisoners till they were in custody for another offence.

A Clerk from the house of Drummond and Co. proved that the prisoner Andrews had no cash account there since the year 1805, but a balance of 3s. 6d. which he had not drawn.

The prisoners adduced no evidence whatever, and the Jury found both guilty.

They were next put on their trial for a similar fraud of 30l. upon Mr. Brandall, of the Artichoke-tavern, Blackwall, on the 12th of August last. To this indictment Andrews at first had pleaded guilty, but afterwards withdrew his plea, and proposed to take his trial.

The circumstances of this case were as follow:—The prisoners came to the house of Mr. Brandall on the day above stated, and desired him to prepare a turtle dinner for a party of twenty gentlemen on the following Thursday; for which they agreed to pay him a guinea per head, exclusively of wine. They then ordered a small dinner for themselves; and when the cloth was removed, they requested the prosecutor to sit down with them, and take a glass of wine. Andrews then told him he expected a letter from a gentleman of the Tower on particular business, which would be brought under cover to him the prosecutor; and requested he would take care of it for him. Shortly afterwards came a messenger with the letter, and on opening the envelope, Mr. Brandall found one addressed for Richard Andrews, Esq. which he gave to that prisoner; who, on reading it, exclaimed with an air of easy unconcern—"I don't think I have so much change about me: Hall, have you any money? Here's my friend has just closed his bargain, and has not quite money enough to complete the purchase, but writes to me for 30l." Hall took out his pocket book, and said, "I have only a 10l. note about me, and here it is."—"That's unlucky," replied Andrews, "for I believe I have only a 10l. note about me, and that won't make enough—what am I to do? It is too far; and too late now, to send to my bankers.—Oh! perhaps Mr. Brandall, you could accommodate me with change for a check, I only want 30l. I'd give you a check on my bankers, Cocks and Biddulph, for 50l. and you can keep the 20l. towards my dinner bill on Thursday." Mr. Brandall, anxious to accommodate so good a customer, flew to give him the change, and had a few glasses of wine and a pleasant joke or two in return for his kindness. The guests took their departure with great affability, repeating their injunctions about the excellence of the next Thursday's banquet, and promising to be good customers if they liked his treatment. The host of the Artichoke put his whole stock of politeness into requisition, made them half a dozen of his lowest and best bows, and accompanied them to their carriage-door. But they forgot to keep their Thursday's appointment; nor did it appear to Mr. Brandall quite necessary to prepare the turtle feast; for on going next morning to Messrs. Cocks and Biddulph's, for the amount of the check, he learned that Mr. Andrews had kept no cash there for three years; and that he closed his connection there by overdrawing his account for 3l.

A clerk from the house of Cocks and Biddulph proved this fact. He was cross-examined by Andrews, and admitted that he had deposited there at several times so much as three thousand pounds, but generally drew out the money on the days following the deposits.

The prisoners offered no evidence in this case, and were found guilty.

The Court immediately sentenced them, for the first offence, to six month's imprisonment; and for the second, to transportation for seven years.

A Coachman, named *Perkins*, who usually drives the Hampstead stage, stood indicted under Lord Stanhope's Act, for a misdemeanor, in purchasing four guineas, for a greater sum than their legal and current value. The principal witness, named *Brookwell*, one of the Bow-street Patroles, went accompanied by a person belonging to the Mint, to the White Horse Cellar, Piccadilly, on purpose to entrap some of the coachmen, or other persons there, said to be in the habit of buying up guineas contrary to the spirit of the statutes: that the man had paid an informer at the rate of only 11. 2s. 6d. for each guinea:—the gold was marked for the purpose by the Agent for the Mint, and in less than five minutes after he purchased the coin, which purpose he had borrowed the means on the spot, the prisoner was taken into custody and obliged to give it up.

Mr. ANDREWS made an ingenious defence for the man, under all the circumstances of his being lured into this misdemeanor by the witnesses; and he contended that the prosecutors failed in their proof, as they had not adduced in evidence the King's Proclamation, declaring what the real and current value of guineas is. The Court, however, over-ruled this objection; and the Jury were constrained to find the man guilty, but earnestly recommended him to mercy, under the circumstances of his case, and on account of the very excellent character given him by three respectable witnesses.

