

THE EXAMINER.

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THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

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

No. 103.

THE YEAR 1809.

THE first volume of the EXAMINER was closed with a fervent wish, "that the continued, unchanging effects of Corruption might teach us to philosophize a little better in politics, and that an Englishman might not have the shame of recording such another year as 1808." How our politicians have philosophized, and how the last year has been spent, the reader too well knows. Our shame is destined to encrease with our corruption at home and our wretched attempts abroad; and if the mortification of honest men is at all lessened by any other feeling, it is by a bitter indignation against the Set who have pretended to govern us. In the year 1809, the last climax has been given to the absurdities of that system, which has done nothing at home but heap burden on burden, and nothing abroad but heap laurels on the head of France. It is possible that this system may grow more corrupt,—it is certain that it will shew itself more ruinous,—but it is difficult for an imagination the most lively to think of its becoming more absurd. Though alliances against France failed again, and again, and again, till they broke Mr. Pitt's heart—though they failed till they broke the neck of every continental power, and have at last become a by-word for stupid obstinacy, yet Austria could no sooner rise up with her shattered limbs, than his disciples must pay her to get maimed and beaten down again. In Spain, where 10 millions of people could not drive out 40,000 Frenchmen, they have disgraced the English name by a succession of petty attempts and inglorious retreats, that have served no purpose but to weaken the natives against the arrival of BONAPARTE: they goaded on Sir JOHN MOORE to inevitable defeat, and then suffered his memory to be branded in their excuse; yet the retreat of another officer, a favourite, who obeyed his own vain rashness, they rewarded with pompous titles; and while Spain was languishing under a tyrannical Junta and a fettered press, they sent over an English Nabob, long celebrated in the fettering department, to regenerate the nation—a pompous man of pleasure, who walked over the French flag, drank the POPE's health, eat a few dinners, ogled a few ladies, made a few hums and haws, and after thus regenerating Spain, came back to regenerate England, much in the same way. The brother of this "great man" still lingers in the Peninsula, waiting till he is compelled to make his last retreat, while the natives are every where

discomfited, and his own soldiers, to whom a loaf is the first of luxuries, are starving upon fruit. But then he has fine titles.—"*Il s'appelaient tous Monseigneur,*" as it was said of another great Baron: "every body calls him my Lord;" and now-a-days this makes a man almost as respectable in England as it did at the German castle of Thunderteatronckh. It was expected that fresh titles would have been bestowed on the Noble Lord, who eat turtle with so much applause at Walcheren; but he was a Lord already, and in fact there must have been a feeling about the matter which precluded all humour of that nature. In Walcheren was the climax of absurd expeditions: in Walcheren, a blot was given to English politics, sufficient to blacken the whole year without any other misfortune: in Walcheren, the historian will find an epitome of all the gross errors of the modern Anti-Gallican system,—short-sighted plan, ruinous delay, dreadful waste of life and resources, gross perseverance in a destructive measure, gross contempt of experience, gross self-defeat, and most gross delusion. Yet what has consoled us for these misfortunes abroad? Or rather, what has not grievously aggravated them at home! If Walcheren has been an epitome of our vile foreign politics, the last Parliamentary Session was an epitome of domestic corruption: we have seen Parliament at the nod of the most worthless set of Ministers since the time of WALPOLE;—we have seen them carry every measure even in the teeth of the Parliament's decent reputation; we have seen a profligate Prince excused for the most corrupt practices by a majority, though driven out of his office by a minority; we have seen a Strumpet fairly joking with the Parliament, so little awe was inspired by their character and manners; we have seen a Minister, convicted of intrigue against the Constitution, yet kept in his place because the intrigue had not been carried into effect; we have seen all attempts to restore the Constitution to its condition at the Glorious Revolution, treated with a deprecating alarm ill concealed by contempt, as if the Family which it placed on the throne had no longer the same interests and obligations as it had then; we have seen the only Man who has done us a real service for years past, treated with the most flip-pant and malignant persecution; we have seen Ministers intriguing against, cajoling, back-biting, and finally shooting at each other, during all which time they were reviling their accusers as enemies of the King, and regarding the greatest and most disastrous of Expeditions, about which the nation vainly imagined they were so anxious, as a petty proceeding, the event of which was not at all to influence the interests of its planner; we have seen, in consequence of these monstrosities, the Ministerial Offices paved and pedlared about, till their cheapness rendered them contemptible even at Court: in fine, we have seen the Jubilee,

and when I mention that word, I mention what has given the last stamp of thoughtlessness to the English character, formerly so famous for sound thinking. In the mean time, the burdens arising from war increase in their usual ratio, taxes increase, the public debt increases, the Bank, papering up its empty coffers to the last moment, threatens us with ten shilling notes; the Ministers begin to look about them with doubtful eyes for the replenishment of their foreign expences; and every thing tends to that speedy consummation, in which, miraculous as it may appear, *Reform*, if ever it is to be brought about, *will be brought about by Finance*. Such a reformation will not be so gentle or so accommodating, as if the purification had been self-adopted and parliamentary; but corruption has been warned often enough; it has drunk itself first into intoxication, then into senselessness, now into a dropsy; and the swollen monster sits pale and panting, with its eyesight closed up, and ready to fall at the first paper-clapper that explodes in its ear.

It has for years been a favourite saying with the Jobbers and Contractors, that "we are better off than the French," and this saying has been considered as a triumphant refutation of all complaints against Ministers. People have not considered, that Ministers should never have brought us to a condition in which such an apology could have been thought of; England should have so been conducted, that the idea of comparing her advantages with those of a despotic government should have been at once *ridiculous*, and not barely *consolatory*. Nobody thought of drawing such a comparison by way of *consolation* in the time of Louis the 14th, or in that of Louis the 15th, when the House of BRUNSWICK first came to the throne. But when Ministers read the new French Exposé, let them reflect with shame, if they have any, how more and more necessary every day they render even this contemptible consolation. It is true, that a Frenchman cannot speak his mind of one of his Princes without subjecting himself to a Bastille, whereas in England you merely have to pay a hundred pounds for objecting to notorious profligacy; it is true also that the French are subject to a detestable Conscription, while those who turn soldiers in England by their own free-will are merely sent to rot by thousands in a Dutch morass; nay, speaking most seriously, every Englishman must abhor the French versatility, which after its former regenerating bravadoes, dares to tell Europe in 1809, that "Kings are accountable to God only;" but an English Minister ought to blush when he reads in the same Exposé the passage under the head of Finances, where it boasts of "*the exactness of all payments without new Contributions, without Loans, without Anticipations, and in the midst of a mighty war*."—France may well boast. She effects in weeks, what former Powers could not effect in ages. The past year alone has seen her clip the last pinion of Austria, settle the question for ever respecting the Sovereignty of Priests, and literally dictate to the whole Continent of Europe, except one border of

the Peninsula, where the English, the philosophic, the thinking English, are blowing up the last ashes of Superstition. Were a man of good sense and high integrity at the head of our affairs, he would instantly set himself to counteract the ascendancy of his warlike neighbour by a resuscitation of every noble English principle, by the *use of experience*, the cultivation of genius, the abandonment of all corrupt and improvident aids, whether of Jobbers at home or Kings abroad; but we have lived, and built, and fought upon the credit of paper, till we have lost all credit for common sense; and even when South America opened to us a vast scene for the encouragement of new liberties and new fields of commerce, a *certain feeling* kept back our fine-spirited Rulers, till at last, were they to do as they ought, they have lost the grace of the action, and the French Exposé, by one of the soundest and most significant pieces of policy, has declared that if the people of Mexico and Peru wish for a noble independence, *they will not be opposed*.

