

THE EXAMINER.

No. 238 SUNDAY, JULY 19, 1812.

THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

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

No. 232.

HENRY HUNT, ESQ. CANDIDATE FOR BRISTOL.

As this person, while he is doing every thing to injure because of Reform by his vulgar and turbulent proceedings, is at the same time and by the same methods taking all possible trouble to render himself ridiculous, and as he will also appear in his proper place in next Sunday's paper at the conclusion of the Remarks on Mr. COBBETT, it is with exceeding distaste that the *Examiner* is again compelled to waste a separate article upon him; but the mistake that occurred on a former occasion, though rectified with the public in general, and with our readers, we trust, in particular, appears still to have missed explanation in some quarters; and if it were confined to but three decent people, and a fresh contradiction on our parts could set them to rights, we confess we should be anxious to do so. The greatest enjoyment and reward of any one who endeavours to think and act properly, next to the exercise of his mind and the consciousness of his intentions, is a due appreciation by those whom he respects: their misapprehension it, of course, proportionately annoying; and we ask any reader of ours, who is nice in his notions of reputation, how he would feel, if in the midst of his pursuits in London, and at the moment perhaps when he is wrapping himself up in the security of his good name, he finds himself accused of being in the very act of making a fool of himself, at one hundred miles' distance, on a wooden elevation, and in the face of a roaring mob! Yet so it is with us. One friend is asked by an acquaintance, with a face of surprise, how any person connected with the *Examiner* could be playing such pranks at Bristol;—another is gravely taken aside, with a hope that all which is said about the Bristol doings of the *Examiner* cannot be true;—a third is accosted with "Pray tell me,—is or is not this Mr. HUNT, who is disgusting every body, the Editor of the *Examiner*?"—While a person comes up to a fourth, and fairly takes the matter for granted, "Well, Sir! Fine doings these of Mr. HUNT, with his imitations of Parisian mobs, his caps, his loaves, and his fish-women! And then his behaviour on the Hastings, which would have disgraced the lowest vagabond in the town! And this is the character, who would reform the nation, and who thinks himself qualified to speak ill of profligate Prince——"

"Sir, you may spare your application;

"I'm no such beast, nor his relation."

Once more, and once for all, we inform the public at

large, and in particular our brother Reformist, that the *Examiner* has no connection whatsoever with the Mr. HENRY HUNT, of notorious character, who talked so much nonsense at a dinner the other day, and is now talking more at the Bristol election. We confess the surname; and the Editor, who has Christian names sufficient for three reasonable godsous, cannot but plead guilty, with many groans for the identity, to the cognomination of HENRY, though it is not the one by which he is generally called; but we have nothing further in common with this alarming namesake; we do not even know him by sight; nor were we ever given to understand, by maiden-aunt, herald, or grandmother, that he was related to us in any possible degree, even to a fiftieth cousinship.

This is one of the disadvantages attending common names, which flatter you with a certain unenvied security, only to subject you to greater probability of mortification. There has hitherto been something so unambitious, as well as trite, about the appellation of HUNT, that at first sight it appears to be one of the very best which the quietest men could possess, if they wished to glide through their lives in obscurity. Had our name been GRANDISON, or PLANTAGENET, the very sound might have induced people to enquire into the pretensions of its owners; BURKE, or JUNIUS, would have hampered us with comparisons; and MARVEL, HAMPDEN, or SYDNEY, would have left us no chance for repute without an opportunity of refusing some dozen of bribes, or of dying twice over for our country; but who would have thought that the good old, harmless, unpresuming, and obscure name of HUNT, which has never glimmered into notice except from the study-window of an old Arabic scholar*, should suddenly have blazed out in this manner like a bonfire, to the admiration of the mob and the disturbance of an honest neighbourhood! Really, there is no knowing to what a name may come, for the greatest have had their reverses. HECTOR, who was not only one of the bravest but the very politest men of his time, who was always as good as his word, and who is represented by HOMER, with singular delicacy of sentiment, as the only Trojan who had never spoken rudely of HELEN, has now become a bully; ALEXANDER is a great Russian boy, who plays at soldiers, and delights in tight regimentals; and PLATO is his Archbishop at Moscow; JULIUS CESAR, not to mention the number of puppies which both he and FOXLEY have christened, was a Doctor of Law in the time of King JAMES; nay, SHAKESPEARE was taken up during the Q. P. disturbance for encouraging the riot; and unless our memory fails us, we detected HOMER the other day walking about with his pen and ink in the odious capacity of a tax-gatherer. What chance then have com-

* Dr. Joseph Hunt, formerly Arabic Professor.

mon names for escaping? **PITT** is a quiet sort of cognomen, and **LORD CHATHAM**, no doubt, reckoned it tolerably secure under his title; but it has since been bandied about in the mouths of the unfortunate, till it has become hateful; and **CHATHAM** itself was much threatened during the Walcheren business. As to puns, it is the universal lot to be assaulted with them, and we could have borne them, as we have done, with patience. **SHENSTONE**, it is true, thought proper to thank Heaven that his name was not vulnerable to punning; but it is only a proof under what a humane dispensation of drama he lived when compared with ours; had he been in company with some of our comic writers, who murder every word that comes in their way, a stumble against a pebble or a bruise on the tibia would have been the death of him. In fine, the most enviable lot we can imagine in this respect, is the very reverse of simplicity or generality; and we cannot help regretting, during this Bristol visitation, that our name is not eccentric at once,—absolutely singular, or even monstrous. No Italian name is so melodious to us, at this moment, as **STUMPF**, **CRACKENTHORN**, or **KRUMPHOLTZ**;—**MOKRIKUFFSKY** we take to be music itself; and we should only fear to sound too much like some of our fellow-creatures in **BLOOD**, **SLAUGHTER**, or **DEATH**.

After all, we acknowledge it possible, that this Bristol **Worthy** may be a greater thorn in a person's side, even than by means of his name; and we yield the palm of suffering to **SIR SAMUEL ROMILLY**, whose parliamentary pretensions, it seems, have been compared with his by **MR. COBBETT**, and found wanting!—Upon second thoughts, however, this is one of the points at which extremes are very properly said to meet; and **SIR SAMUEL**, if he thinks at all of the matter, may congratulate himself upon having his name brought into such wonderful contrast; for what better means could have been taken to draw a happy distinction between coarseness and refinement, between meanness and elevation, between pettiness and enlargement, between emptiness and fullness, between error and rectitude, between ignorance and knowledge, between vice and virtue, between nothing and something, between false Reform and true Reform,—than to drag up a poor turbulent being out of the mud of his politics, and place him by the side of this patriot lawyer?—By extravagancies like these the pretenders to Reform bid fair to expose themselves to every body; and by so doing, they will render it the best service they ever did in their lives, and leave it's true advocates a separate and respectable body.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

FIRST BULLETIN OF THE GRAND ARMY.

Paris, June 20, 1812.—Towards the end of 1810, Russia altered her political system—the English spirit of influence—the Ukase ge-

specting Commerce was its first act. In February, 1811, five divisions of the Russian army quitted the Danube by forced marches, and proceeded to Poland. By this movement Russia sacrificed Wallachia and Moldavia.—When the Russian armies were united and formed, a Protest against France appeared, which was transmitted to every Cabinet. Russia by that announced, that she felt no wish even to save appearances. All means of conciliation were employed on the part of France—all were ineffectual.—Towards the close of 1811, six months after, it was manifest in France that all this could end only in war: preparations were made for it.—The garrison of Dantzic was increased to 20,000 men. Stores of every description, cannons, muskets, powder, ammunition, pontoons, were conveyed to that place; considerable sums of money were placed at the disposal of the Department of Engineers for the augmentation of its fortifications. The army was placed on the war establishment. The cavalry, the train of artillery, and the military baggage train, were completed. In March, 1812, a treaty of alliance was concluded with Austria; the preceding month a treaty had been concluded with Prussia. In April the first corps of the Grand Army march for the Oder, the second corps to the Elbe, the third corps to the Lower Oder, the fourth corps set out from Verona, crossed the Tyrol, and proceeded to Silesia. The Guards left Paris.—On the 22d of April, the Emperor of Russia took the command of his army, quitted St. Petersburg, and moved his head-quarters to Wilna. In the commencement of May, the first corps arrived on the Vistula, at Elbing, and Marienburg; the second corps at Marienwerder; the third corps at Thorn; the fourth and sixth corps at Plock; the fifth corps assembled at Warsaw; the eighth corps on the right of Warsaw; and the seventh corps at Pulawy.—The Emperor set out from St. Cloud on the 9th of May, crossed the Rhine on the 13th, the Elbe on the 29th, and the Vistula on the 6th of June.

SECOND BULLETIN OF THE GRAND ARMY.

Wilkowiski, June 22, 1812.

All means of effecting an understanding between the two Empires became impossible. The spirit which reigned in the Russian Cabinet hurried it on to war. General Narbonne, Aide-de-Camp to the Emperor, was dispatched to Wilna, and could remain there only a few days. By that was gained the proof, that the demand, equally arrogant and extraordinary, which had been made by Prince Kurakin, and in which he declared, that he would not enter into any explanation before France had evacuated the territory of her own allies, in order to leave them at the mercy of Russia, was the *sine qua non* of that Cabinet, and it made that a matter of boast to Foreign Powers.—The first corps advanced to the Pregel. The Prince of Eckmuhl had his head-quarters on the 11th of June at Konigsberg. The Marshal Duke of Reggin, commanding the second corps, had his head-quarters at Wehlau; the Marshal Duke of Eichingen, commanding the third corps, at Soldass; the Prince Viceroy at Rastenburg; the King of Westphalia at Warsaw; the Prince Poniatowski at Pultusk; the Emperor moved his head-quarters on the 12th to Konigsberg, on the Pregel; on the 17th to Insterburg; on the 19th to Gumbinnen.—A slight hope of accommodation still remained. The Emperor had given orders to Count Lauriston to wait on the Emperor Alexander, or on his Minister for Foreign Affairs, and to ascertain whether there might not yet be some means of obtaining a reconsideration of the demand of Prince Kurakin, and of reconciling the honour of France, and the interest of her allies, with the opening a negotiation. The same spirit which had previously swayed the Russian Cabinet upon various pretexts, prevented Count Lauriston from accomplishing his mission; and it appeared for the first time that an Ambassador, under circumstances of so much importance, was unable to obtain an interview, either with the Sovereign or his Minister. The Secretary of Legation, Provost, brought this intelligence to Gumbinnen; and the Emperor issued orders to march, for the purpose of passing the Niemen. “The conquered,” observed he, “assume the tone of conquerors; fate drags them on—let their destinies be fulfilled.” His Majesty caused the following to be inserted in the Orders of the Army:—

PROCLAMATION.

"SOLDIERS!—The second war of Poland has commenced. The first was brought to a close at Friedland and Tilsit. At Tilsit Russia swore eternal alliance with France and war with England. She now violates her oaths. She refuses to give any explanation of her strange conduct, until the Eagles of France shall have repassed the Rhine, leaving, by such a movement, our Allies at her mercy. Russia is dragged along by a fatality! Her destinies must be accomplished. Should she then consider us degenerate? Are we no longer to be looked upon as the soldiers of Austerlitz? She offers us the alternative of dishonour or war. The choice cannot admit of hesitation—Let us then march forward! Let us pass the Niemen! Let us carry the war into her territory. The second war of Poland will be as glorious to the French arms as the first: but the peace which we shall conclude will be its own guarantee, and will put an end to that proud and haughty influence which Russia has for fifty years exercised in the affairs of Europe.

"At our head-quarters at Wilkowsky, June 22, 1812.

"NAPOLEON."

THIRD BULLETIN OF THE GRAND ARMY.

Kowno, June 26, 1812.