The Court, on the same ground, exercised its discretion by declining to pronounce sentence for the present, and ordering him to be discharged on recognizances for his good conduct hereafter; in such matters liable, in case of another offence, to be called up for sentence upon this.

#### OLD BAILEY.

On Wednesday, *Richard Phillipps*, of No. 70, High-street, Broadwell, potatoe-merchant, stood indicted for having, on the 1st of July last, feloniously set fire to his dwelling-house, with intent to injure Mr. Cohen, his next door neighbour.

Mr. GURNEY stated the case for the prosecution. Mr. Cohen, his wife, and servants, who are of the Jewish persuasion, with a great number of other witnesses, stated in evidence, that between the hours of twelve and one o'clock of the night laid down in the indictment, a fire was discovered by the prosecutor in the prisoner's house, whereupon he first called up his servant-maid and wife on the second floor, and next his servant-boy, who slept in the shop, the prosecutor being a tailor and cloth-seller. After knocking at the back door of the prisoner, which communicated with the prosecutor's back yard, to alarm him, without effect, he immediately went to the front and called the watch, giving the neighbours every intimation in his power of their danger, and then proceeded to remove his own goods to his opposite neighbour's house, while the watchman procured the fire-engine which was contiguous, and water to extinguish the fire. The witnesses for the prosecution further stated, that the prisoner was fully dressed at the time, and that when alarmed or awakened, with much difficulty, he lifted up the window of his bed-room on the first floor, and asked what was the matter, at the same time that the flooring and wainscoting, &c. of the same room were on fire. His two children and wife were with the prisoner in the house at the time.

A quantity of turpentine chips, with a burned rag, or napkin, were found thrust into a crevice of the boards in the room where the fire broke out—and several officers and inspectors of the Fire Insurance Company stated, that, in their opinion, the fire was not accidental, but wilful, and that the ends of the joints of the prosecutor's first floor were on fire while the floor boards were beginning to burn, which constituted the injury complained of under the Act of Parliament.

Mr. ALLEY, for the defendant, took several legal objections to the evidence, but the RECORDER over-ruled them, stating, that in the event of a conviction in this new case, he should consult superior authority before execution.

In the defence several witnesses were called, and in particular Mr. Anderson, the Headborough, who positively stated, that he was the first person who called to the prisoner from the street to throw out his goods, while the prisoner was with his

head out of the first floor window, crying out for God's sake to have his two children saved, and for a ladder, he being dressed only in his shirt and night-cap.

Nine respectable witnesses also gave the prisoner a very good character for integrity and probity on all occasions for the last thirty years of his life.

The RECORDER left the case to the Jury, as one of great public importance, and at the same time one of doubt and difficulty.

The Jury, after a short deliberation, returned a verdict of guilty; but recommended the prisoner to mercy, in consideration of the excellent character given him by so many respectable persons.

On Thursday the Sessions ended, when sentence of death was pronounced on twelve men, one boy, and five women, who stood convicted of various capital offences. Six were ordered to be transported for life, one for fourteen, and fifty-one for seven years. Thirty-seven to be fined and imprisoned for different periods. Seventeen to be privately and five publicly whipped. Total of the capital and other convictions, 135.