The rest of the Exposé displays a strange mixture of contradictions and of political virtue and vice: in one part, the various sects of religion are not only tolerated, but honoured and encouraged; in another, the poor Dutch are deprived of their last shew of liberty, and Holland is declared an integral part of France: in one part, the Mexicans and Peruvians are encouraged to gain a noble independence: in another, the Poles are confirmed in their former subjection; poor-houses and half finished pillars are talked of with almost as much magnificence as the Emperor's conquests; and there is certainly much more of the usual French wire-drawing than a true hero should desire. Such is the nation, and such is the man, whom England, the country of patriots and philosophers, suffers to outstrip her in glory.



FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

PARIS, DEC. 13.—In the sitting of yesterday, M. Montalvet, the Minister of the Interior, pronounced the following—

EXPOSE OF THE FRENCH EMPIRE,

TO THE 1ST OF DECEMBER, 1809.

MESSIEURS—Every time that the situation of the Empire has been stated to you, the French nation has reckoned new triumphs. Brilliant victories, general treaties of peace, the results of the most profound political combinations; great works undertaken; the order of the interior maintained. Such is the picture that all my predecessors have had to trace; and it is that which forms the history of the year that has just elapsed.—The return of this enumeration of prosperities acquires every day a more glorious character. The memorable facts of one year may appertain to fortune, to what is called chance, to a will of which nothing has shewn the force or the constancy, the weakness or the versatility; but those which return perpetually the same, are necessarily the work of a genius, and an arm equally powerful. The former may transitorily appertain to any time; the others fix those eras which divide the course of ages, and which subject a long series of years to every epoch which changes the face of the world.—It

the course of the last Session, you had concurred to give a new Criminal Code to France, and adopting the plans prepared by the Council of State, and immediately under the eyes of his Majesty, the necessary source of all laws; and then the Emperor himself, as he announced to you, had replaced on the Throne of Madrid his august Brother; he forced the English to precipitate themselves towards their ships, and only ceased to pursue them that he might return to the centre of his dominions to observe and arrest the projects of Austria.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The stay which his Majesty then made at Paris, was distinguished by the care which he took to regulate all the parts of the vast Administration of his Empire. He gave a new activity to the immense labours which no period of peace ever saw undertaken in such great numbers, nor followed with so much ardour. Prisoners of war, from different nations, sent by victory, have finished the canal of St. Quentin; two leagues of an imposing subterraneous passage, open a communication between the rivers and seas of the South. Seven thousand workmen have not ceased to labour on the canal of the North, and nearly eight leagues of this new way opened to the Rhine and the Meuse, to bring their conjoined waters to Antwerp without quitting for a moment the soil of France, have been executed. This canal, so important to commerce, will not be a less benefit to agriculture. Lands equal in superficies to several departments will be peopled and fertilized. The peaceable conquest of agriculture will soon augment both our riches and our prosperity. Two millions have been usefully expended in 1809, on the canal of Napoleon, which will unite the Rhone to the Rhine, Marseilles, Cologne, and Antwerp, will soon be bathed with the same waters: this canal will be made to communicate with the Seine, by that of Burgundy, the works of which, abandoned by the old Government, have received anew the greatest impulse; already the navigation is complete from Dole to Dijon; they are at present working between Dijon and the bridge of Pany, between the Yonne and St. Florentin; several important locks upon the Seine, the Aube, and the Somme, have been finished in 1809. Every where the plans which tended to improve former navigation, to extend them, or to create new ones, have been undertaken, or continued with activity. The maritime works have made the greatest progress; those of Cherburgh already present to the astonished eye an immense port, hollowed out of the rock. Its depth has been this year carried to 33 feet below the level of high water. It is defended by a pier, the execution of which has been as perfect as the idea has been bold. Facings of granite give to the port and its quays the most imposing character of grandeur and duration; the excavation will descend 16 feet lower, so that there will remain in the port of Cherburgh 23 feet at low water.—The sluice of Havre is nearly finished; it will secure from the middle of the next campaign the constant entrance of vessels into the channel. At Dunkirk, an octagon sluice, which will drain valuable lands, and secure an easy navigation, has been furnished this year.—The basin at Antwerp is excavated in all the anterior part, and the sluice of the sea is raised above its foundation.—The port of Alto has been deepened.—The port of Marseilles offers a more easy anchorage than ever.—The roads of Mount Ceuis, of the Simplon, those which traverse the Alps, the Appenines, in every direction, and the Pyrennees, have received a new degree of advancement, or are completed. Roads, equally beautiful and easy, lead from Alexandria to Savona, from the banks of the Tanaro and the Po to the nearest shores of the Mediterranean.—The grand draining of Bourgain, of Cotenlin, of Rochefort, have already changed sterile marshes into fertile land, and their results drawn upon the Government the blessings of the people, astonished at not having suffered any of the evils, however transitory, which they had been made to dread.

WORKS OF PARIS.

Paris becomes every day, by its works, more worthy of being the metropolis of one of those empires, around which are grouped, in the history of times, all that is contemporaneous. In its vicinity the bridges of Bezons, Clusay, and Selres have

been begun; that of St. Cloud restored. The beautiful bridge of Jena has been conducted to the raising of the arches; that of St. Michael has been freed from the houses that obstructed it; the Quays Napoleon and the Louvre have been finished; that of Jena has been carried beyond the esplanade of the Invalids; the part of the Rape has been executed on a great and a beautiful plan.—Plentiful granaries have been founded.—Every disposition for the construction of an immense abattoir has been made near the barrier of Rochechouart; the ground is levelled, and the foundation prepared.—A provisory establishment for an Exchange, till the time when the magnificent edifice intended for the purpose, and which is already begun, shall be finished. The Temple of Glory occupies a great number of workmen; it will be worthy of its noble destination. Four massy pillars, faced with a stone equal in hardness and grain to the finest marble, intended to support the triumphal arch of L'Etoile, are nearly completed. The column of Austerlitz is adorned, for half its height, with bronzes, which will eternize the great achievements of our warriors.—The arch of the Carousals, which is finished, unites taste and magnificence.—The facade of the building in which you meet is finished. The Louvre displays new beauties in rapid progress of its restoration; the Gallery, which will complete its junction with the Tuilleries, astonishes by its progress the inhabitants even of this city.—Already the capital enjoys a part of the waters which will be brought to it by the canal of Cureg, while the basin of La Villette, and the fountain of Innocents, present to it works as beautiful as they are useful.—In this long communication, I am only able to point out the least parts of the works completed or continued in the course of this year, but each of you is witness to their development, since there is not a part of France to which they do not extend. Among these grand constructions there are some particularly consecrated to public order and benevolence.

ESTABLISHMENTS OF BENEVOLENCE.