On the 23d of June, the King of Naples (Murat) who commands the cavalry, transferred his head-quarters to within two leagues of the Niemen, upon its left bank. This Prince has under his immediate orders the corps of cavalry, commanded by Generals Counts Nansouty and Montbrun; the one composed of the divisions under the command of Generals Counts Bruyeres, St. Germain, and Valance; the other consisting of the divisions under the orders of Gen. Baron Vattier and Generals Counts Sebastiani and DeFrance. Marshal Prince d'Eckmuhl, commanding the first corps, moved his head-quarters to the skirts of the great forest of Pilwisky. The second corps and the Imperial Guards followed the line of march of the first corps. The 3d corps took the direction by Marienpol; the Vice Roy, with the fourth and sixth corps, which remained in the rear, marched upon Kalwary. The King of Westphalia proceeded to Novogrod with the fifth, seventh, and eighth corps. The first Austrian corps, commanded by the Prince of Schwartzberg, quitted Lemberg on the —, made a movement on its left, and drew nearer to Lublin. The pontoon train, under the orders of Gen. Eble, arrived on the 23d within two leagues of the Niemen. On the 23d, at two in the morning, the Emperor arrived at the advanced posts near Kowno, took a Polish cloak and cap from one of the light cavalry, and inspected the Banks of the Niemen, accompanied by Gen. Haxo, of the engineers, alone. At eight in the evening, the army was again in motion. Atten, Count Morand, General of Division, passed over three companies of Voltigeurs, and at the same time three bridges were thrown across the Niemen. At eleven, three columns debouched over the three bridges. At a quarter past one, day began to appear. At noon, General Baron Pajol drove before him a cloud of Cossacks, and took possession of Kowno with a single battalion. On the 24th the Emperor proceeded to Kowno. Marshal the Prince of Eckmuhl pushed forward his head-quarters to Rouchicki, and the King of Naples to Eke-tanour. During the whole of the 24th and of the 25th, the army was defiling by three bridges. In the evening of the 24th, the Emperor caused a new bridge to be thrown over the Vilia opposite Kowno, and directed Marshal the Duke of Reggio to pass it with the second corps. The Polish light horse of the guards crossed the river by swimming. Two men were drowning, when they were picked up by two swimmers of the 26th light infantry. On the 25th, the Duke of Elchingen pushed on to Kormelon; the King of Naples advanced to Jigmoroul. The enemy's light troops were driven in and pursued on every side. On the 25th, Marshal Duke of Elchingen arrived at Skoroule. The light division of cavalry covered the whole plain to within ten leagues of Wilna. Marshal the Duke of Tarentum, who commands the tenth corps, composed in part of the Prussians, passed the Niemen on the 24th, at Tilsit, and moved upon Rossienn, in order to clear the right bank of that river, and to protect the navigation. Marshal the Duke of

Belluno, commanding the ninth corps, and having under his orders the divisions Hendelet, Lagrange, Durette, and Partou-neaux, occupies the country between the Elbe and the Oder. The General of Division Count Rapp, Governor of Dantzic, has under his orders the division Daendels. The General of Division Count Hogendorp is Governor of Konigsberg. The Emperor of Russia is at Wilna with his guards, and one part of his army occupying Rouikoutoni and Newtrooki. The Russian General Bageworth, commanding the second corps, and a part of the Russian army, having been cut off from Wilna, had no other means of safety than by proceeding towards the Dwina. The Niemen is navigable for vessels of two or three hundred tons as far as Kowno. The communications by water are also secured as far as Dantzic, and with the Vistula, the Oder, and the Elbe. An immense supply of brandy, flour, and biscuit, is passing from Dantzic and Konigsberg towards Kowno. The Vilia, which flows by Wilna, is navigable for very small boats from Kowno to Wilna. Wilna, the capital of Lithuania, is also the chief town of all Polish Russia. The Emperor of Russia has been for several months in this city with a part of his Court. *The possession of this place will be the first fruit of victory.* Several Cossack Officers, and Officers charged with Dispatches, have been captured by the light cavalry.

SWEDEN.

GOTTENBURG, JULY 11.—Some trifling skirmishes have taken place, and the Russians are retreating towards Riga, after throwing 20,000 barrels of grain into the sea at Liebau. The French army continue to desert: the whole corps of black hussars have gone over to the Russians.—It is expected peace with England will be proclaimed here on the return of the Courier who went to England by the last packet. Every thing seems also amicably arranged between Russia and Great Britain. Admiral Martin is off Riga, where he has had a very friendly communication with the Governor, and Capt. Acklom has been on shore to assist in erecting a telegraph, and inspecting their gun-boats. In every part of the Russian coast the greatest energy prevails, and orders are given to ship off every thing, especially grain and provisions, from Liebau.

STATE PAPERS.

ENGLAND AND FRANCE.

Copy of a Letter addressed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs to Lord Castlereagh, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to his Britannic Majesty.

Paris, April 17, 1812.

SIR,—His Majesty, constantly actuated by sentiments friendly to moderation and peace, is pleased again to make a solemn and sincere attempt to put an end to the miseries of war. The awful circumstances in which the world is at present placed, have induced a resolution in the mind of his Majesty, the result of which has been, to authorize me to explain to you, Sir, his views and intentions. Many changes have taken place in Europe for the last ten years, which have been the necessary consequence of the war between France and England, and many more changes will be effected by the same cause. The particular character which the war has assumed, may add to the extent and duration of these results. Exclusive and arbitrary principles cannot be combated but by an opposition without measure or end; and the system of preservation and resistance should have the same character of universality, perseverance, and vigour.—The Peace of Amiens, if it had been observed, would have prevented much confusion.

I heartily wish that the experience of the past may not be lost for the future. His Majesty has often stopped when the most certain triumphs lay before him, and turned round to invoke peace. In 1805, secure as he was by the advantages of his situation, and in spite of the confidence which he might reasonably feel in anticipations which fortune was about to re-

lize, he made proposals to his Britannic Majesty, which were rejected, on the ground that Russia should be consulted. In 1808, new proposals were made, in concert with Russia. England alleged the necessity of an intervention, which could be no more than the result of the negotiation itself. In 1810, his Majesty, having clearly discerned that the British Orders in Council of 1807 rendered the conduct of the war incompatible with the independence of Holland, caused indirect overtures to be made towards procuring the return of peace. They were fruitless, and the consequence was, that new Provinces were united to the Empire.

In the present time are to be found united all the circumstances of the various periods at which his Majesty manifested the pacific sentiments which he now orders me again to declare that he is actuated by.

The calamities under which Spain and the vast regions of Spanish America suffer, should naturally excite the interest of all nations, and inspire them with an equal anxiety for their termination.

I will express myself, Sir, in a manner which your Excellency will find conformable to the sincerity of the step which I am authorized to take; and nothing will better evince the sincerity and sublimity of it than the precise terms of the language which I have been directed to use. What views and motives should induce me to envelope myself in formalities suitable to weakness, which alone can find its interest in deceit?

The affairs of the Peninsula, and the Two Sicilies, are the points of difference which appear least to admit of being adjusted. I am authorized to propose to you an arrangement of them on the following basis:—

“The integrity of Spain shall be guaranteed. France shall renounce all idea of extending her dominions beyond the Pyrenees. The present Dynasty shall be declared independent, and Spain shall be governed by a National Constitution of her Cortes.

“The independence and integrity of Portugal shall be also guaranteed, and the House of Braganza shall have the sovereign authority.

“The kingdom of Naples shall remain in possession of the present Monarch, and the kingdom of Sicily shall be guaranteed to the present family of Sicily.—As a consequence of these stipulations, Spain, Portugal, and Sicily, shall be evacuated by the French and English land and naval forces. With respect to the other objects of discussion, they may be negotiated upon this basis; that each Power shall retain that of which the other could not deprive it by war.”

Such are, Sir, the grounds of conciliation offered by his Majesty to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent. His Majesty the Emperor and King, in taking this step, does not look either to the advantages or losses which this empire may derive from the war if it should be prolonged; he is influenced simply by considerations of the interests of humanity and the peace of his people; and if this fourth attempt should not be attended with success, like those which have preceded it, France will at least have the consolation of thinking, that whatever blood may yet flow, will be justly imputable to England alone.—I have the honour, &c. The Duke of BASSANO.

Copy of the Answer of Lord Castlereagh, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of his Britannic Majesty, to the Letter of the Minister for Foreign Relations, of the 17th of April, 1812.

London, Office for Foreign Affairs, April 23, 1812.

Sir,—Your Excellency's Letter of the 17th of this month has been received and laid before the Prince Regent.

His Royal Highness felt that he owed it to his honour, before he should authorize me to enter into any explanation upon the overture which your Excellency has transmitted, to ascertain the precise meaning attached by the Government of France to the following passage of your Excellency's Letter, “the actual Dynasty shall be declared independent, and Spain governed by the National Constitution of the Cortes.”

If, as his Royal Highness fears, the meaning of this proposition is, that the Royal Authority of Spain, and the Government established by the Cortes, shall be recognized as residing in the Brother of the King of the French Government, and the

Cortes formed under his authority, and not in the legitimate Sovereign, Ferdinand the Seventh, and his heirs, and the Extraordinary Assembly of the Cortes, now invested with the power of the Government in that kingdom, in his name and by his authority—I am commanded frankly and explicitly to declare to your Excellency, that the obligations of good faith do not permit his Royal Highness to receive a proposition for peace founded on such a basis.

But if the expressions cited above apply to the actual government of Spain, which exercises the Sovereign authority in the name of Ferdinand the VIIth. upon an assurance of your Excellency to that effect, the Prince Regent will feel himself disposed to enter into a full explanation upon the basis which has been transmitted, in order to be taken into consideration by his Royal Highness; and it being his most earnest wish to contribute, in concert with his allies, to the repose of Europe, and to bring about a peace, which may be at once honourable, not only for Great Britain and France, but also for those States which are in relations of amity with each of these Powers.

Having made known without reserve the sentiments of the Prince Regent, with respect to a point on which it is necessary to have a full understanding, previous to any ulterior discussion, I shall adhere to the instructions of his Royal Highness, by avoiding all superfluous comment and recrimination on the necessary objects of your letter. I might advantageously, for the justification of the conduct observed by Great Britain at the different periods alluded to by your Excellency, refer to the correspondence which then took place, and to the judgment which the world has long since formed of it.

As to the particular character the war has unhappily assumed, and the arbitrary principle which your Excellency conceives to have marked its progress, denying, as I do, that these evils are attributable to the British Government, I at the same time can assure your Excellency, that it sincerely deplures their existence, as uselessly aggravating the calamities of war, and that its most anxious desire, whether at peace or at war with France, is, to have the relations of the two countries restored to the liberal principles usually acted upon in former times.

I take this opportunity of assuring your Excellency of my respect.

CASTLEREAGH.

FRANCE AND RUSSIA.

The French Papers contain also the Correspondence between the Ministers of France and Russia. It is much too long for insertion in a weekly paper. The chief ground of complaint by France is—that Russia had abandoned the principle to which she had pledged herself at Tilsit, viz. “to make common cause with France, which she had proclaimed in her declaration of war against England, and which had dictated the Decrees of Berlin and Milan.”—These Decrees, says the French Minister, having “been evaded by the Ukase which opened the ports of Russia to all English ships laden with colonial produce, English property, provided that they were under a foreign flag. This unexpected blow annulled the Treaty of Tilsit, and those important transactions which had put an end to the struggle between the two greatest Empires of the world, and which had afforded to Europe a probability of obtaining a maritime peace. Approaching commotions and bloody wars were of course to be immediately expected.”—Minor grounds of complaint are also alleged.—“The conduct of Russia,” continues the Duke of Bassano, “at this time, was manifestly directed towards these fatal results. The uniting of the Duchy of Oldenburg, dovetailed, as it were, into the countries recently brought under the same principles of Government as France, was a necessary consequence of the uniting of the Hanseatic Towns. An indemnity was offered. This object was easy to regulate with reciprocal advantage.—But your Cabinet made an affair of State of it; and, for the first time, was seen a Manifesto of an ally against an ally.—The reception of English vessels in Russian ports, and the regulations of the Ukase of 1810, had made it known that the treaties were dissolved. The Manifesto shewed that not only the bonds which had united the two Governments were broken, but that Russia had publicly thrown the gambit to France, for a difficulty which was foreign to her) and which could

not be solved but by the method which his Majesty had proposed."

To these complaints the Russian Minister, Prince Kurakin, replied, that in order to arrive at a real state of Peace with France, Prussia must be evacuated and made independent, for it was necessary that between France and Russia there should be a neutral country;—and that Swedish Pomerania should also be evacuated by the French.—“Without desisting,” continues the Russian Minister, “from the principles adopted by the Emperor of all the Russias for the commerce of his States, and for the admission of neutrals into the parts of his dominions—principles which his Majesty can never renounce, he binds himself, as a proof of his adherence to the alliance formed at Tilsit, not to adopt any change of the prohibitive measures established in Russia, and severely observed to the present time, against direct trade with England. His Majesty is also ready to agree with his Majesty the Emperor of the French and the King of Italy, with respect to a system of Licences to be introduced into Russia, in the same manner as in France; it being always understood, that it cannot be admitted till it has been ascertained that it is not calculated to augment the deterioration already experienced by the trade of Russia. Finally, his Majesty will also consent to bind himself to conclude a treaty of exchange of the Duchy of Oldenburgh for a suitable equivalent, which shall be proposed by his Majesty the Emperor and King, and in which his Imperial Majesty will declare the protest withdrawn which he was about to publish, to support the rights of his family to the Duchy of Oldenburgh.”