#### POLICE.

##### BOW-STREET.

On Sunday night, the house of Mr. Robert Ulyeate, writing-master, at Shepherd's Bush, was broke open by a gang of robbers. The circumstance was reported about in the neighbourhood, and reached the ears of Mr. Comrie, the landlord of the house, in Southampton-buildings; after which Mr. Ulyeate called on him and stated, that his wife was so much alarmed at the time, and her fears continued so strong, lest the robbers should pay them another visit, that he entreated Mr. Comrie to allow him to give up the house, as it would be impossible for him to remain in it with any degree of comfort. Mr. Comrie inquired if he had given notice at Bow-street Office of the robbery, or taken any steps to discover the robbers? to which he replied in the negative. Mr. C. informed him he should, and accordingly applied at the above Office on Thursday afternoon; and Bacon, the conductor of the patrol in the neighbourhood of Shepherd's Bush, was desired to attend him at the house, on the examination of which, no act of violence appeared, either in breaking in or breaking out. The principal account of the robbers was from Mr. Ulyeate and his gardener. The gardener gave a particular account, stating that the room where he slept was very near the kitchen, and hearing some men in the house, he believed four, but he was positive there were three, he armed himself with a bayonet. On his approaching the kitchen, which was perfectly dark, a pistol was discharged at him, the ball of which fortunately missed him, and went into the wall; he instantly thrust his bayonet into the robber, which entered his body about four inches, from the bloody state it was in. The robbers then made off, supposed to be carrying off their wounded companion, but which way they went he could not tell, but believed at the back door. He produced a number of bludgeons, which he said the robbers had left behind them, which Bacon, on examining them, discovered to be faggot-wood, and inquiring if there was not a faggot-pile near, was informed there was one at the back of the house; on comparing them with the faggot-pile, he had no doubt but they were part of the same. Bacon requested Mr. Ulyeate and the gardener to attend before the Magistrate in the evening to give the particulars, which they accordingly did as follow:—

Mr. Samuel Robinson Ulyeate, of Shepherd's-bush, writing-master, deposed, that about half-past one o'clock on Monday morning, he was awake by his wife, who told him she suspected there were robbers in the house, from the noise she heard, and having seen the reflection of a light; he told her she must have been mistaken, and supposed the light she had seen to be a flash of lightning, or a falling star. He went to sleep for a short time, and his wife awoke him again, telling him she was positive some persons were in the house; he listened for some time, and hearing a noise, which appeared

like something rolling about, he got up and went down stairs, having first procured a light, and found at the bottom of the stairs a knife, which had the appearance of a shoemaker's working knife, in a very bloody state. The kitchen-door was open, and Wm. Read, his servant, in the act of coming out of the kitchen, with only his breeches and great coat on, and armed with a bayonet. The kitchen-door did not appear to have been broken open, but was wide open. He did not discover that any thing had been stolen, although a number of silver spoons and other articles, and various property, were lying about; he found a large bludgeon in the kitchen. He and his wife went to bed between ten and eleven o'clock, leaving the female servant, and Wm. Read, the gardener, sitting in the kitchen. He denied hearing the report of a pistol, or any forcing or breaking into the house.

The gardener was then called upon. He said, his name was Wm. Read; but on the book being presented to him, he refused to be sworn, and persisted in his refusal. No threats or intreaties had any effect in altering his determination: the only answer he would give was, that he would tell the truth without being sworn. It being impossible to hear him in any other manner in a matter of felony than on his oath, Mr. READ committed him for contempt.

W. Bacon, belonging to the office, was sworn, and stated the particulars which he had heard from the gardener.

Bacon produced four bludgeons, which Read told him the robbers left in the house; their appearance occasioned much laughter by all present, from their enormous size, particularly two of them, which were as big as a stout man's thigh, and a person must take two hands to enable him to use them; they appeared to have crosses and certain marks cut on them, to answer some particular purpose. The gardener shewed Bacon blood on the floor in several parts of the kitchen, and blood spirted against the wall, said to be in consequence of the wound he had given the robber with the bayonet.

#### ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

The Queen's Palace has been infested with washerwomen, from early on Monday morning till Thursday evening, who stated themselves to be hired by a woman, calling herself the Head of the Queen's laundry, who had been obliged to discharge all those employed under her, on account of their not washing the linen clean, and getting drunk. She engaged some at two guineas a week, others at four shillings a day, a pot of porter a day, and as much rum, gin, and wine as they chose. They began to come early on Monday morning to work. The porters, of course, refused them admittance; they, however, persevered, and said the lady who hired them had given them the key of the laundry to let them in to go to work. This convinced the porters there must be some mistake, as there is no laundry at the Queen's Palace; and they sent them to the laundry at St. James's Palace, where no such persons had been engaged. It was with much difficulty the porters prevented them from forcing their way into the Queen's Palace. The porters have several times been obliged to call in the assistance of the centinels at the door, as the women have met frequently in large parties. They had been brought from various parts of London, and are principally Irish women. To some of them the trick will be attended with ruin, as they have left good places for the engagement, the terms being so advantageous; others have sent their children into the country to nurse, to enable them to take the place. The woman who played off this hoax called herself Fitzgerald to some, and to others she assumed the name of Rex. She appeared in general very well dressed, and an Irish woman. She went to most of their residences, ate and drank with them, and borrowed a cloak, umbrella, or shawl, &c.