The Emperor has ordered the establishment of forty-two Depots of Mendicity, and secured to them the necessary funds for their maintenance; thus will be healed the most hideous wounds of political states; thus the public manners and industry will profit by a regulation which will snatch from misery and depravity a number of beings, who seemed condemned to them without resource. Several of these establishments have already been completed. His Majesty has bestowed immense benefits on those of his subjects, who have suffered great calamities. The banks of the Rhine had been ravaged by inundations; the inhabitants have received nearly a million, either for indemnities, or to be employed in reparations and useful labours. The countries which have suffered by storms or fire have received succours. His paternal care has furnished a great number of cities with supplies of bark, which they have punctually received. Depots for Vaccination have been established. They secure to families the certain means of never wanting an invaluable preservation, which useful and true friends of humanity have made known to all the classes of our numerous population. Among those of the wants of the French, which have fixed the attention of the Sovereign, the cultivation of the moral qualities, that of the mind, that of the arts of imagination, have continued to hold one of the first ranks.

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

The Imperial University has entered on its functions. It has collected information concerning all the houses of education in the Empire. Academies are forming, the faculties establishing. The Lyceums continue to furnish numerous pupils to the Polytechnic School, and that of St. Cyr. The former has always been the nursery of persons distinguished by their knowledge and their conduct; at St. Cyr is perpetually renewed that hardy race of youth, equally well exercised, courageous and zealous, who, when they arrive under their standards, will shew themselves worthy to march with our ancient heroes.

SCIENCES, LITERATURE, AND ARTS.

Every species of encouragement is given to the sciences, to literature, and to the arts; honours, rewards, useful employ-

ments, confined to artists that distinguish themselves; nothing is neglected. But the first of those memorable epochs, formed to exalt the noblest emulation, is arrived; the decennial prizes are about to be distributed by the hand of him who is the fountain of all true glory. His Majesty wished no species of merit, whether literary or belonging to the sciences and arts, to be unrewarded. The decree of the year 12, has been regarded by the Emperor merely as an expression of a general sentiment. That sentiment has just received a full development by a late Decree, augmenting the number of prizes. New examinations, new adjudications, are become necessary. The Emperor wishes to be certain that they shall express the sentiments of an enlightened public opinion, and to acquire this certainty, he has ordered that the works honoured by these adjudications be subjected to a solemn discussion. A distinction highly flattering to those whose works are judged worthy of the prizes. The Museum of Natural History has been increased; that of the Arts has received new riches by the requisitions of the *Chefs d'Ouvre* of the Borgese Gallery.

AGRICULTURE.

The propagation of the culture of improved wool has made new advances, arising in a great measure from the importation of Spanish and German flocks. Twenty thousand choice mares have been presented to the twelve hundred stallions collected in our depots. Premiums have been distributed to the proprietors of the finest breeds. The cultivation of cotton in our Southern provinces has hitherto afforded nothing but hopes; these have not been destroyed by the two extraordinary seasons of 1808 and 1809, and that is a great point gained. Attempts have been made to naturalize indigo. France produces grain and wine far beyond her consumption; as to wine of the first quality this has been a well known fact, but our dependence on foreign countries for grain has always been considered as an established truth. How valuable then the experiment now making. Some districts indeed find it impossible to sell their corn. This is a momentary misfortune, but will be a source of security for the future! The scarcities most frequently depended merely on opinion; it was only requisite to enlighten this, and France, henceforth secure of producing an increase beyond her consumption, can no longer be in fear of want. The Emperor has, however, devoted all his solicitude to the present circumstances; exportation of corn is permitted from a great number of points of our frontiers, both maritime and terrestrial, provided always that the price exceed not certain rates in the neighbouring markets.

MANUFACTURES AND INDUSTRY.

Industry increases the value of their materials, by manual labour, and frequently in proportions that may be termed infinite; it has constantly occupied the attention of Government; but the effect of authority cannot be by a direct influence; encouragements granted, modifications introduced into the tariffs of the custom-houses, whether national or foreign; such are its meaning, and such are its measures. It has further watched, with redoubled care, over the School of Arts and Trades, at Chalons, of which the good effects continue to be felt. M. Richard, Messrs. Ternaux, M. Obahaupt, M. de Neustize, and many others, have continued in their valuable establishments a degree of activity, an organization, and means of improvement, which, under them, are worthy to be cited. They do honour to the nation, and contribute to its prosperity.

MINES.

The mines conceal riches, which, without industry, would remain buried in the earth. A regulation for the mines, positive and clear, will be completed in the course of your session. Means for deriving from it the earliest benefits are prepared. France possesses a great number of valuable coal-mines, which secure us from all fear of ever wanting fuel. Mines of copper, lead, and silver, are now working; others are objects of search and experiment.

COMMERCE.

Commerce is employed generally in deriving the greatest possible advantage from the products of agriculture and labour. Ours undoubtedly suffers from the extraordinary state of af-

fairs, which forming, as it were, two masses; one of the continent of Europe; the other of the seas and the countries from which the seas divides us, leaves them without any permitted communication. — Nevertheless, the home consumption, in which a much larger number of individuals participate, since plenty (*l'aisance*) is known to classes hitherto strangers to it, and our connections with our neighbours maintain a great activity in a trade of barter. Our connections with the United States of America are suspended; but, formed by mutual wants, they will soon resume their course. Lyons beholds the prosperity of her manufactures revive; and receives the orders of Germany, Russia, and the Interior. Naples furnishes us cotton, which her soil daily produces with increased abundance, and which diminish the more distant importations.

FINANCES.

The connection of commerce with public credit will naturally lead your attention to a phenomenon, which strikes us less at present because each year reproaches it; the exactness of all payments *without new contributions, without loans, without anticipations*, and in the midst of a war for which, at any other time, the most extraordinary efforts would have appeared below what such enterprizes required; the admirable effect of the simplicity of springs and movements of a vigorous order, and the exactness of calculations, into which his Majesty has not disdained to enter himself. The register of landed property is continued; its advantages are founded in the sub-partition of a great number of cantons and communes; we shall soon derive from it the general amelioration of the land-tax, and the just proportion of the contribution to the products.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE INTERIOR AND JUSTICE.

The administration of the Interior in 1809, has followed the same progress as in the preceding years. Order and tranquillity have been maintained; justice has been promptly and equitably administered; the name of the Emperor has been blessed in the bosoms of families, rendered happy by interior peace. — The Departments of Tuscany have received the benefits of general organization.

RELIGIOUS WORSHIP.