The French Emperor having refused these terms, his armies were put in motion, and the war actually commenced by their entry into the Russian territory.

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

ASSIZES.

WINCHESTER.—John James, a youth of nineteen, was indicted for the wilful murder of his mistress, Elizabeth Hill, at Salfleet, near Yarmouth, Isle of Wight. It appeared, that his master, to whom he was apprenticed as a shoemaker, was gone with his son to church on the morning of Sunday the 21st of June last, leaving his wife and this lad at home. On their return, in company with a neighbour, they discovered Mrs. Hill lying on the kitchen floor, with three deep wounds inflicted with a hatchet on her head and face, and her throat cut across. On interrogating the boy, who was deliberately walking before the house, he calmly confessed the horrid deed. He stood at the bar, during the whole of the trial, with his eyes bent on the ground, in a kind of melancholic apathy. He viewed the dreadful instruments, produced in Court, with unaltered aspect; he heard the awful sentence with indifference, and retired without having uttered a word, beyond a refusal to say any thing. He declares that he entertains no sorrow for the action; for had any one else come in his way, he should have done the same thing. His mistress, he says, was always too good to him. He feels no terror at his approaching fate, but expresses himself truly happy and content to die. When strongly interrogated as to the probable motive of his conduct, he referred the inquirers, without comment, to the 3d chapter of Job. He was an enthusiast of the Methodist persuasion.—The Judge (Sir ALAN CHAMBERLAIN) commented with much feeling on the dangerous effects of vulgar and literal conceptions of scriptural passages.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Monday, July 13.

The Royal Assent was notified by Commission to the Lottery Bill, the Local Millin Amendment Bill, the Corn Distillation Prohibition Bill, and the Regent's Canal Bill.—Adjourned.

Tuesday, July 14.

Several Bills were forwarded; and after some debate, Mr.

Palmer's Compensation Bill, which had passed the Commons, was thrown out, on a division, by a majority of six—94 to 100.—Adjourned.

Wednesday, July 15.

An Address to the Regent; on the Vote of Credit, was agreed to *in nem. con.*—Adjourned.

Friday, July 17.

LORD REDFORD'S Permanent Insolvent Debtors' Bill was read a third time, and passed; his Lordship stating that he had little hope of its passing the other House this Session; but if it did not pass now, he intended to bring in the same Bill in the next Session.

LATE OVERTURE FROM FRANCE.

LORD HOLLAND wished to know whether Ministers were in possession of any further information relative to the late Overture from France, than what had been published in the Foreign Papers? He was desirous of abstaining from delivering any opinion respecting the Answer to that Overture. Although he was certainly not disposed to admit, much less to guarantee, the existence of King Joseph at the head of the Government of Spain as a principle of negotiation, he should have approved, however, of entering into a negotiation upon the principle of rendering Spain independent of France. He, at the same time, with respect to the terms of the Answer which had been published, could not but protest against the difficulty which appeared to be felt in designating the Emperor of France as Emperor.

The Earl of LIVERPOOL said, that the Letter from the French Government, and the Answer of this Government, which had been published, were correct copies. The reason why no communication had been made to Parliament was, that the answer of this Government called for explanation on the part of the Government of France; and, therefore, in the expectation of that explanation, the documents could not properly be made public. As to the terms of the answer of this Government, he could not conceive that there could be any difference of opinion in that House or in the Country; that if we had consented to acknowledge Joseph Bonaparte as the King of Spain, it would have been most ruinous to our character and our cause. As to the other point alluded to by the Noble Lord, the answer of this Government had proceeded upon the principle acted upon in all antecedent negotiations with France since the event alluded to happened, in not acknowledging the Ruler of that Country as Emperor, it being a fair and a just principle that such acknowledgements ought not to be made gratuitously, but to be the objects of a stipulation for a consideration and equivalent.

The Earl of LAUDERDALE wished to know whether any communication had been received from the French Government since the Letter of Lord Castlereagh?

The Earl of LIVERPOOL said, that subsequent to that Letter, no communication whatever had been received from the French Government.

EX-OFFICIO INFORMATIONS.

On the Order of the Day being read for the second reading of the first Bill relative to *Ex-officio Informations*,

LORD HOLLAND said, that his object was the regulation of the power of *Ex-officio Informations*, in order to guard against the abuse to which that power was liable. The power of Information altogether was inconsistent with the spirit of our Constitution, and was condemned, at least by inference, by our own laws, which expressly forbid any other mode of proceeding in cases affecting life or limb, than the ordinary, safe, and constitutional mode of proceeding by indictment, to be first found by the majority of a Grand Jury, namely, twelve, before the individual accused could be put upon his trial. And it was highly worthy of remark, that whenever the subject was to be oppressed, it was effected by means of an extension of the power of Information. What was the nature of *Ex-officio Informations*?—It was a power exercised by the Attorney-General, at pleasure, of giving an Information against an individual, and placing, by his single act, that individual in the same situation as if a Grand Jury had found a bill of indictment against him. It

must be at once admitted, that such a power was most liable to abuse; and against its abuse it was the duty of the Legislature to provide. He had obtained a list of the number of Informations *Ex-officio* which had been filed in the course of a few years past, a proceeding, it should be observed, that, with the exception of revenue cases, was confined to libel, and he found, that whilst from 1800 to 1807 the number was fifteen, in the three years from 1808 to 1810 the number filed was no less than forty-two, of which, however, more than half had never been prosecuted to trial. He did not impute any other than proper motives to Sir Vicary Gibbs, in not prosecuting these Informations to trial, but he must say, that it was a power of suing and punishing individuals which ought not to exist without regulation. He had several cases before him, but he would not name individuals, his object being to abstain from mixing personal considerations with the question. One of the cases was that of an individual, who, in three successive years, had had three successive Informations filed against him on charges of Libel, on one of which he was acquitted on trial, and the other two had not been brought to trial. The expences incurred by this individual, in consequence of these *Ex-officio* Informations, amounted to 275*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.* Thus it appeared, that the Attorney-General, without the intervention of a Grand Jury, without the intervention of any regular or constitutional mode of proceeding, had the power of suing an individual to the amount of nearly 300*l.* in three years. Was not this a power that required some regulation to guard against the abuse of it? Mr. Justice Blackstone, in stating the necessity for the existence of the power of *Ex-officio* Informations, observed that it was necessary to meet adequately enormous misdemeanours, in which not a moment's delay could be suffered in bringing the offender to justice. Now, those who supported this power of *Ex-officio* Informations, must either deny the authority of Blackstone, or they must accuse the Attorney-General of negligence, in not bringing to trial the Informations he had alluded to, or they must admit that the offences for which these Informations were filed, were not enormous misdemeanours, and therefore that the Informations were improperly filed. The existence of such a power in the hands of an Officer of the Crown, was pregnant with the most dangerous consequences. It might give a most improper influence over the public press. At the present moment the Attorney-General had the power, after filing an Information *Ex-officio*, of keeping it hanging over the head of the defendant, without any limit of time, and thus possessed the unlimited power of keeping individuals, at his pleasure, in a continual state of terror and alarm. From the general diffusion of knowledge, and the general curiosity to know the state of public affairs—a curiosity, perhaps, sharpened by the large sum which the people had to pay—there were at the present moment a great number of periodical publications. It was, therefore, of great importance to consider what effect might be produced on the public press, by this power of the Attorney-General. By not prosecuting an Information, there might be a tacit understanding, under which the individual against whom it had been filed might be most improperly influenced, particularly if his subsistence depended upon a periodical publication; or the abuse of such a power might have the effect of driving from the public press persons of integrity, who would not sacrifice their opinions to temporary interest.—With respect to Ireland, he had heard a case, in which a person in prison for one libel had had an Information *Ex-officio* filed against him for another (for it was the law of this country, that a person in prison might be convicted of a false, scandalous, and malicious libel, of which libel he had never seen one word) and was convicted without having had an opportunity of reading the charge against him. Whilst this person was in prison for a libel, an Information *Ex-officio* was filed against him by the Attorney-General for another libel.—The Defendant applied for a copy of the charge, and was informed that the charge would come to 15*l.* or 20*l.* which he must pay, before they could grant him the copy. He made an affidavit that he was not worth the money; but he was taken to have pleaded Not Guilty, and upon the trial was found Guilty. Upon being brought for judgment, he stated

that he had not seen the charge against him; and the Court granted a new trial; granting it, however, upon the ground, that he was not possessed of the money demanded of him for a copy of the charge; so that if he had only been possessed of 30*l.* he must have paid 20*l.* of it for a copy of the Information. He thought this most oppressive, and he had an intention of proposing a clause in this Bill, to ensure such a defendant a copy of the charge against him. His Lordship then adverted to a recent case in Ireland, and expressed his wonder that such a person as Mr. Fitzpatrick had been selected for an *Ex-officio* Information; a person who had so recently received the thanks of his country; and at a moment when the Government professed to be pursuing measures of conciliation. Neither did the nature of the work justify the proceeding. It was nothing more than a statement of those penal statutes which affected the Catholics. There was another circumstance connected with that business also, which he hardly knew how to mention, it was so ridiculous. The Attorney-General of Ireland, with all the pomp and circumstance of glorious law, sent a regular summons to the person against whom he was filing the Information, desiring him to attend at his, the Attorney-General's, own house. But what might be the consequence of such a proceeding? Might not the Attorney-General in such an interview, sift from him all the grounds of his defence, and render that which he had extorted an instrument of injustice against him? He did not mean to say it was the case, but he would ask, whether it was not possible? The Bill which he intended to introduce, was one merely of regulation. It left all the purposes for which these Informations were instituted, untouched. It did not in any way interfere with the speedy prosecution of enormous offences; but it would have a tendency to counteract that principle by which the terror of a criminal Information was kept hanging over a man's head. The first clause enacted, that no information should be filed by his Majesty's Attorney-General, unless such information should be filed within a given time, after the offence committed; and the second clause enacted, that if any information filed *ex-officio* be not proceeded upon, and the defendant brought to trial within so many months, all further proceedings upon the same Information shall cease, except such trial shall have been postponed by any order of the Court.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH lamented that the Noble Lord, whose great acuteness and industry he admired, had not addressed himself to those sources of information where he would have derived more certain knowledge than he seemed to possess. He had stated that the proceeding by *Ex-officio* Information was not a part of the regular law of the land, and he quoted Mr. Judge Blackstone, to prove that it was employed only for enormous offences. He would beg leave to tell the Noble Lord however, that Judge Blackstone wrote very ignorantly upon the question of *Ex-officio* Informations. In his belief, our Commentaries of Blackstone were not the production of a learned man sitting down to the subject, fully prepared—but that the subject, in the progress of writing, made the man learned. The Noble and Learned Lord then went into a variety of legal details, all tending to shew that the practice of *Ex-officio* Informations was inherent in the principle of the Constitution itself; and that, notwithstanding the clamour that had been raised against them recently, they were, in fact, a part of the law of the land. As to the alleged hardship, he thought them more humane than any other. If the Attorney-General filed an Information upon the affidavit of another, and the person accused was innocent, might he not indict him for perjury? But, if he went to a Grand Jury, who would tell him that an indictment for perjury could be preferred with equal facility or with equal probability of success?—In alluding to the proceeding of the Attorney-General in Ireland, he would only say, that, had it been his case, he would not have so acted; not because he thought it illegal, but because he would not have subjected himself to misconstruction and misconception. But the conduct of Attorneys-General ought not to be held up to suspicion. Those whom he had known, had acted upon a sacred sense of duty alone.—To limit the time of filing Informations might be productive of the most

dangerous consequences. He should move, therefore, that the Bill be rejected.