The desks in the Treasury have lately been broken open, and the property secured by them stolen. The depredation was committed on Tuesday night. Sayers, the Bow-street Officer, was sent for. He examined the locks and premises that had been opened, but it could not be ascertained whether it was done by any person who has access to the premises, or if by

common robbers, who expected to find the national treasure from the name the building bears. The principal property stolen consists of books and stationery.

On Monday week, the Rev. and venerable William Steel Dickson, returning from the Catholic Meeting of Armagh, was most treacherously way-laid about two miles from that town, dragged from his horse, and beat in the most cruel, inhuman manner. When the ruffians thought that they had effectually perpetrated their bloody purpose, they threw the hapless object of their fury into a deep ditch, from whence he was conveyed, in a most alarming and dangerous state, to his distracted family.

On Tuesday morning, as a stage coach was coming to town about two miles on the other side of Uxbridge, one of the front wheels flew off, and a young woman, of 17 years of age on the top, sitting in front, dropped under, and the whole fabric of the coach fell upon her head, and literally dashed it to atoms: the vital spark was extinguished in a moment. A gentleman, who sat next her, very narrowly escaped by an involuntary spring, which carried him over the hedge. There were two other passengers on the roof, and several in the inside they met with no material injury, except a Lady in the inside in a pregnant state, upon whom the circumstance altogether, it is feared, will have a very serious effect.

Ever since the appearance of the Comet, a field preacher well known in the neighbourhood of Paddington and the New Road, for his persevering attempts to reclaim the numerous frequenters of the tea-gardens in its neighbourhood, has been indefatigable in inculcating the necessity of immediate reform, and the destruction of the world by fire was at hand. He has entered several Dissenting Chapels, and rising in the midst of the service, addressed himself to the Minister and the congregation on the subject of the ruin which hung over them; the nightly appearance of the Comet being, in his opinion, a manifest indication of the wrath of Heaven. His text on such occasions was the 3d and 4th chapters of Jeremiah; and he never fails to dwell on the illness of the Sovereign. Being attended by many weak persons, who fully believe in the truth of his representations, his ejection is a matter of difficulty, and when it takes place, he never fails to console himself, and annoy the neighbourhood, by haranguing the passing spectators.

#### BIRTHS.

On Friday morning, the Lady of John Elliot, Esq. of Pimlico Lodge, of a daughter.

#### MARRIAGES.

Friday week, the Right Hon. Lord Viscount Ranelagh, and Caroline Lee, only daughter of the late Colonel Lee, of Yorkshire.

#### DEATHS.

At Oakham, Rutland, Miss Ann Clark. Her death was occasioned by dipping her head, when hot, into a bucket of cold water.

At Paris, on the 3d September, aged 87, Count Bougainville, Member of the Senate, and one of the most celebrated French navigators.

At Cheltenham, on the 22d instant, Gen. Wm. Lyman, late American Consul at London.

Lately, at the Vicarage-house, Lesbury, the Rev. Perceval Stockdale, Vicar of Lesbury and Loughoughton, in Northumberland.

On Saturday week, at his seat at Bowden, near Totnes, William Adams, Esq. Member of Parliament for the borough of Totnes.

On Tuesday, at Ball's Park, Herts, Isabella Georgiana, third daughter of Lord John Townshend.

On Saturday se'night, at Batchacre Park, in the 78th year of his age, Richard Whitworth, Esq. formerly a representative of the borough of Stafford.

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