The Government, in its respect for consciences, has not deviated from the line which it had traced out to itself. Its principles with respect to religion have had their application this year, as in the preceding. — It does not confine itself to the toleration of all kinds of religious forms of worship; it honours and encourages them. — The different sects of Christianity, founded on the morality of the Gospel, are all useful to society. — The Lutherans of the Fauxbourg St. Antoine, whose number amounts to 6000, had no temple, and exercised their worship in the Swedish chapel. Their church has been acknowledged; their Ministers have been appointed by the Emperor, and are maintained at the expence of the State. — A School of Calvinist Theology has been established at Montauban. — As to the religion which is that of the Emperor, of the Royal Family, and of the immense majority of the French, it has been the object of the most assiduous cares of Government. New seminaries have been formed; in all, funds have been created for the youth destined for the Church; the edifices for public worship have been repaired; and the number of succursales augmented. The Public Treasury, by taking on itself to pay the Ministers, has honourably exonerated them from being dependent on the Communes. A subsistence has been secured, with liberality, to Curates and Ministers, when age and infirmities may render them necessary. In fine, his Majesty has summoned several Archbishops and Bishops to the Senate and Council of the University. He proposes to summon them to his Privy Council. — His Majesty has had some differences with the Sovereign of Rome, as a Temporal Sovereign. Constant in his resolutions, the Emperor has defended the rights of his crown and of his people. He has done what is required by the great political system which is regenerating the West; but without touching spiritual principles. Every one knows the evils caused to religion by the temporal sovereignty of the Pope! Without this, half Europe would not be separated from the Catholic Church. — There was but

one mean of saving her for ever from such great dangers, and of reconciling the interests of the state with those of religion. It was needful that the successor of St. Peter should be a pastor like St. Peter, who, solely occupied with the salvation of souls, and with spiritual interests, might cease to be agitated by worldly ideas, by pretensions to sovereignty, and by disputes concerning boundaries, territories, and provinces.—It is a benefit, then, to separate religion from what is a stranger to her, and to have replaced her in her state of evangelical purity.—This Concordat, which established the religion of France, was faithfully observed; nay, the Emperor went beyond his engagements. The Pope should, therefore, have on his part also fulfilled its conditions.—Whenever no personal blame attached to the Archbishops and Bishops named by the Emperor, he should have installed them without delay. This condition not being complied with, the Concordat became void.—Incendiary writings and bulls, inspired by ignorance and the most criminal dereliction of the principles of religion, were hawked about in different parts of the empire. These productions were every where received with contempt and disgust. The facts spoke too loud for themselves; thirty millions of Frenchmen, eighteen millions of Italians, and so many people on the banks of the Vistula, the Elbe, and the Rhine, bear witness to the solicitude with which the French Government protects the religion of our fathers.—The foresight and wisdom of our ancestors sheltered us from the infringements of Gregory VII. and of those who cherish his opinions. The Sorbonne, the College of Paris, and the Gallician Church, never acknowledged any of those monstrous principles.—*Kings are only accountable to God; and the Pope must, according to the principles of Jesus Christ, give, like others, to Cæsar, what is due to Cæsar.* The temporal crown and sceptre of this world were not put into his hands by him whose will it was that he should call himself the Servant of the Servants of God, and who recommended to him, at all times, *charity and humility.*—As ignorance favours fanaticism, his Majesty has ordered, that the principles of the College of Paris, and of the declaration of the Clergy of 1682, shall be taught in the seminaries. He wished to oppose the influence of a sound doctrine to the tendency of the weakness of man, which induces him to turn the most sacred things to the advantage of the vilest interests.—His Majesty has done much for religion; his intention is to do still more; and, according as the thirty millions of ecclesiastic pensions become extinct, he intends to devote that sum to the benefit of the Church. One sole obligation has been imposed by the Divine Law, which is, that *priests should live by the altar, and be attentive to such things only as concern their holy functions.*

WAR.

This subject is introduced by a re-capitulation of the "promenade" to Madrid, the expulsion of the English, and the attempt of the Emperor of Austria to penetrate into the French territory through Bavaria at the head of 500,000 men, the raising of which is described as "the prodigious and miraculous effect of paper money." The Emperor left Paris on the 18th, without guards, without equipage, and without troops; his armies hastily assembled from the different parts of Germany, felt astonished at the unforeseen aggression, and at the multitude of enemies who surrounded them on all sides. Ratisbon had been taken, with one of the finest regiments of the army; but the news of his Majesty's arrival reached the troops, and flew through all the ranks. The Emperor having, by his accustomed manœuvre, separated two corps of the enemy's army, beat them on the 20th near Abensberg. On the 21st he marched against Landshut, rendered himself master of that town, and of the bridge across the Iser, the headquarters and central point of the enemy's operations; he intercepted, by this movement, the communications of the enemy's army, and took his baggage, his pontoons, and his hospitals. On the 22d, he marched to Echemühl, turned the left of the Archduke Charles's army, reduced to four corps by the separation of the two others, routed that army, took 30,000 prisoners, with 100 pieces of cannon, and that same evening arrived in the plain of Ratisbon, where he rested in the head-

quarters of Prince Charles. On the 23d, he closely pursued the enemy, destroyed the Austrian horse, and took Ratisbon and 12,000 men. In forty-eight hours the Austrian army, struck, as it were, by a thunderbolt, saw its fate decided. Of six corps which composed it, each 40,000 strong, five were already defeated, reduced to half their number, and separated from each other. The remains of the four corps were driven to the Danube, and the two others to the Inn, without bridges, magazines, and without hospitals. The rumour of these disasters soon reached the ears of the Sovereign of Austria, and in less than two days the most profound consternation succeeded the most foolish presumption. In the mean time, the 8th and 9th corps, which formed the Austrian army in Italy, had surprised our troops, who were far from expecting such treacherous proceedings, blockaded Palma Nova, and Venice, and reached, on the 28th of April, the Adige. The Emperor's plan was no longer doubtful. After having defeated the grand army of the Archduke Charles, and driven four of the corps to Bohemia, he pursued the two corps which fell back to the Inn, marched to Saltzburgh, Lintz, Upper Austria, and Styria, in order to turn the Austrian army of Italy, and secure his own army and dominions in Italy, which are so dear to his heart. One month had scarcely elapsed since the unjust aggression of the Austrian army, when Vienna was bombarded and compelled to open its gates, and bow to our victorious arms. The Austrian army of Italy soon perceived that its flanks were uncovered, and felt the necessity of falling back. The Viceroy, who defeated the enemy on the banks of the Piave, on the Noric Alps, and in Carniola, pushed on to the frontiers of Styria, and formed a junction with the Grand Army. Shortly after he defeated the enemy in the interior of Hungary. The battle of Raab was the celebration of the memorable Anniversary of Marengo and Friedland, which induced the Emperor to write to his adopted son—"Your victory is a grand daughter of Marengo." The scattered remains of the different enemy's corps could not have rallied, and would have been taken and disarmed, had not a fortuitous event, the rise of the Danube, which overflowed its banks, arrested the French army; the genius of war, and the effects of art, overcame those unforeseen obstacles. In the profession of arms, it is at times necessary to join the courage and force of the lion, to the cunning and prudence of the fox. The battle of Wagram, followed by the Armistice of Znaim, made the arms drop from the hands of our enemy; he had no other hope left than the generosity of the Conqueror, which he had so often slighted. By the Peace of Vienna, France and her Allies have obtained considerable advantages, and the Continent of Europe has regained tranquillity and peace. Let us hope, that this peace will be more permanent than that of Presburgh; and that the men, who deluded the Cabinet of Vienna, after the peace of Presburgh, will not succeed in deceiving it again, after that of Vienna. *They would pronounce the doom of their master; for France, ever great, powerful, and strong, will always know how to destroy and counteract the combinations and intrigues of her enemies.* In the mean time, England, seeing that our armies were employed in Germany, and being always ill-informed, notwithstanding the immense treasures she wastes in paying spies, fancied that our veteran troops had left Spain, and that the weakened French army would not be able to withstand their efforts. Forty thousand men were disembarked in Portugal, where they joined the insurgents, and flattered themselves they should be able to march to Madrid; they gathered nothing but disgrace from their enterprize. They were met by armies in all places where they fancied to find only divisions. Forty thousand men landed at the same time in Walcheren, and without having commenced the siege, by means of a short bombardment they rendered themselves, in a fortnight, masters of Flushing, which was defended in a cowardly manner. His Majesty ordered a report to be made to him on the subject. The Emperor generously rewards those who, animated with his sentiments and sensible of what they owe to the honour of France, are faithful to glory and their country; but he severely punishes those who calculate the danger when victory alone should occupy their mind, and prefer a disgraceful flight to a