Lord EASKINE contended that neither in the letter nor the spirit of the law, or the Constitution, was there to be found any thing that, for a moment, justified the principle that had been implied, of putting the office of the Attorney-General on a footing with that of a Grand Jury. The Constitution never meant to put them on a footing, because the liberty of the subject has not in them the same security. The one comprehended in it the great principle of trial by his Peers, the other was the servant of the Crown, and removeable at the pleasure of the Crown. The comparison therefore was against the latter.—(Hear, hear!)—As to the great age of Informations *Ex-officio*, he did not deny it; but if time was to have been made in all cases of projected improvement a preliminary and insuperable obstacle, what, he would ask, what would have been the Constitution of England at this day?—(Hear, hear!)—Another great objection to the power of the Attorney-General, exerted in this way, was the vexatious harassing that might be occasioned to the accused in case any Attorney-General thought proper to defer from time to time bringing him to trial, and as the law now stood, this was quite at the discretion of the Attorney-General. This was a power he did not wish to see lodged in the hands of one man, be that man who he may, his best and dearest friend, or the best friend to the liberties of the country.—The present Bill would obviate this and other objections, and it should therefore have his support.

Lord STANHOPE described the Noble and Learned Lord (Ellenborough) as most anxious to cry up all Attorneys-General, and to cry down the Grand Juries of the country. He should not inquire who had been the Attorneys-General of his time; but this he knew, that the infamous Judge Jefferies had once been an Attorney-General, and so had the notorious Judge Scroggs. He differed from the Noble Lord in his construction of Blackstone:—if he (Lord Stanhope) had been so severe upon Blackstone, what a sound rating would the Noble and Learned Lord have given him (Lord Stanhope) for so grossly libelling the Bench.—(A laugh.)

The Duke of MONTROSE observed, that the House had been repeatedly amused by the speeches of the Noble Lord, but, if a continuance was made of such addresses, he pledged himself, that he should, once for all, move to have the bar cleared.

Lord HOLLAND replied. He by no means asserted that the proceeding by Information was illegal, but only that it was not the legitimate form of procedure. Lord Camden had laid it down that persons were not to be held to bail for libel, but only for a breach of the peace—libel having only a tendency to a breach of the peace.

On a division, the numbers were—

For the Bill—Contents, 7—Against it, 16—Majority against the Bill, 9.

INSOLVENT DEBTORS.

The Temporary Insolvent Debtors Bill for England was read a third time, and passed.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Monday, July 13.

VOTE OF CREDIT.

Mr. VANSITTART brought up from the Prince Regent the usual Message relative to the Vote of Credit.

PRIVY PURSE.

Mr. VANSITTART moved for leave to bring in a bill to enable the Keeper of his Majesty's Privy Purse to transfer all Stock standing in his Majesty's name in any of the Public Funds, in such manner as the Commissioners for Managing the Privy Purse should direct.—Leave was given.

PRESERVATION OF THE PUBLIC PEACE BILL.

On the motion for the second reading of this Bill, Mr. WHITBREAD declared, that he felt no more disposed to approve of the measure than he had been when the proposition was first submitted to the House. The Bill began by stating that "arms have for some time past been industriously collected

by evil-disposed persons," &c. Now, he denied that there was any evidence of this before the House of Commons. The only evidence even laid before the Committee, in support of such an assertion, was to be found in the anonymous information of certain Magistrates, who, being themselves in a complete state of consternation, were incapable of judging for themselves, or of informing others, and whose fears were to be regarded as the source whence all the supposed danger sprung. If the law had been well executed, which he denied it had been, then, he contended, the evil could never have reached the length it had attained. He denied that there was any evidence which went to shew that there had been any violence or outrage whatever since the 23d of June last. The Bill stated, that "whereas meetings are held, as well by night as by day, by such persons, for the purposes of training," &c. This he completely denied. There was not a tittle of evidence laid before the Committee which entitled him to say so. One gentleman did indeed tell them of 300 persons having assembled in one place, but this turned out to be merely hearsay. As to the allegation of persons having assembled together, with their faces blackened, and otherwise disguised, he denied that any such had been found, except Spies of the Magistrates themselves, who had instigated these misled men to more violent acts than they would otherwise have thought of committing. An impression had prevailed, that these riots were directed by persons in London. The persons even who were supposed to have this direction were designated; and so impressed were the Magistrates with this idea, that he could shew from the affidavit of one who had been a prisoner in Lancaster jail, that a person had called upon him while in prison, inquiring the name of an individual who was supposed to have such direction, and designating him (Mr. Whitbread) as such individual. Some persons were even so deluded as to suppose it possible that the Duke of York himself was connected with the riotous proceedings! There was something so absurd in this, that he could not consent to do so dangerous a thing, as to intrust extraordinary powers to such Magistrates. Now that the Orders in Council were repealed, and the manufacturing classes were returning to their employments, what necessity could there be for such a Bill? He entered his protest against it, and besought of the House to consider well before they bestowed such extraordinary powers. In Ireland, they had already before them the cruelties of all examples on this subject, and he intreated of the House that they would not suffer themselves, under the impulse of fear, to be driven to the adoption of such a measure as the present. He begged also to impress on the Noble Lord and Right Hon. Gentleman opposite, how much peace was at this time to be coveted in this country, if it could be got on honourable terms. It was incumbent on the Ministers of the Crown to make the earliest trial if peace could be obtained. He presumed not to ask what was the nature of the answer given to the recent pacific overture made to this Government; but of this he was convinced, that the very persons whose distresses had lately driven them to acts of violence, would sit down quietly and endure every hardship, did they only know that such a trial would be made.

Mr. SMYTH was satisfied that the riots and alarm in Yorkshire, so far from being over-stated, had been greatly understated. He was happy that the idea of there being greater persons connected with the rioters was unfounded; but still the secrecy with which the plans of the rioters were conducted, and the extent of the alarm which prevailed, made some measure highly necessary.

Mr. WM. FITZGERALD thought there were few persons in the House who would concur in opinion with the Hon. Member for Bedford, that the principle of the preamble of the Bill was false. He deprecated the introduction of peace into the present discussion, which, in his opinion, in the present temper of the country, was the topic of all others the most to be avoided.

Sir, F. BURDETT concurred with the Hon. Gentleman below him (Mr. Whitbread) in thinking that there was nothing in the evidence to bear out the preamble of the Bill. The very title was defective. Instead of a Bill for the preservation of the Public Peace, it ought to be called a Bill for the Disturbance of the Peace of the Country, by giving certain new powers to

Justices. He believed a degree of ill-tempered heat had been shown by the Magistrates of that part of the country. What could be more blameable than the manner of entrapping the people, and stirring them to acts of atrocity by sending spies in among them? He had never heard that such a principle had been acted on by any but the devil himself, who tempted people, to have the pleasure of punishing them. The Hon. Member for Cambridge (Mr. Smyth) had asked for a stronger Government. He did not see the necessity for a stronger Government than one which carried every thing it proposed; which had the laws and liberties of the country at its command. He saw no necessity for the powers now asked for, as, even from the confession of the Government, the discontents were on the decline. There were many instances of abuse of power on the part of Magistrates in the newspapers; and he could not believe that they would venture to insert such statements without foundation. He had read lately of two young men named Johnson and Franklin, who were working about the house of a gentleman, and got acquainted with the servant, by whom they were invited into the house. The Gentleman, being displeased at this, was not content with turning away his servant, but took the men before a Clerical Magistrate, who committed them to gaol for burglary, and refused to take bail. They were kept in prison during the whole of the winter; one of them died before trial; and the Bill against the other was immediately thrown out by the Grand Jury. The Hon. Baronet stated another case where the Bill was also thrown out. For his part, he was inclined to think that the discretionary power of Magistrates ought rather to be curtailed than increased. In former times of danger and difficulty our ancestors had recourse to a very different practice. They armed the County, and placed the Sheriff at the head of it, making every district answerable for the depredations committed in it. This was the mode directed by the 13th Edward the First; but we, on the contrary, thought proper to disarm every person in times of danger. He could not conceive a more humiliating circumstance than marking a people in this manner with the badge of slavery and degradation. He, for his part, would rather die on his own threshold than consent to give up his arms to any persons who chose to demand them. This was a power which, except exercised with the greatest discretion, would put the whole country in a flame. He had been accused of a systematic design to overturn the Government. This was false, if it was meant to say he entertained any design to overturn the Constitution of the Country; but there was one design which he certainly did entertain, and on which he had always acted, to knit together the Crown and the people, for the purpose of overturning all corrupt and unconstitutional influence.—That was the design of his life. The Hon. Member for Cambridge appeared aware of the benefits of free discussion, yet he seemed to wish some limit could be set to it; but if there was not a full and fair discussion, unrestrained, except in so far as decency and good manners required, no good could ever be hoped for from a press. The very calumnies of a shackled press were more mischievous from the circumstance of the restraint. He reprobated the mode in which the Committee was appointed; it was nothing more than a Ministerial Committee, and as such ought to have no weight with the country.

Mr. GRANT heard with surprise from an Hon. Baronet (Sir Francis Burdett), and the Member for Bedford, that there was no evidence before the House of the necessity for the present measure. He had seen such decided acts of complacency and prudence in the measures of those who were concerned in the present disturbances, of which the oath of fidelity was a signal instance, that he was astonished how any person could be blind to the danger. At that moment the system was raging within the heart of the country. In his opinion, the House would not be justified in separating without taking some measures to repress these disorders. They ought to remember that effects frequently long survive the cause, and become more dangerous after the moving principle has ceased to act; that the very rocking of the waves before a calm, was frequently not less dangerous than the storm. He would ask them what the general sensation of the country was on the subject—on this armed confederation—these nocturnal meetings?—Could the Constitution

be safe while such a disorder prevailed in the heart of the Country? He would ask them if the present laws gave any power to Magistrates to dispel unlawful assemblies, or to seize arms? Those men laughed at the laws—they acted under no laws. It was in vain to talk of presumptions of innocence in the face of such daring guilt. He called therefore on the Constitution, in behalf of those misguided men themselves, who were the tools of dangerous and designing individuals, to put in exercise those powers with which it was invested, to overtake the rapid march of the times, and to arrest the progress of sedition and anarchy.—(Hear, hear!)

Mr. FRANKLAND defended the mode in which the Committee had been appointed, which, he contended, was strictly constitutional. With regard to the causes of the present discontents, he believed they were purely commercial, arising from stagnation of trade, and the consequent want of circulation in the body politic. It was the duty of Parliament to look to the causes, which he firmly believed had no political origin; and therefore he could not help regarding the offenders with a high degree of commiseration. He could wish, consequently, that the proposed measures should be accompanied with a Proclamation of Parliament.

Mr. BROUGHAM said he would confine himself to the question, and that was, whether the Report contained matter of sufficient importance to authorize that House to justify a suspension of the Constitution? For himself he saw nothing in the Report but vague generalities. Admitting that great discontents did prevail, he still thought he might reply with his Hon. Friend the Member for Bedford, that they had provided a remedy for them in the revocation of those measures which had caused the distresses throughout the country. He had no hesitation in saying that the whole was to be ascribed to that pernicious system, the Orders in Council. All the accounts ascribed the distresses to want of work. In Bolton-le-Moors distress prevailed more than in any other place. The population was 17,000, of whom 3000 were reduced to the condition of parish paupers, besides a large number who were driven from their houses as wanderers, and a larger number yet, receiving relief. Such was the fact, and the House would not forget, that from Bolton-le-Moors and its neighbourhood originated all the disturbance; there were to be found twisting in, as it were termed, &c. &c. In Huddersfield, the only place in Yorkshire where discontents prevailed, the distress was described in terms exceeding that of Bolton. He could shew, that where there was no distress there was no disturbance. It would suffice, however, to allude to the township of Walton, near Prescot, in Lancashire. The inhabitants were 5000 in number, of whom there were 1500, he would not say in distress, because they were receiving relief. It appeared they were earning three shillings a week, while at Huddersfield they were earning under one shilling a week, and no fund provided for their relief, which was acribible, he well knew, to no other earthly cause but the poverty of the place. Look at the consequence. At Walton every thing was peaceable and quiet. Now, what had Government done to relieve those distresses? They had done all they could; and that all was, in his opinion, sufficient. He would have them wait till they saw the effect of what had been done. He had evidence that the remedy had not failed to produce tranquillity. In a letter dated 8th July, it stated, "that they had the inexpressible pleasure of informing him that the rescinding of those ever-to-be-deplored Orders in Council had produced wonders. The meagre countenances of the starving manufacturers are already brightened into joy and peace, and content begins to prevail." Other letters from different places expressed similar sentiments. See then what were the facts. The causes of the present discontents were gradually disappearing, and they implorated the Government only to wait till a full and fair operation could be given to the remedy. The intended Bill would only accelerate the evil, from the annoyance which it enabled Magistrates to create to individuals. For his own part, indeed, he had no hesitation in declaring, that he believed the Magistrates had not done their duty. He alluded particularly to the Magistrates of Lancashire, and not to Yorkshire; and he alluded to one in particular.—What he was about to