glorious death. In the mean time all the departments were in arms; 150,000 men of the National Guard put themselves in motion, while at the same time 25,000 troops drawn from the depots assembled in Flanders, and the *gens d'arms* formed a corps of 8,000 choice cavalry. The English Commander-in-Chief, as a wise and prudent man, would not expose his army to dangers more destructive than the plague; he returned to England. All the departments gave striking proofs of their attachment to the Government and Emperor; some districts only in the department of the Sarre shewed a contrary disposition; Commissioners have been appointed to enquire into their conduct. The districts and private individuals, who have misconducted themselves, shall be deprived, during the space of twenty-five years, of the rights of citizens, and subjected to a double contribution. Over their doors shall be written the words—"This is not a French commune." His Majesty has also ordered to be laid before him designs of monuments to be erected at Arras, Bonger, and Lisle, tending to preserve the memory of sentiments, which have given him so much satisfaction. But the momentous influence of the events of the year 1809 on the face of the world, attracts all our attention.

POLITICS.

The Duchy of Warsaw has been enlarged with a part of Galicia. It would have been easy for the Emperor to unite all Galicia with that state, but he would not do any thing which could excite the *least uneasiness* in the mind of his Ally, the Emperor of Russia. Nearly all Galicia, of the first partition, has been left to Austria. His Majesty never entertained the idea of restoring the kingdom of Poland. What the Emperor has done for New Galicia was prescribed to him by sound policy as well as honour; he could not surrender to the vengeance of an implacable prince, people who had displayed such fervent zeal in the cause of France. A young Austrian Prince, the same who commanded in Ulm in 1805, as arrogant as he is ignorant and unacquainted with the art of war, did only know how to get himself, with 40,000 men, defeated by Prince Jos. Poniatowsky, who had only 13,000 under his orders. Through the unskilful combination of her General, Austria lost West Galicia, the inhabitants of which shook off, with enthusiasm, the iron yoke which bore them down. It was the Emperor's duty not to subject them to it again. It is his Majesty's wish, that under the wise Government of the King of Saxony, the inhabitants of the Grand Duchy of Warsaw secure their tranquillity, and, without giving cause of uneasiness to their neighbours, enjoy their fortunate situation. The kings of Bavaria, Westphalia, and the rest of the Confederation, will obtain an accession of territory. It would undoubtedly have been safe for France to extend her frontiers beyond the Rhine, but that river remains the invariable limits of the neighbouring States of her Empire. The Hanseatic towns shall serve as means of the reprisals of war with England. The peace with Sweden shall immediately be concluded. Nothing shall be changed in the political relation of the Confederation of the Rhine and the Helvetic Confederacy. For the first time, since the days of the Romans, all Italy will again be subject to the same system. The re-union of the Estates of Rome was requisite to effect this measure—they intersect the Peninsula from the Mediterranean as far as the Adriatic Sea, and history has evinced the importance of an immediate intercourse between Upper Italy and the kingdom of Naples. Three centuries ago, whilst Charles VIII. was effecting the conquest of this kingdom, the Pope suddenly changing his opinion, formed a formidable league against him. The retreat of the king being intimated, he could only return to France by marching over the necks of the confederates headed by the Pope. But wherefore should we seek for examples in the history of Charles VIII.; of Louis XII.; of Francis I. Have we not seen in our days the Pope protecting the English in his capital, who, from his asylum were agitating the kingdom of Naples and the kingdom of Italy, distributing money and rewards to the assassins, who slaughtered our soldiers in the vallies of Calabria? The Emperor has demanded of the Pope to shut his ports against the English. Who could have thought that the Pope would have rejected his demand? He has pro-

posed to him to form a league, offensive and defensive, with the kingdom of Naples, and that of Italy. The Pope has rejected this proposal. No circumstance has occurred since the Peace of Presburgh, wherein the Court of Rome has not evinced its hatred against France. Whatever power happens to preponderate in Italy becomes immediately her enemy. Hence, before the battle of Austerlitz, before that of Friedland, the Emperor received from Rome briefs replete with acrimony. We next beheld the Pope complaining of the principles of *toleration*, sacred by the Code of Napoleon; we beheld him rise against the organic laws, which governed the interior of the Empire, and in which, under no title whatever, had he any right to interfere; we saw him cast firebrands in our provinces, and thus endeavour to occasion divisions in and to shake the great Empire; and it is not to be doubted what he would have done, had any important battle been lost. The Court of Rome has unveiled its secret sentiments too much. She has not been able to disown the services rendered by the Emperor to religion; but this motive of acknowledgment, which should have been so powerful over the Chief of the Church, could not overcome the hatred of the temporal Sovereign.—Convinced of these truths, sacred by the history of former times, and by our own experience, the Emperor had only two ways to choose—either to create a Patriarch, and separate France from every relation with a power inimical to her, and which endeavoured to annoy her; or to destroy a temporal sovereign, the only source of the hatred of the Court of Rome against France. The first measure would have created dangerous discussions, and alarmed some consciences. The Emperor has rejected it. The second was the exercise of rights, which are inherent to his Imperial Crown, and for which the Emperor is accountable to no one. The Emperor has adopted it. Neither the Pope, nor any other Priest in that Empire, ought to enjoy any temporal sovereignty. Never shall the Emperor acknowledge the right of the Triple Crown. He acknowledges only the *spiritual mission given to the Pastors of the Church by Jesus Christ*, and which St. Peter, and his pious successors, have so holily filled, to the great advantage of religion.—The Kingdom of Naples, during the present year, has acquired a new consistence. The king has evinced peculiar attention in the organization of his dominions. He has re-established order in all the branches of administration. He has repressed speculation, and his people, from the highest class unto the lowest, have manifested sentiments which constituted their praise, and, at the same time, the praises of the Sovereign. The Clergy of Naples, composed, like that of France, of enlightened men, has deserved the esteem of the Emperor. The Archbishop of Naples has been the only Ecclesiastic who refused the oath which he owed to the Sovereign. In vain have the theologians endeavoured to convince him. He has persisted in his error. His uncommon ignorance has been the subject of a satire among those by whom he had been raised to so elevated a rank.—Holland is, in fact, but a portion of France. This country is defined by saying, that it is the *alluvion of the Rhine*, of the Meuse, and of the Scheldt, that is to say, of the main arteries of the Empire. The nullity of its Custom-houses, the disposition of its agents, and the spirit of its inhabitants, which tends continually towards a fraudulent intercourse with England—all have combined to render it a duty, the interdiction of the traffic of the Rhine and of the Weser. Holland thus bruised between France and England, is deprived both of the advantages contrary to our general system, and which she must now renounce, as well as of those which she might enjoy. It is time that all this should be restored to its natural order.—His Majesty has been pleased to insure also, in a conspicuous manner, the advantages of the Act of the Helvetic Confederacy, by annexing to his other titles that of Mediator of Switzerland. It is enough to say to the Swiss, that happiness will be lost to them the moment that they touch this palladium of their independence. The Pont de Ball has given frequent opportunities to the French troops for violating the Helvetic territory; it was necessary to them in order to cross the Rhine. His Majesty has just ordered the building of a permanent bridge at Hunningue.—The Ilyrian provinces cover Italy, al-