state he had from undeniable evidence. A worthy Dissenting Clergyman, because he happened to live at a particular town of West Horton, was openly, and among the very flock whom he instructed, accused by this Magistrate of felony. That was the way in which he kept the peace! Where he could not find violators of the law, he strove to make them such by persecution. Knowing he was a Dissenting Parson, and that it might be acceptable, therefore, to some of his High Church Brethren, the bigots of the neighbourhood, he charged this Minister with being present when the Horton Mills were set on fire, and with aiding and abetting the rioters. The Hon. Gentleman then mentioned two instances in which a Clergyman had been driven from his pulpit, and a Methodist Preacher separated from his congregation, in the spirit of hostility which unhappily subsisted in various districts between the sect commonly called Methodists and the Established Church. The measures proposed were founded on the principle, not of producing and extending the blessings of true tranquillity, but of furnishing handles to the loyal for the purpose of putting down those whom they might accuse of opposite dispositions. Another important point was, the mode of employing Spies. If there ever was a mode of employing characters of this kind exceptionable in a peculiar degree, it was that in which they were exercised in the occupation, not of passive inspectors, but of active agents, not of reporting the work which was done, but of doing the work to be reported. Here the Hon. Member mentioned various cases, and among others, that of a woman, who meeting in the street an informer, who had prosecuted or assisted as a witness in the prosecution of her husband, ventured to reproach him for his conduct, was carried before a Magistrate, and committed on the charge of having insulted a Spy. There was a character in existence which he pretended not to describe, that of a *Magisterial Spy*, a busy, meddling, and officious character, one which the late Mr. Windham had not scrupled to designate as the pest of society—(Hear!)—He did not mean to include in any sweeping censure the great body of the Magistracy. It had appeared in evidence that Spies received each 30s. a week, beside their expenses, which were not small, through the hands and patronage of the Magistrates. When these circumstances were looked at, it might not be difficult to account for the distribution of Secret Service Money, nor could any thing more be required to explain the sources of the parochial and election influence which the Magistrates generally enjoyed. He had, however, something to advert to of a still more atrocious nature—a practice he almost shuddered to contemplate—he alluded to the practice of tampering with evidence!—(Hear, hear, hear!)—A gentleman, as he could testify, of very respectable character, had had his privacy disturbed and his premises occupied by soldiers for a considerable time. The scene was a spot in one of the disturbed districts, and the pretext was, to guard and secure his property. His men were marched off by the number of thirty or forty at a time. One man was addressed by a Spy, with the questions—'Did he ever speak against the King?'—'the Royal Family?'—'his Majesty's Government?'—To all which he answered in the negative. The Spy proceeded to say, 'You are in a great scrape, but I can contrive to draw you through. Only engage to swear that you have heard your master promise to support you if you would join the insurgents.' The man to whom this language was addressed burst into tears, and it was not surprising that such an incident, occurring to a man who had the good fortune of serving a generous master, should have produced such an effect. He did not accuse the Magistrates of being the authors of these proceedings, he traced them to the principle of the system; that system could not be too vehemently condemned; it was a system too artful, too busy for this country.—(Hear, hear!)—Could it be said that the Magistrates had not power enough already, when they might examine and enter the most sacred parts of a man's dwelling—of what was once called the castle of an Englishman, without giving them additional authority, an authority which he feared too many of them were hungering after? In one respect, as if for the purpose of rendering it more odious and objectionable, the present measure went to revive the Gagging Bills, as they had been justly called; and had such a Bill existed as a law for

the prevention of persons meeting beyond a certain number, would the House have had so many Petitions against the Orders in Council?—(Hear!)—No; all such meetings would then have been considered as hostile to the Government, as indicative of disaffection to the Constitution, and the Petition would have been strangled in its birth. It appeared likewise that these Spies were not content in searching for pikes or muskets, but that they hunted after gold and silver; that when they found it they accused the owner of the crime of hoarding; that they tendered him the Bank notes, but took away the gold and silver!—(A laugh.)—This constituted part of the evidence which he had examined, and founded therefore as the Report of the Committee was, he certainly saw no ground whatever laid for the introduction of any further encroachment upon the Liberties of the Country.

Mr. BANKES declared, that he had listened to the Hon. and Learned Gentleman's attack upon the Magistrates with feelings of deep regret, and he might say almost with disgust.—For his own part, when arms were stolen, he did think they might legally be searched for without the commission of any outrage. He was of opinion that although distress might have been the original cause of the disturbance, other feelings and principles had been engrafted on it. Much neglect had taken place in the Office of the Secretary for the Home Department, and he was sorry to say, that he believed the disorders to have in consequence so much increased, as to require even stronger measures than those now submitted by the moderation, he would say, of the Government.

Lord ALTHORPE said, the present Bill was giving a power unknown to the Constitution; and again disclaiming all suspicion and all abuses of such power by the Magistracy, should vote against it as unnecessary, and as incompatible with the liberties of the country.

Mr. WILBRAHAM BOOTE vindicated the Magistracy, and expressed his apprehension that the Hon. and Learned Gentleman had relied on bad information.

Mr. STEPHEN remarked upon the singular inconsistency between the arguments of Mr. Brougham on the present and on former occasions. At the time the Orders in Council were under discussion, he had strenuously maintained that there was not the slightest connection between the instigators of the riots and the sufferers under the Orders in Council. What was his argument now? He was "beating the bones of the buried," and contending that the Orders in Council were the true cause of the prevailing discontent, and that the disturbers of the public tranquillity were the persons whose trade had been ruined by their operation. The mode in which the purposes of the disaffected were accomplished was most disgraceful, and called for the immediate interposition of the Legislature. Terror had been held out to deter men from the fulfilment of their duty, and so frequently had these threats been put in execution, that it had frequently produced the effect desired by those who used them. The Hon. Member went on to advert, in terms of high praise, to the conduct of the Magistrates, repelling with warmth the harsh epithets employed against them. From the horrible oaths that had been employed, in which dreadful vengeance was denounced against those who should impeach their accomplices, further, in the Hon. Member's judgment, confirmed the epithets he had stated, that there was not the slightest connection between the petitioners against the Orders in Council and the rioters. The threats held out in them of instant assassination, or of determined revenge, made the blood shudder to read them. Did distress drive them to those nets?—(Hear!)—He complained that Mr. Brougham had endeavoured to work upon the passions of the House by the recital of certain cases, resting merely upon vague reports, and not one of which he believed the Hon. Member could prove. Mr. Stephen concluded by stating, that he should heartily support the Bill, although he did not think that it gave the Magistrates powers adequate to meet the emergency.

Mr. BROUGHAM declared that he could establish by evidence, the cases to which he had referred.

Mr. WILBERFORCE replied to what had fallen from Mr. Whitbread in the commencement of the debate, in which he

had stated that he was convinced that the rioters in Yorkshire would return cheerfully to their duty, and submit to any privations, if they saw a fair attempt made by Ministers to procure peace. Mr. Wilberforce was at a loss to determine how the Honourable Member would define that fair attempt, because he had uniformly seen the Honourable Member declare, that that every attempt that had been made was unfair, if the negotiation were commenced by a Government to which he was politically opposed. He could not help also advert to the unmerited abuse that had been heaped upon the Magistracy in general; a body of men to whom the nation was so much indebted.

The House divided. The numbers were the following:—For the second reading, 137—Against it, 16—Majority, 115.

Mr. Bathurst withdrew his Nightly Watch Bill until the next Session.

ESCAPE OF PRISONERS OF WAR.

Lord CASTLEREAGH, after stating that as the law now stood persons assisting in the escape of Prisoners of War were guilty either of a simple misdemeanor or of High Treason, moved for, and obtained leave to bring in "a Bill for the more effectual punishment of persons aiding Prisoners of War to escape from his Majesty's dominions."

Mr. WHITBREAD took this opportunity of expressing a hope that some negotiation should be renewed for an exchange of prisoners.

Lord CASTLEREAGH replied, that no opportunity had yet been lost, and the disappointment had been occasioned by the unreasonable demands of France. No exertion should be wanting to seize the first moment for reopening the question.—Adjourned.

Tuesday, July 14.

VOTE OF CREDIT.

Mr. VANSITTART moved a resolution for the usual Vote of three millions.—He reminded the House of the necessity of being prepared for any exigency that might arise during the recess, and spoke of the favourable proceedings in the Peninsula, and the prospect of a formidable Coalition in the North.

Mr. HUTCHINSON saw nothing of vigour in the Peninsular war but vigour of expence. Unless the scale upon which they acted was enlarged, nothing grand and decisive would arise. He was not sure that we were not now fighting Bonaparte's battles against our resources, by a petty system of hostility, which, though operating as a drain on our finances, was little more than a mere annoyance to the enemy.

The resolution was agreed to. A motion made by Lord FOLKSTONE, for a Committee to inquire into the case of Captain King, was negatived without a division.

FLOGGING IN THE ARMY.

Mr. BENNET, seeing a Right Hon. Gentleman in his place (Mr. Manners Sutton), wished to ask him if he knew whether any General Order had been issued to the Army, that no soldier should receive a greater number of lashes than he could bear at one time; or whether he had, in conformity with this opinion, delivered by him formerly in that House, ever advised the issuing of such an Order?

Mr. MANNERS SUTTON said, that no such Order had ever been issued, and he had never advised it to be issued up to the present time. What he had formerly stated to the House, he believed to be this, that as no limits were laid down in the law as to the extent of punishment, it struck him to be the intention of the law, that no greater punishment should be inflicted on any man, than what he could bear at any one time; and that he conceived the awarding a punishment beyond what human nature could endure at one time, was not justifiable by law.

Mr. BENNET intimated his intention to bring forward a motion next Session on this subject.

CASE OF MR. ST. JOHN MASON.

Mr. SHERIDAN moved for a Select Committee to inquire into the case of Mr. St. John Mason, who had been imprisoned in Ireland for two years, under the most frivolous and false pretences. All that Mr. Mason wanted was inquiry; he wished to clear his character, not to derive pecuniary compensation for

his unmerited sufferings.—Mr. S. in the course of his speech, stated many facts respecting the Irish prisons, where suspected persons had been shut up with felons, and where men had been flogged, starved, murdered, and subjected to every species of inhumanity, in prisons, which personal vengeance could inflict —(Hear, hear!).—He then alluded to some cases in the gaol of Kilmalham, which had never been refuted.

Lord CASTLEREAGH said, these abuses had long since been corrected. As to Mr. Mason's case, the House would recollect, that it was eight years since these transactions had occurred; much evidence had therefore doubtless been lost, and it was obvious, that it would not be fit that the names of informers should be disclosed. Mr. Mason's conduct while in prison shewed that he was to be looked at with suspicion, since he was detected in attempting by bribery to procure the escape of a man charged with high treason. A second exertion of the same description had been made by him for General Russel.—It appeared to his Lordship that there was quite enough to induce the House to think that this inquiry was not only unnecessary but improper. Such an investigation could answer no rational purpose.

Sir F. BURDETT observed that, supposing Mr. Mason had been guilty of the crime of which he was suspected, he had suffered severely enough by two years' of close confinement. But there was not testimony to shew that he was a person even suspected of being suspicious. This case was a most unfortunate prelude to the extraordinary powers about to be now communicated to executive authorities. The Noble Lord had stated that it would not be prudent to disclose the names of the persons who gave private information; this was the first time that it had appeared that Government maintained a regular system of espionage on the subjects of Great Britain; it would be far better openly to adopt the lion's mouth opened at Venice, in which secret and malignant information might be dropped with impunity.

Mr. ROBINSON opposed the motion, justifying the conduct of the Earl of Hardwicke, and denying the ill treatment of Mr. St. John Mason.

Mr. W. SMITH asserted, that Mr. Mason would distinctly prove that all the allegations against him were absolutely unfounded. For five years preceding his arrest, he had never had any communication with his cousin, Mr. Robert Emmett. The Hon. Member then proceeded to relate several circumstances to shew that Dr. Trevor, the jailor of Kilmalham, had perjured himself and imposed upon the Commissioners.

Mr. BATHURST opposed the motion, arguing, that the attempts made by Mason to procure the escape of Mr. Emmett and General Russel, confirmed the previous suspicions.

Mr. TIGHE said, that the true cause of the persecution of Mr. Mason, was, that he was the first to bring to light abuses in Kilmalham gaol.

Mr. HUTCHINSON spoke on the same side, and stated similar cases of hardship on individuals, during the Lord Lieutenancy of Lord Hardwicke.