find it a direct intercourse with Dalmatia, procure us a point of immediate contact with the Empire of Constantinople, which, for so many reasons and ancient interest, France was desirous of maintaining and protecting.—Both Spain and Portugal are the theatre of a furious revolution; the numerous agents of England stir and feed the fire which they had lighted. The strength, the power, and the calm moderation of the Emperor will restore to them days of peace. Should Spain lose her colonies, it will be through her own inclination. *The Emperor will never oppose the independence of the continental nations of America*; this independence belongs to the necessary order of events; it is connected with the interests, well understood, of all the Powers. France has established the independence of the United States of North America. France has contributed to its augmentation of several provinces; she will always be ready to defend her work. Her power does not depend on monopoly; she has no interest contrary to justice. Nothing that can contribute to the happiness of America can be against the prosperity of France, who will always be rich enough, when she will see herself treated upon an equal footing by all nations and in all the European markets. Whether the people of Mexico and Peru wish to be united to the mother-country, or whether they desire to erect themselves into an exalted and noble independence, France will never oppose it, provided these people do not form any connection with England. France has no need to vex her neighbours, nor to impose tyrannic laws on them to ensure her commerce and prosperity. We have lost the colonies of Martinique and Cayenne; they have both been badly defended; the circumstances which have deprived us of them are an object of a severe inquiry; not that their loss is of any weight in the scale of general affairs, for they will be restored to us in a more flourishing condition, at the time of Peace, than they were at the time when they were taken. To conclude, peace has brought back again the Emperor among us. All the Estate Bodies have laid down their homages at the foot of his Throne. His answer is engraved in your hearts—That Monarch who exerts the greatest admiration, the greatest enthusiasm, is he who is also worthy of more love. He has said so to us. He places on that which he inspires all his hopes of happiness. Frenchmen, he then has once been deceived, when he has asserted, that other Princes had been happier than he.

Dec. 13.—Last Sunday the Emperor and King being on the throne surrounded by the Princes, the Ministers, the Great Officers of the Empire, the Members of the Senate, and by those of the Council of State, he received before mass, at the Palace of the Thuilleries, a deputation from the Legislative Body. This deputation being admitted at the foot of the throne, spoke an address, to which his Majesty replied as follows:—

Gentlemen, President, and Deputies of the Legislative Body.—I accept the sentiments which you express. I know the attachment of your Body to my person. France stands in need of a moderate, but strong monarchy. The present epocha ought to be distinguished, not only by the glory of the French arms, but also by the prosperity of its commerce, the wisdom of its laws, and the brilliancy of arts, of sciences, and of letters. I have overcome many obstacles to conduct France to its present situation. Both myself, and family, will always sacrifice even our dearest affections to the interest and welfare of this great Nation. With the assistance of God, and the constant love of my people, I shall overcome whatever shall oppose my great designs. I wish still to live for thirty years, that I may serve thirty years more my subjects, consolidate their vast Empire, and see this dear France established by all the prosperity which I have conceived.

Dec. 17.—By desire of his Majesty the Emperor, all the Members of the Senate assembled yesterday morning, at which the Kings of Westphalia and Naples, Grand Admiral Prince Viceroy of Italy, the Arch-Chancellor of State, the Prince Vice-Grand Constable, and the Prince

Vice-Grand Elector assisted. The sitting, at which the Prince Arch-Chancellor presided, will form, on account of the importance of the subjects which were discussed, an epoch in the annals of France.

EXTRACTS FROM THE REGISTER OF THE CONSERVATIVE SENATE, OF SATURDAY, DEC. 6, 1809.

The Conservative Senate assembled to the number of Members prescribed by Article the 90th of the Act of the Constitution, and dated Dec. 13, 1799, having seen the Act drawn up, the 15th day of the present month, by the Prince Arch Chancellor of the Empire, of which the following is the substance:—In the year 1809, and the 15th day of December, at nine o'clock in the evening, We, Jean Jaques Regis Cambaceres, Prince Arch Chancellor of the Empire and Duke of Parma, exercising the functions prescribed to us by Title the 2d of the 14th Article of the Statute of the Imperial Family, and in consequence of the orders addressed to us by his Majesty the Emperor and King, in his private letter of the following tenor:—

“My Cousin, our desire is that you repair this day, at nine o'clock in the evening, to our Grand Cabinet of the Palace of the Thuilleries, attended by the Civil Secretary of State of our Imperial Family, to receive from us and from the Empress, our dear Consort, a communication of great importance. For this purpose we have ordered that this present private letter should be sent to you. We pray God to have you, my Cousin, in his holy and blessed keeping.

“Paris, December 15, 1809.”

We accordingly proceeded to the Hall of the Throne of the Palace of the Thuilleries, attended by Michel Louis Etienne Regnault (De St. Jean D'Angely), Count of the Empire, Minister of State, and Secretary of State to the Imperial Family. A quarter of an hour afterwards we were introduced to the Grand Cabinet of the Emperor, where we found his Majesty the Emperor and King with her Majesty the Empress, attended by their Majesties the Kings of Holland, Westphalia, and Naples; his Imperial Highness the Prince Viceroy; the Queens of Holland, Westphalia, Naples, and Spain; Madame, and her Imperial Highness the Princess Paulina. His Majesty the Emperor and King condescended to address us in these terms:—

“My Cousin, Prince Arch-Chancellor, I dispatched to you a private letter, dated this day, to direct you to repair to my Cabinet, for the purpose of communicating to you the resolution which I and the Empress, my dearest consort, have taken. It gives me pleasure that the Kings, Queens, and Princesses, my brothers and sisters, my brothers and sisters-in-law, my daughters-in-law, and my son-in-law, become my adopted son, as well as my mother, should witness what I am going to communicate to you. The politics of my Monarchy, the interest and the wants of my People, which have constantly guided all my actions, require, that after me I should leave to children inheritors of my love for my People, that throne on which Providence has placed me. Notwithstanding that for several years past I have lost the hope of having children by my marriage with my well beloved consort, the Empress Josephine, this it is which induces me to sacrifice the sweetest affections of my heart, to attend to nothing but the good of the State, and to wish the dissolution of my marriage. Arrived at the age of 40 years, I may indulge the hope of living long enough to educate in my views and sentiments the children which it may please Providence to give me. God knows how much such a resolution has cost my heart; but there is no sacrifice beyond my courage, when it is proved to me to be the welfare of France. I should add, that far from ever having had reason to complain, on the contrary, I have had only to be satisfied with the attachment and the affection of my well beloved Consort. She has adorned 15 years of my life, the remembrance of which will ever remain engraven on my heart. She was crowned by my hand

I wish she should preserve the rank and title of Empress; but above all, that she should never doubt my sentiments, and that she should ever regard me as her best and dearest friend."