The House divided.—For the Committee, 11.—Against it 51.

FLETCHER'S PETITION.

Sir F. BURDETT, after adverting to the facts of this case, already before the public, moved, that the Petition be referred to a Select Committee.

Mr. VANSITTART opposed the motion, on the ground that the case was too frivolous to be noticed by Parliament. The whole appeared to him to be an attempt, by a shuffling tradesman, to make a fortune by frauds upon the revenue.

Sir F. BURDETT replied, insisting that not a single fact stated in the Petition had been denied.

The motion was negatived.—Adjourned.

Wednesday, July 15.

A sufficient number of Members did not meet to form a House.

Thursday, July 16.

PRESERVATION OF THE PEACE BILL.

Lord CASTLEREAGH brought forward an additional clause, by which the Crown should have power to confer the ministerial authority upon the Sons of Peers, or upon the

of persons qualified to sit in Parliament, although they might not have seats there; their authority, however, to be limited to the disturbed counties, or those adjacent.

General TARBLETON entered on some remarks, tending to prove that the Noble Lord was wholly incapable of discharging the duties of the State at this perilous crisis.

Mr. ABERCROMBIE thought that too much power was given to the Magistrates, who, on mere surmise, were to enter the houses and carry off the arms which were necessary for the owner's defence.

Mr. BENNET followed on the same side, and instanced the horrid proceedings in Ireland, where power had been imprudently given.

Mr. BATHURST denied that the Magistrates would have too much power in their hands.

Mr. TIGHE was of a different opinion. The Magistrates were empowered to break into a house and search for arms.—Who were to give them notice of concealed arms? Why, Informers,—persons who now met on moors, in fantastic disguises, and, like the witches in Macbeth, excited disturbances which contributed to their interests.

Mr. TIERNEY contended, that it was quite ridiculous to say that persons were training to arms for the purpose of overturning the Government. There was no such evidence before the Secret Committee, as it was called, and of which he had been a member;—indeed the Committee had learnt nothing new from the evidence. Not 100 stand of arms had been collected, nor had any depot been formed. A man's house was his castle, and he protested against its invasion. They would live to lament this measure, which would only serve the purposes of Bonaparte, who would recult at the condition into which he had thrown us by his decrees.

Mr. WILBERFORCE approved of the Bill, as altogether necessary.

Mr. SHERIDAN disapproved of the disarming clause, and denied that the people were not to be trusted with arms.—There was no necessity for such a measure. The whole affair reminded him of the sham plot of 1793, when reports of dreadful plots and vast funds for rebellion were circulated, though it turned out that these vast funds amounted to nine pounds fifteen shillings.—(Laughter.)—Such was the rebellious exchequer! It was also said, that arms were collecting and men were training; but it turned out that nine tailors and one pike were discovered in a back garret in the Borough!—and a Magistrate said to him on this discovery,—“No tender mother ever dwelt with more fondness upon her first-born, than we did upon that pike!! (General laughter.)—Proofs should be adduced, before the Government dared to suspend the Constitution.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL averred, that the facts contained in the Report called for the proposed measures, and disapproved of the Right Hon. Gentleman's levity.

Lord CASTLEREAGH, alluding to the tumults in Ireland, said that the loyal party, in those unhappy times, were in a sort of rebellion against Government, by taking forcibly into their own hands what they believed to be necessary for their safety.

Mr. HUTCHINSON rose to contradict again the assertion made by the Noble Lord on a former night, that torture had never been inflicted in Ireland previous to the Rebellion of 1798. He could disprove the assertion by facts at the bar.—He solemnly charged the Government of Lord Camden,—of which the Noble Lord was the confidential adviser,—with permitting TORTURE throughout the whole of the Rebellion. “I assert,” said Mr. Hutchinson, “that under the eyes of that Government, for two long years before the Rebellion, the people of Ireland were suffering under every infliction of outrage that could goad them to resistance.—I assert, that for two years before the Rebellion, the system of infliction was prosecuted through every means of torture and outrage, breaking open of houses at the dead of night, flogging, picketing, burning, half hanging, violation of women, depredation of property, licensed plunder, legalized murder.—(Hear, hear!)—Horrors, that but to think of was sufficiently dreadful—to

tail, disgusting. To be conscious that they once happened might have its use in warning an English House of Commons how they opened an avenue for the introduction of such calamities. (Hear, hear!) They knew not what Ireland had suffered—let them beware how they took the first step that was to lead this country to a knowledge of such misery.”—(Hear, hear!)—(Lord Castlereagh was silent.)

The Committee then divided—Ayes 77—Noes 18—Majority 59.

LATE OVERTURES.

Mr. SHERIDAN rose to give notice of a motion for Tuesday, for the production of the Correspondence between the Duke of Bassano and the Noble Lord. He approved of the Answer given to the French Minister, because he thought he had never read of a more insidious, perfidious, and insulting proposition. (Hear, hear!) He wished to know if any reply had been made by the French Government to the answer given by the Noble Lord?

Lord CASTLEREAGH replied in the negative. He was glad that the conduct of Government, in that instance, had met the approbation of the Right Hon. Gentleman.

VICE-CHANCELLOR CREATION BILL.

Sir SAMUEL ROMILLY expressed his anxiety to give his opposition to the Bill in its first stage. It was a Bill easing the Lord Chancellor of the greater portion of his duties, and at the same time securing to him all the fees and emoluments in the same manner as if he had discharged those duties.—(Hear, hear!)—He contended also, that, instead of remedying, it would greatly increase the number of appeals, and add intolerably to the expense of suitors.

Mr. BANKES, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. WM. SMITH, and Mr. CREEVEY, followed on the same side, strongly protesting against the indecency of pressing a Bill of such importance at so late a period in the Session.—Mr. Creevey added, that he always found twelve o'clock at night, in the month of July, the most reasonable time in the world for hurrying a job through the House (A laugh!); but when Judges were to be made by jobs, the joke became rather serious.—Lord CASTLEREAGH, Mr. BATHURST, and Mr. SIMON, spoke in support of the Bill.—The Bill was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and to be read a second time on Tuesday.

Friday, July 17.

A sufficient number of Members not having been present at four o'clock, the House was adjourned.

TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

This Gazette contains an Extract of Letter from Sir Home Popham, dated on board the Venerable, near Bilbao, June 25, giving an account of his proceedings subsequent to the attack of Legutio.—On the 23d, the battery at Bermeo was destroyed, the guns rendered useless, and the fortified places blown up.—On the 24th the Venerable arrived off Plencia, and some of the squadron were immediately employed in destroying the batteries below the bar of the Bilbao river.—Sir H. Popham landed in the afternoon at Algorta, with the Captains of his squadron, Sir H. Douglas, and Gen. Carroll, and a detachment of marines, but they re-embarked before night, as the country was close and calculated for a surprise. The Castle of Galea, the batteries of Algorta, Begun, El Campillo, and Xebiles, were all destroyed, by Lieutenants Groves, O'Reilly, Coleman, and Arbuthnot. On the 25th, the enemy, 2000 strong, advanced, and entered the destroyed batteries. At Galletta, 400 of them were driven away by the fire of three British sloops.—Sir H. Popham concludes by commending the zeal and exertions of the officers under his orders on these several occasions, in all which the squadron has not had a single man hurt.

BANKRUPTCY ENLARGED.

J. Thomson, Hertford, hunt-walker, from July 18 to 25.

BANKRUPTS.

P. Haley, Plymouth-Dock, cabinet-maker.

T. Hinson, Orange-street, St. Martin's-the-Fields, carpenter.

W. Costlett, Cnerphilly, Glamorganshire, shopkeeper.
 H. Phillips, Manchester, warehouseman.
 D. Alder, East India Chambers, merchant.
 J. Robinson, Huddersfield, merchant.
 T. Wilson, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, grocer.
 J. Chatterton, Eccles, Lancashire, flour-merchant.
 S. Hunter, Macclesfield, ironfounder.
 J. Bayley, New Romney, Kent, corn-merchant.
 J. O'Brien and T. J. Lynch, Bloomsbury-square, Irish linen-merchants.
 J. Hancock, Haymarket, shopkeeper.
 S. Johnson, Nottingham, hosier.

SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

This Gazette contains a Letter from Capt. Stewart, of the Dictator, giving an account of the following gallant proceedings:—

On the 6th of July, in the evening, the Dictator being off Mardoe, with the Podargus, Calypso, and Flamer gun-brigs, the mastheads of an enemy's squadron were seen over the rocks. Captain Robilliard, of the Podargus, offered to lead the squadron in to attack them, which offer was accepted; but the Podargus unfortunately grounding on the entrance, Capt. Weir, of the Calypso, took his office, and at half-past seven, *p. m.* the squadron had arrived within a mile of the enemy, who were running inside the rocks.—The Flamer was left with the Podargus, and the Calypso had also grounded for a short time; but at half-past nine, after sailing twelve miles through a passage hardly wide enough in some places to admit the studding-sail booms being out, Captain Stewart had the satisfaction of running the Dictator's bow upon the land, with her broadside towards the enemy, with hail. The enemy's squadron consisted of the Nayaden, Laaland, Samsoe, and Kiel, who were anchored close together, and supported by gun-boats, in Lyngoe Creek.—“In half an hour,” says Capt. Stewart, “the frigate was literally battered to atoms, and the flames bursting forth from her hatchways; the brigs had also struck, and most of the gun-boats were completely beaten, and some sunk. The action had scarcely ceased, and the ship afloat, than we found ourselves again attacked by the gun-boats which had retreated on seeing the fate of their squadron, and were again collecting from all quarters; but Capt. Weir, of the Calypso, having taken a most advantageous position, engaged them with the greatest gallantry and effect; indeed I am at a loss how to express my approbation of the prompt exertion of this gallant and meritorious officer.—The Podargus and Flamer in the meantime were warmly engaged with numerous batteries and gun-boats, both brigs being aground; but by the uncommon exertion and extreme gallantry of Captain Robilliard, and the officers and crews of the brigs, they at last got afloat very much cut up: on this occasion, Lieut. England particularly distinguished himself. At three, *a. m.* having got the Dictator, Calypso, and prize-brigs in the fair way, we attempted to get out through the passages, when we were assailed by a division of gun-boats from behind the rocks, so situated that not a gun could be brought to bear on them from either vessel; in this situation both prize-brigs grounded, and notwithstanding every exertion on the part of Lieut. James Wilkie of this ship, in the Laaland, who had extinguished a fire on board her which was burning with great fury, and Lieut. Hooper, of the Calypso, in the Kiel, we had to abandon them com-

plete wrecks, humanity forbidding our setting them on fire, owing to the number of wounded men they had on board.” Capt. Stewart concludes his letter by mentioning in terms of praise the conduct of Lieutenants Buchanan, Duell, Dutton, and Edwards,—Capt. Triscott, Lieuts. Baker and Macnamara, of the Marines,—Mr. West, the Master, Mr. Luckomlee, the Purser, and Mr. Hay, the Surgeon, of the Dictator.—Captains Robilliard and Weir also mention the conduct of their officers and men to have been such as characterize Britons on these occasions.—The Danes acknowledge to have lost about 300 men in killed and wounded; but Capt. Stewart suspects their loss to be 500.—The English squadron have suffered extremely in their hulls, masts, and rigging.—The Dictator had 5 men killed, and 24 wounded;—the Podargus, 9 wounded;—the Calypso, 3 killed, 1 wounded, and 8 missing;—and the Flamer, 1 killed and 1 wounded;—making a total of 9 killed, 39 wounded (26 severely) and 2 missing.

Danish Force.

Nayaden, 48 guns and 335 men, burnt—Logan, 20 guns and 120 men, burnt—Laaland, 20 guns and 120 men, taken, much burnt, but abandoned—Kiel, 18 guns and 120 men, struck—Alaart, 16 guns and 100 men, laying at Christiansand—Seagull, 16 guns and 100 men, at ditto—Langeland, 18 guns and 120 men, at ditto—Aven, 18 guns and 120 men, at ditto.—Gun-boats out of number.

The Gazette contains also a letter from Capt. Ross, of the Briseis sloop, dated off Pillau, June 29, which states, that he stood into Pillau roads the day before, when he found the Urania merchant ship in the hands of the French. Upon this, Lieut. Jones, with a midshipman and 28 men, were sent in the pinnace to bring her out. This was performed with much gallantry. The British boarded the Urania, though surrounded by craft and boats, after receiving the fire of six guns and four swivels on board the Urania: they drove the enemy off the deck into their boats, and brought the ship out, with the loss of one seaman killed, Mr. Palmer, Midshipman, and the Serjeant of Marines, and one Seaman, wounded.