His Majesty the Emperor and King having ended, her Majesty the Empress Queen spoke as follows:—

"By the permission of our dear and august Consort, I ought to declare, that not presuming any hope of having children which may fulfil the wants of his policy and the interests of France, I am pleased to give him the greatest proof of attachment and devotion which has ever been given on earth. I possess all from his bounty; it was his hand which crowned me, and from the height of his throne I have received nothing but proofs of affection and love from the French People. I think I prove myself grateful in consenting to the dissolution of a marriage which heretofore was an obstacle to the welfare of France, which deprived it of the happiness of being one day governed by the descendants of a great man, evidently raised up by Providence to efface the evils of a terrible revolution; and to re-establish the altar, the throne, and social order. But the dissolution of my marriage will in no degree change the sentiments of my heart. The Emperor will ever have in me his best friend; I know how much this act, demanded by policy and by interests so great, has chilled his heart; but both of us exult in the sacrifice which we make for the good of the country."

After which, their Imperial Majesties having demanded an act of their respective declarations, as well as of the mutual consent contained in them, as also of the power which their Majesties conferred on us, to follow up the effect of their will, We, Prince Arch-Chancellor of the Empire, in obedience to the orders and requisitions of their Majesties, have given the aforesaid act, and have in consequence executed the present *proces verbal* to serve and avail according to law, to which *proces verbal* their Majesties have affixed their signature, and which, after being signed by the Kings, Queens, Princes, and Princesses present, has been signed by Us, and countersigned by the Secretary of State of the Imperial Family, who wrote with his own hand.

Done at the Palace of the Thuilleries, the day, hour, and the year aforesaid.

(Signed) NAPOLEON, JOSEPHINE, MADAME, LOUIS,
JEROME NAPOLEON, JOACHIM NAPOLEON,
EUGENE NAPOLEON, JULIE, HORTENSE,
CATHERINE, PAULINE, CAROLINE.
CAMBACERES, Prince Arch-Chancellor.
COUNT REGNAULT (DE ST. JEAN D'ANGELY.)

Having seen the Project of the *Senatus Consultum*, drawn up in the form prescribed by the 57th Article of the Act of the Constitution of the 4th of August, 1802; after having heard the motives of the said Project, the Orators of the Council of State, and the Report of the Special Commission appointed in the Sitting of this day—the adoption having been discussed by the number of Members prescribed by the 55th Article of the Act of the Constitution of the 4th of August, 1802—decrees,

ART. I.—The marriage contract between the Emperor Napoleon and the Empress Josephine is dissolved.

II.—The Empress Josephine shall preserve the title and rank of Empress Queen crowned.

III.—Her dowry is fixed at an annual income of two millions of francs on the revenue of the State.

IV.—All the assignments which may be made by the Emperor in favour of the Empress Josephine, on the Funds of the Civil List, shall be obligatory on his successors.

The present *Senatus Consultum* shall be transmitted by the Imperial and Royal Majesty.

On the 16th, Count REGNAULT submitted the *Senatus Consultum*, dissolving the mar-

riage between the Emperor Napoleon and the Princess Josephine. The orator spoke as follows:—

"MY LORD—SENATORS,—The solemn act fully set forth in the *Senatus Consultum* now read, contains all its motives. What could we add?—What words could we address to the Senate of France, but would be far below the affecting sounds received from the mouth of these two august consorts, of whom your deliberation will consummate the generous resolutions?—Their hearts have coincided in making the noblest sacrifices to the greatest interests—they have coincided to make policy of sentiment—speak language the most true—the most persuasive—the most adapted to move and to convince—As sovereigns and as consorts, the Emperor and Empress have done all—there only remains for us to love, to bless, and to admire them. 'Tis henceforth for the French nation to make themselves heard—their memory is faithful as their hearts—they will unite in their grateful thoughts the hope of the future with the remembrance of the past, and never will Monarchs have received more respect, admiration, gratitude, and love, than Napoleon, in immolating the most sacred of his affections to the want of his subjects; than Josephine, in sacrificing her tenderness for the best of husbands—through devotion for the best of Kings—through attachment to the best of Nations; accept, Gentlemen, in the name of all France, in the sight of astonished Europe, this sacrifice, the greatest ever made on earth; and full of the profound emotion which you feel, hasten to carry to the foot of the Throne, in the tribute of your sentiments, of the sentiments of all Frenchmen, the only Prince that can be worthy of the fortitude of our Sovereign, the only consolation that can be worthy of their hearts."

The PRINCE VICEROY spoke as follows:—

"PRINCE, SENATORS,—You have heard the project of *Senatus Consultum* submitted to your deliberation; I feel it my duty, under these circumstances, to manifest the sentiments by which my family are animated. My Mother, my Sister, and myself, owe all to the Emperor; he has been to us a father; he will find in us, at all times, devoted children, and obedient subjects. It is important to the happiness of France, that the Founder of the Fourth Dynasty should in his old age be surrounded by direct descendants, who may prove a security to all and a pledge of the glory of our country. When my mother was crowned, before the whole nation, by the hands of her august consort, she contracted an obligation to sacrifice all her affections to the interests of France. She has fulfilled with fortitude, nobleness, and dignity, this first of duties; her soul has often been moved at beholding exposed to painful struggles the heart of a man accustomed to conquer fortune, and advance with a firm step the accomplishment of his great designs. The tears which this resolution has cost the Emperor suffice for the honour *à la gloire* of my mother. In the situation she will now fill, she will be no stranger, by her wishes, to the feelings of the new prosperities which await us, with a satisfaction mingled with pride, that she will behold the happiness her sacrifices will produce to her country, to her Emperor."

This speech concluded, Count Garnier, annual president, proposed to refer the *Senatus Consultum* to a special Committee of nine members to report thereon during the sitting.—Agreed to. The Prince Arch-chancellor, president, then named, by lot, as scrutineers, the Senators Barthelmy, and Le Mercier; and the following Senators were elected on the committee, Garnier, Lacedede, Semionville, Beurnonville; Chaptal, Laplace, Marshal Duke of Dantzic, Marshal Serrurier and Monge. The sitting was suspended till their return. At half past four it was resumed, and Count Lacedede spoke as follows:—

"MY LORD, SENATORS,—You have referred to your special Committee the project of *Senatus Consultum* presented to you by the Orators of the Council of State. You have heard, Senators, the memorable act annexed to the project of *Senatus Consultum*, which history will transmit to posterity as



a monument of the most tender affections, the most generous sentiments, and the most absolute devotion to the primary interest of an hereditary monarchy; these memorable words, by the greatest of Sovereigns and his august and well-beloved consort, will long re-echo through the hearts of all Frenchmen. This day more than ever has the Emperor proved, that he only wishes to reign to serve his subjects; the Empress has deserved that posterity should associate her name with that of immortal Napoleon. Such, then, is the condition of those whom the throne raises above others, only to impose on them obligations more severe; how many Princes, who only consulting the happiness of their subjects, have been obliged to renounce connections the most dear to them?