BANKRUPTCIES SUPERSEDED.

N. L. Pannier, Leicester-place, Westminster, bookseller.
 J. Hooper, jun. Worcester, taylor.

BANKRUPTS.

J. Cook, George-street, Ratcliffe, Middlesex, mariner.
 S. Metz, Devonshire-street, Portland-place, dealer.
 S. Smith, York-street, Covent-garden, carver and gilder.
 J. Dunn, Long-Arce, mercer.
 W. Clark, Bristol, victualler.
 J. and E. Rider, North-street, Westminster, carpenters.
 E. Perry, Whitehaven, Cumberland, ironmonger.
 J. Davison, North Shields, hardwareman.
 T. Wakeham, Dartmouth, Devon, victualler.
 J. Reece, Newport, Monmouth, grocer.
 P. Lock, Nailsworth, yarn-maker.
 J. Bond, Hampden-street, Sower's Town, grocer.
 J. Sharp, Gateshead, Durham, shoe-maker.
 T. Aldred, Salford, Lancaster, dealer.
 T. Aldred, Manchester, cotton-merchant.
 W. Peadesdale, Liverpool, factor.
 G. W. Seahorne, Ratcliffe-Cross, block-maker.
 W. T. Smith, Church-court, Clement's-lane, drysalter.

PRICE OF STOCKS ON SATURDAY.

3 per Cons. Consols... 56½ | Omnium... 2½ | prem.

H. W. can have any Volume of the Examiner at the Office, excepting the first; but the single Numbers about which he enquires cannot be supplied.

Proper notice will be taken the two weeks after next, in separate Articles, of the new Powers given to Magistrates in the Disturbed Counties, and of Lord HOLLAND'S unanswered though unsuccessful ARGUMENTS for a DIMINUTION of the POWER of ATTORNEY-GENERALS.

The Work alluded to by B. E. H. is at present suspended. If "A Subscriber" will forward his address, and authenticate the Announcement he wishes inserted, it shall have a place.

THE EXAMINER.

LONDON, JULY 19.

By the publication of the Diplomatic Correspondence, which took place between France and Russia previously to the late renewal of war, it appears that mutual distaste had been increasing for two years past, and that Russia, in proportion as she again grew jealous of the encroaching spirit of her ally, displayed symptoms of a returning fondness for English independence, and began provokingly dabbling in politics of her own. NAPOLEON therefore menaces ALEXANDER by pressing nearer with his military positions, and calls out to him to adhere, as he promised, to the "Continental System;"—ALEXANDER replies that it is no part of the Continental System to occupy the territories of allies, and calls out to him to go back;—the other refuses; the latter sets out to meet him; the respective ambassadors demand their passports; and torrents of blood are again to be shed for the pleasure of two individuals, because the one is overbearing, and the other irresolute. It is said that when BONAPARTE heard of peace between Russia and Turkey, the news threw him into a fit, and that on coming out of it, he gave way to an extravagant rage. It is possible that intense thinking, acting upon a violent temper, may produce a disposition of body liable to such attacks: we believe it is an ascertained fact, that he is subject to epilepsy, or catalepsy, or some other convulsion, as other Conquerors have been before him; and it would be extremely curious to know the particular occasions that give vent to his disorder; but there is no trusting to reports at such a season; and if he fell into no fit at the reverses of his troops in the Peninsula, or the refusal of BERNADOTTE to coalesce with him, it is not likely that he would do so in the present instance.

War then was determined; but before he took his departure, an ancient and favourite ceremony was to be performed; and the publication of the Correspondence has given to light a fresh overture to this country for peace, and its rejection by the present Ministers. This is an old manoeuvre on his part, and certainly a very politic one, whether successful or not; for in the former case, it would save him all the trouble he was about to undergo; and in the latter, it enables him to throw upon our shoulders the blame of continuing the war. However, since his impolitic as well as iniquitous treatment of Spain has given the Continent some inlet of information respecting us, he cannot make such an impression in this respect as he used to do, whatever may be the real unwillingness of our Ministers to enter into a talk of accommodation. That they might have come to the discussion over and over again is clear to every body, who knows that two great nations may exist together, and that it is a particular interest and not a general one, which has been making such long and foolish war with the new empire; but that

the Ministers could commence a conference of this nature by acknowledging JOSEPH BONAPARTE was not to be expected by any body, and was of course not at all expected by NAPOLEON himself. It is true, we verily believe that the Spaniards would be a more comfortable people under the new Dynasty, than they were under the old one; for they were not vassals of BONAPARTE before, and at the same time had stupid rulers and an Inquisition; but if BONAPARTE acted upon no other principle than what he pretends,—that of a general enlightenment of the Continent,—he could have produced his reforms in Spanish bigotry without furnishing future invaders and usurpers with excuses for their iniquity; and it is right that no partial good should be calmly witnessed, that would establish so monstrous a precedent for an universal evil. As to FERDINAND, who by his own account would willingly have remained the humblest of NAPOLEON'S servants, he has no more pretensions to keep his throne, than JOSEPH has to demand it;—it is the refuse of his Court, that has kept down and corrupted the only proper spirit of resistance to France; and much as it becomes us to discountenance BONAPARTE'S ridiculous claims to a right to the Spanish Crown, we still do not see how we are to save a people from his usurpation, who from the corruptions that cling about them do not feel themselves strong or spirited enough to assist us in the task.

His first manoeuvre thus finished, the French Emperor arrived in the North, and commenced operations, but not in his usual style of rapidity; for the Russians, it seems, grown somewhat wise by experience, had resolved not to put every thing to the die of a battle, but to fight, in the first instance at least, against the resources of his enemy, and lay waste the country before him. It was to make up for appearances perhaps on this head, among other reasons, that NAPOLEON chose to pass so much time in ineffectual offers of negotiation, while he drew nearer all the while to the Russian territory; at last however he arrives at the river Niemen, which was to be the Rubicon of his conquest, and at this imposing spot issues one of his sententious proclamations, the style of which, though somewhat stripped of its terrors of late years, must be sufficiently formidable to a Sovereign who wears light regimentals and an unbounded cocked hat.—The Russians appear to have fortified some of the passes, but whether in so doing they had an eye to his crossing in this or that particular spot is not understood;—on the night of the 23d of last month three bridges were thrown over by the French in the course of two hours, and at one o'clock in the morning of the 24th the river Niemen was passed without opposition. Subsequent arrivals inform us of their possession of the Lithuanian capital, and of the continuation of the system of laying waste on the part of the Russians; and it certainly does appear, that if BERNADOTTE could be induced to make a movement on the rear of the French, there never was a more favourable opportunity for cutting off BONAPARTE from his resources. But perhaps his neutrality is all that the Ministers hope to purchase from that Prince, who seems hitherto to have had no object but to keep himself independent of all parties. If he is formidable to BONAPARTE, the latter unquestionably is the greater of the two, and must be more formidable to him; so that unless Sweden is actually threatened by BONAPARTE, or some of those jealousies, which are likely to occur between rival soldiers, should put them into a heat with each

other, it is most probable that they will continue to feel their mutual importance too well for a rupture; and **BONAPARTE** indeed seems to have acted upon a confidence of this feeling, by committing himself so far into the enemy's territory; for as to any other fear which he might have in so doing, he knows the enemy too well, and has done it too often before, to feel any thing impolitic in the daring. We used to be told on former occasions by the Ministerial Papers, that he was in similar situations, and would never get out again; "he is in the heart of the country," they used to say, "and must inevitably be surrounded!"—He was so,—in Austria, for instance,—and he was certainly surrounded; but it was by a people who were uninterested for their despotic government, and by soldiers whom he was sure of beating;—the very circumstance of his being in the heart, was a sign that the body was going,—and it did go. It was the same with Prussia, and would have been the same with Spain, had he not, for the first time in his life, by his base and unprovoked attack upon that country, roused something like a genuine patriotic feeling in the natives.

Such is the outset of the campaign, and whatever delay may have been forced upon him in its commencement, it does not appear that his late domestic life, and the flesh which he has acquired by ease, have diminished the natural activity either of his body or mind. The morning before the passage, he was up and abroad at two o'clock, inspecting the banks of the river by twilight; and in leaving his quarters for this purpose, he takes a Polish cap and cloak from one of the cavalry, which he wears before his Polish soldiers, in whose country he is about to make war with the Russians. **ALEXANDER'S** cocked hat and uncorrugated broad-cloth stand a poor chance, we are afraid, before this said cap and cloak.

Accounts from Berlin and Hamburg state, that the French entered Wilna on the 1st without resistance, the Russians retreating to the Dwina. We conjectured that they would do so, drawing the French on after them, and laying waste the country as they retreat. At Wilna, the enemy found every thing a desert,—the houses deserted, the country ravaged. At Liebau, the same desertion, the same solitude. Before the Russians left Liebau, they threw twenty thousand barrels of grain, which they could not carry with them, into the sea. They then retired to Riga. Not on this side the Dwina do we expect any action of great importance. The Russians, it is supposed, will retire across it, and suffer the enemy to make themselves masters of all the tract of country, a frightful and desolate tract now, between the Niemen and the Dwina, without resistance. Afflicting as it is to contemplate, it is this system of defensive warfare, of laying waste the country as the invaders advance, that can alone, and must, ensure ultimate security and triumph to the Russians. They know that they cannot be left more desolate by destroying their property than they would be if they suffered the enemy to take possession of it—they would be turned out to want and misery themselves, while the enemy would obtain sustenance and support. The conduct of the Portuguese is a lesson to them; they destroyed their property as the French advanced, and the French were ultimately obliged to evacuate it with shame, discomfiture, and disgrace."—*Courier*, July 18.

There is no truth in the report of **MOREAU'S** arrival in Sweden. Madame **MOREAU** has left America for Barreges in France, to drink the waters; but **MOREAU** remains in America.

The town and the county of Nottingham were never more tranquil than they are at present. The framers are now busy at work there, and throughout Leicestershire; and the combs and shuttles of Yorkshire, the smiddy engines of Warwickshire, and the spindles and looms of Lancashire, are all likewise in motion.—*Boston Paper*.

The Dublin Papers received yesterday morning state, that Mr. **FITZPATRICK**, upon whom a notice was served to attend at the Attorney-General's house, and to shew cause why a criminal information should not be filed against him, has brought an action for defamation against Mr. Attorney-General, because in the notice the work published by Mr. **FITZPATRICK** is designated a seditious libel. The damages are laid at 1000*l*.

The following, on Friday, received the honour of Knighthood:—Captain **FELIX AGAR**, M. P.; Dr. **LACLAN MACLEAN**, M. D. senior Alderman of Sudbury, on presenting an Address from that Borough; Mr. **GARROW**, on being appointed Solicitor-General; and a gentleman of the name of **SWEETLING**.

A "Constant Reader" informs us, that a Taylor in Westminster has announced, by a large posting Bill, a new Collar for a Coat, which has received the distinguished approbation of the **PRINCE REGENT**.

The Duke of **CAMBRIDGE** has been announced as the Patron of the Masquerade which is shortly to be given at Vauxhall Gardens.—It is said that the Surrey Magistrates have interfered in vain to prevent this scene of intemperance and debauchery, at which no decent man would be seen, much less any respectable female.

Covent Garden Theatre closed on Wednesday evening. Before the commencement of the farce, Mr. **C. KEMBLE** addressed the audience in the following words:—

"Ladies and Gentlemen,

"I am desired by the Proprietors of this Theatre, to return you their sincerest thanks for the very liberal marks of your favour bestowed upon them this season. They have endeavoured to merit such distinguished support, by producing on their Stage the most admired works of the British Classics, by encouraging the efforts of the modern Dramatists; and, to combine with solid instruction mirthful recreation, they have not refused the aid of Pantomime and Spectacle. To please the various tastes of the British Audience has been, and ever will be, their highest ambition. Some of the brightest ornaments of the Stage have lately retired from the theatrical world. Their loss must be always regretted, and the Proprietors are aware that diligent attention can alone repair it. They, however, confidently hope, that you will find at Covent-Garden, next Season, such a Company of Performers as will merit the continuance of your indulgent patronage, and they are prepared to meet their newly-risen Sister Theatre with such a fair and open competition, as shall contribute to your theatrical entertainment. The Performers, Ladies and Gentlemen, beg leave to express their heartfelt gratitude for your long-experienced kindness, and they humbly take their leave till the 7th of September, the time fixed for the re-opening of this Theatre."

FINE ARTS.

ROYAL ACADEMY EXHIBITION.

[This article should have appeared before, but it has been delayed by the great pressure of temporary matter.]

Among the most distinguished of the Honorary Exhibi-

tors are W. T. DENBY—E. V. U.—M. DAVIS—Miss BAKER—Miss H. E. JACKSON—T. WRIGHT, Esq. His *View in the South of France* is a well composed, Wilsonsque landscape.—REV. T. SMITH—Miss BARRY—and Mrs. C. LONG, whose view in the grounds of the Right Hon. C. LONG, is a broadly massed, spiritedly drawn, and chastely coloured landscape.

Among the best Miniatures are those by H. BURCH—A. CHALON (who exhibits his usual tastefulness and truth of character in 397, *Tuning*, and 399, *Mergelina, Diego, and Marcos*)—W. J. THOMSON—A. ROBERTSON—Mrs. GREEN—W. J. NEWTON—M. N. BENNET—D. B. MURPHY—HAYTER, jun.—and W. FOSTER, whose theatrical likenesses are strong and characteristic.

Mr. ROUW's Portraits in Wax are as usual exquisite for their likeness, sharpness, delicacy and vigor.

643, *Portrait of the Prince Regent*, and ditto of *Dr. Johnson*, are beautiful impressions, by that able Seal Engraver, J. WICKSTEAD.

Among some beautiful Architectural Drawings, by different hands, J. GANDY, A. claims our admiration, for his classical, fanciful, and scientific performances.

There was not an indifferent bust in the Exhibition of this year, and the greater portion of them were additionally interesting from their representing public and intellectual characters. Such were the admirable busts by F. L. CHANTREY of the Academicians *Stothard* and *Northcole*, *Mr. Curran*, and *Mr. Ashby*. Such also was the capital bust of the *President West* by J. NOLLEKENS, R.A. His bust of the *Countess of Charlemont*, though an excellent likeness from the life, has the refined air of the antique, in the disposal of the ringlets, which however are rather heavy, the gentle turn of the head, the amiableness and proportion of the features, and the beautiful arrangement of its drapery.—The introduction among such characters of 140, *A Medallion of Cribb, the British Champion*.—(I beg his and the Royal Academy's pardon—I should say *Mr. Cribb*, as it is in the Catalogue)—is derogatory to the respectability of Art, the Professors of which ought to avoid an acquaintance with and encouragement of every thing that vulgarizes the mind and brutalizes the feelings, the inevitable consequences of the vile pursuit of pugilism.

914, *An Alto Relievo for a Monument*. R. WESTMACOTT.—Emblematic sculpture, like allegorical poetry, is the least interesting of all the higher species of Art, because it is generally deficient in that prime excellence of every production of the Muses—intelligibility. In this piece, however, the subject is altogether perspicuous, not only because the emblems are well and generally understood, but because they so appositely and emphatically refer to their object. The subject is a *dying Christian*. He is described half lying on a bed, resting on the arm of Hope, who points his attention to the cross held by Faith, while Charity weeps at his feet. The arrangement is novel, the characters, though not new, striking, and the style of the drapery, &c. undivided by small parts, elevated.

896, *A Monument to the late Marquis Cornwallis, for the Prince of Wales's Island, India*. J. FLAXMAN, R.A.—The figures are here allegorical without obscurity, and natural, while they partake of the ideal. "Nature to the painter and the poet," says Mr. Saxe, "is that which is appropriate to their subject, consistent with their characters, and suitable to their scene." She is the same to the

sculptor, and Mr. FLAXMAN has exhibited her in this correct view. A female of dignified aspect, in the vigour of life, but in a full and matronly dress, with a helmet on, and representing the British power in India, is shewing to an Indian boy,—an emblem of the rising generation,—a medallion of Lord Cornwallis. A beautiful young woman, sitting under a palm tree, and personifying our possessions in India, is reclining her head on a shield, absorbed with grief at his loss. Her curvilinear attitude, the individual graces of her form, which is half naked, and the drapery, at once massive and delicately subdivided in its folds, are in a style worthy of ancient Greece.

915, *Thetis returning from Vulcan with Arms for Achilles*. W. THEED, A.—The classical subjects selected by this artist, and the graces which he confers upon them in their expression, composition, and forms, display an uncommon susceptibility of ideal beauty. His mind is enlightened and his fancy strongly illuminated by the light which flows down on the modern world of Art from the bright era of antiquity, as well as from the solar orb of Nature herself. On the visit of such a Thetis as this to Vulcan, the God of the Forge might well have mistaken her for a Venus. The strong but elegant action and muscular limbs of the Triton, who is drawing the shell in which the Goddess sits, is an admirable foil to her ripened yet delicate frame, to her oval head and face, round neck, and expansive bosom, her slender waist, and gracefully bending head, pensively resting on the hand of the arm which is supported on her knee, and to her mild and interesting melancholy. It is in fine a performance that confers additional eminence on the professional character of the accomplished artist.

R. H.

NATIONAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

By the kind permission of the Reverend Proprietor of Park-street Chapel, the Founder of this Institution repeated, on Thursday, his Lecture, to an increased and most respectable audience, who appeared forcibly impressed by the argumentative and pathetic appeal of the Lecturer. It is most gratifying to find so many persons of the upper and middle classes attending these Lectures. The Duchess of Devonshire, the Countesses of Leitrim, Waldegrave, and Moira, the Earl and Countess of Oxford, the Earl of Charlemont, Lady Say and Sele, Lady Ann Hamilton, Lady Saltown, Lady Elizabeth Whitbread, Mrs. Thomas Hope, Mrs. Gordon, Lord Robert Seymour, Sir James Macintosh, the Rev. Basil Wood, and many other Ladies and Gentlemen, have not only heard Mr. Hervé explain his plan, but have sanctioned it by their subscriptions; and there now can be no doubt whatever of its ultimate success. When it is recollected that the annual subscription is only *five shillings*, it must not also be forgotten, that to ensure extensive and permanent advantages to the respectable objects intended to be relieved by this Institution, there must be a large number of subscribers; and therefore those who are satisfied of its utility will do well to exert themselves to increase its patrons, by rousing their friends to unite with them in the holy work of Charity.—Good wishes alone will be of little use; one kind action, however limited, will be worth a thousand expressions of approbation, and afford a better proof of a right feeling, than any display of oratory, however well-meant.

It is understood, that by the liberal interference and aid of Mr. H. Phillips, of Bond-street, the Lecture will be delivered again, on Wednesday, at No. 28, Great George-street, Hanover square.—The mode of admission will be by tickets, which are to be procured of the booksellers gratis, as before.—When the London Committee is formed, the Institution will commence its career in the metropolis. In Bath alone, several of our fellow-creatures, who were once suffering under all the miseries attendant on a state of abject though virtuous poverty, are now living in comparative ease and comfort, upon pensions granted by the Institution.—May complete success attend the Founder's untired spirit and unrelaxed exertions!

BRISTOL ELECTION.

On Wednesday the poll closed;—Mr. Palmer stated the numbers to be—for R. H. Davis, Esq. 1907; Mr. Hunt, 235. Mr. Brice then declared that the majority of votes was in favour of Richard Hart Davis, Esq. and that he was duly elected to represent this city in Parliament, in the room of Charles B. Bathurst.—What subject for contemplation, for censure, and regret, has this Election afforded to a lover of his country; whether he reflects on the means resorted to by Mr. Davis's party (we say his party, because we consider him in the hands of those whom he calls his friends) means, certainly, as unconstitutional as could well have been devised; how far they were necessary on a principle of self-defence, we pretend not to discuss, though we cannot forbear to lament them. On the other hand, what subject of grief to the real patriot, to witness the sacred cause of his country and his country's wrongs, defiled by the advocacy of a man (Mr. Hunt), who, with liberty and humanity in his mouth, openly manifested that he had Tyranny and cruelty in his heart; who aspired to the dignified character of a legislator, with the manners and language of a mountebank; who elevating himself every day on a pedestal, strove to inflame the minds of his countrymen, already irritated by distress and poverty, to commit crimes, which he knew must inevitably sink them into despair. When the temper of our fellow-citizens shall have become calm, we propose to renew the subject: feeling that we belong to neither party, we trust that we are impartial observers; and doubt not that our readers in a few days will give us the credit of not intentionally insulting the one or cringing to the other. It is the opinion of some legal characters that the Election will be declared void. The oath against bribery having been, for several days successively, administered to the Voters by Commissioners, instead of being taken at the poll, and immediately before the Voters were admitted to poll, as directed by Stat. 43 Geo. III. cap. 74.—*Bristol Gazette.*

POLICE.

BOW-STREET.

Thursday morning the inhabitants of Duke's-court, Bow-street, were much alarmed by the screams of murder, of a female voice, proceeding from a house in that court—a similar noise had frequently proceeded from the same house. On inquiry it was ascertained that a man had been beating his wife, till she was nearly lifeless, in consequence of which he was secured, and brought before Mr. REARD. It appeared from the evidence of their daughter, who slept in the adjoining room to their bed room, that the prisoner's conduct towards his wife was extremely brutal, beating her in different parts of her body in

the most violent manner, kicking her, kneeling on her breast, and beating her on the head, frequently pulling her out of bed by her hair, biting her, saying he liked dog's flesh better than his wife's, and in proof of the sincerity of the expression, he had a large dog to sleep between him and his wife! The only reason assigned for this barbarous conduct was, that his wife would not keep a brothel!!—The wretch was committed for want of sureties to keep the peace, six months.

ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

On Sunday evening last, as the family of Mrs. Leighton, of Cold Bath-square, and five friends, were walking in the fields leading from Copenhagen House to Holloway, the youngest son, Mr. David Leighton, only eighteen years of age, whilst in the act of running across a field after a young man (one of the party) his foot slipped into a gutter and he fell; his friends saw him fall, but thinking he meant to rise upon the approach of any one, they did not immediately go to him; but, not seeing him move, they at last ran to his assistance; when, awful to relate, they found him, who but a few moments before appeared in perfect health, almost lifeless, though without any outward signs of injury. They raised him up, when he gave one heavy groan, and expired in the arms of one of his sisters. Surgical assistance was procured as soon as possible; and the relations have the satisfaction of knowing that every thing was done that could be done, but the vital spark had fled. He was conveyed to the George public house, at Holloway, where, on Tuesday evening, about eight o'clock, a Coroner's Inquest was held on the body, when it appearing that the deceased met his death by the bursting of a blood vessel near the heart, the Jury returned a verdict of—*Died by the visitation of God.*

MARRIAGES.

On the 6th inst. at Lambeth Church, Mr. John Dempster, of Kennington, Surrey, to Mrs. Davis, of Kingsland Crescent.
On the 20th ult. at Lisbon, Earl Easton, eldest son of the Duke of Grafton, to Mary, youngest daughter of the Hon. Admiral Berkeley and niece to the Duke of Richmond.

DEATHS.

On the 10th instant, at No. 16, Lower Northampton-street, Clerkenwell, William Gibbons, a journeyman corn and coal-merchant maker, leaving a widow and six children, four of whom are dependent on their afflicted mother.—The deceased (says a Correspondent) not having been in any benefit society, his widow is in the greatest distress even to defray the expenses of his funeral.—It is hoped that the mention of these afflictive circumstances will be sufficient to excite the benevolence of the humane, and induce them to assist in drying the tears of the widow, and relieving the wants of the fatherless.

William Omlow, Keeper of Hyde-park. He fell down in a fit and expired without a groan, on Monday evening, whilst in the act of driving a pair of boys who were gaming.

On Thursday week, at Ashfield Lodge, near Bury St. Edmunds, after a long illness, James Mingay, Esq. senior King's Counsel, a Benchet of the Inner Temple, Recorder of Aldborough, and many years Chairman of the Quarter Sessions of Norfolk and Suffolk. He practised as a King's Counsel 22 years, and during that space of time, was distinguished as the powerful rival of his friend, Lord Erskine.

On the 26th ult. Charles Stedman, Esq. Author of a History of the American War, and Comptroller of the Stamp Office.

On Thursday, the 9th inst. at Thornton, near Hornensile, Sarah Johnson, a maiden lady of 107 years.

On Thursday, the 5th instant, at his Chambers, in Mitre-court, Inner Temple, John Wharry, Esq.

Lately, at Budock, near Falmouth, aged 113, Mrs. Mary Harris. She retained the perfect possession of her faculties till the last, and has left two daughters, one aged 70, and the other 80.

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