"To look no further than the predecessors of Napoleon, we find 13 Kings, whose duty as Sovereigns obliged them to dissolve the bond which bound them to their consorts; and what is well worthy of remark, among these 13 Princes four of them we must reckon were French Monarchs, admired the most and cherished, Charlemagne, Phillippi Augusti, Louis XII. and Henry IV. Ah! May he, whose glory and self-devotion surpasses their self-devotion and glory, long reign for the prosperity of France and of Europe. May his life continue far beyond the 90 years he has desired for the stability of his empire. May he see around his Throne Princes from his blood, educated in his spirit as in his sentiments, and worthy of their august origin; secure for our latest posterity the continuance of all the blessings our country owes him. May the image of the happiness of the French, which the present and the future will offer to his view, be the reward of his labours and of his sacrifices.

"Your Committee, Senators, unanimously propose to you to adopt the project of *Senatus Consultum* proposed to you; 2dly, To adopt also two Addresses, which I shall have the honour to lay before you, to be presented, one to the Emperor and King, the other to the Empress Queen."

ADDRESS OF THE SENATE TO HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR AND KING.

"The Senate has adopted the project of the *Senatus Consultum*, which has been presented to it in the name of his Imperial and Royal Majesty.—Your Majesty, Sire, could not give a greater proof of the absolute devotion to the duties which an hereditary throne imposes. The Senate feels in the most lively manner the necessity of expressing to you how much it is penetrated with all the great soul of your Majesty, experiences that the most extensive power, the most illustrious glory, the admiration of the most remote posterity, cannot, Sire, compensate the sacrifice of your dearest affections. The eternal love of the French nation, and the profoundest sense of all you have done for them, can alone console your Majesty's heart."

ADDRESS OF THE SENATE TO HER MAJESTY THE EMPRESS AND QUEEN.

"MADAME—Your Imperial and Royal Majesty has made to France the greatest of sacrifices. History will preserve an everlasting remembrance of it.—The august consort of the greatest of Monarchs could not unite herself to his immortal glory by a more heroic act of self-devotion.—Long have the French Nation, Madame, revered your virtues; they revere that affecting goodness which inspires all your words and directs all your actions: they will admire your sublime self-devotion: they will for ever decree to your Imperial and Royal Majesty an homage of gratitude, respect, and love."

(Signed) CAMBACERES, Prince Arch-Chancellor of the Empire, President.
SEMENVILLE and BEURNONVILLE, Secretaries."

DEC. 17.—His Majesty the Emperor and King set out at four o'clock this day for Trianon. Her Majesty the Empress Josephine is at Malmaison.

SPAIN.

MADRID, Nov. 26.—The number of prisoners taken from the insurgents is more considerable than it was at first

thought; they are bringing in by whole columns. Our troops have returned for the most part covered with excellent English cloaks, which the English Government had sent to the Junta of Seville to cause to be distributed. It will be difficult to imagine where Gen. Wellesley was while these men were fighting on account of King George. The Noble Lord pretended to accompany to Cadiz the Marquis of Wellesley, his brother, who was returning to England; but this, it is too evident, was only a pretext, and that the journey was, in reality, only intended for reconnoitring the city, and considering the means of surprising it, in case certain Members of the Junta should not find time to conclude the bargain they had begun to negotiate on that subject.

NOVEMBER 27.—It was one named Arcisega, formerly a Spanish Colonel, who commanded the army of the rebels at Ocana. It appears that he had no desire to expose himself, though before he left Seville he took an oath to lead his army directly to Madrid. Instead of being on the field of battle, he had taken his station on the top of the steeple of Ocana, to observe every thing without risk. As soon as he saw his troops routed, he descended precipitately, leaped on a horse which waited for him at the gate of the church, and never stopped till he came to Tembleque, where he arrived in the afternoon. As he passed through his disbanded troops full gallop, he only cried out, "We are lost." If deficient in ability and bravery, he shewed great prudence. Had he been some moments later he would have been taken by Gen. Dessolles, who carried the village of Ocana by assault. To-morrow 50 pieces of cannon, 40,000 muskets, and the baggage taken from the enemy, will arrive here.

ARMY OF SPAIN.

GENERAL ORDER OF THE ARMY, DEC. 4, 1809.

His Majesty makes known to the army, that the Spanish army, commanded by the Duke Del Parque, who imprudently engaged on the right bank of the Tormes, was completely defeated on the 28th of November, at Alba, by the sixth corps of the army and the second division of dragoons. Fifteen pieces of cannon, many caissons, six standards, 10,000 muskets, and above 2000 prisoners fell into the hands of the Imperial troops. The enemy had 3000 men killed, one General, several Colonels, and a great number of Officers. The remnant of the army, favoured by the night, fled in all directions, abandoning their arms and baggage; thus the last hope of the insurrectional party is destroyed. It is to be hoped, that by the pursuit of these detached corps, and the insurgents which are dispersed in the Provinces, which is about to take place, internal tranquillity will soon be re-established. The Marshal of the Empire,

DUKE OF DALMATIA.

VALLADOLID, DEC. 3.—The Duke del Parque continues his flight with the utmost precipitation, and General Kellerman is following up his advantages; it is impossible to form an idea of the consternation which prevails in the army of the insurgents. All the Gallicians and Asturians are anxious to desert in order to rejoin their homes. In the action near Alba de Tormes, the Spaniards were 30,000 strong, and Gen. Kellerman had hardly 12,000. He is now making the necessary dispositions totally to annihilate that once powerful army. Ten thousand men, whom he expects from Madrid, will enable him to attain that purpose.

BONAPARTE, in his detail of the State of France, says, "KINGS are only accountable to God;" this was not the doctrine in France 20 years ago; nor can it be a doctrine any where but in a nation of slaves. Kings are but men—and men are dust.

FROM THE AMERICAN PAPERS.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE,

ON THE OPENING OF THE SESSION OF CONGRESS, NOV. 27.

Fellow Citizens of the Senate, and of the House of Representatives.

At the period of our last Meeting, I had the satisfaction of communicating an adjustment with one of the principal belligerent nations, highly important in itself, and still more so, as presaging a more extended accommodation. It is with deep concern I am now to inform you, that the favourable prospect has been overclouded, by a refusal of the British Government to abide by the act of its Minister Plenipotentiary, and by its ensuing policy towards the United States, as seen through the communications of the Minister sent to replace him.

Whatever pleas may be urged for a disavowal of engagements formed by diplomatic functionaries, in cases where by the terms of the engagements a mutual ratification is reserved; or where notice at the time may have been given of a departure from instructions; or in extraordinary cases, essentially violating the principles of equity, a disavowal could not have been apprehended in a case where no such notice or violation existed, where no such ratification was reserved, and more especially, where, as is now in proof, an engagement, to be executed without any such ratification, was contemplated by the instructions given, and where it had, with good faith, been carried into immediate execution on the part of the United States.

These considerations not having restrained the British Government from disavowing the arrangement by virtue of which its Orders in Council were to be revoked, and the event authorizing the renewal of commercial intercourse having thus not taken place, it necessarily became a question of equal urgency and importance, whether the act prohibiting that intercourse was not to be considered as remaining in legal force. This question being, after due deliberation, determined in the affirmative, a proclamation to that effect was issued. It could not but happen, however, that a return to this state of things from that which had followed an execution of the arrangement by the United States, would involve difficulties. With a view to diminish these as much as possible, the instructions from the Secretary of the Treasury, now laid before you, were transmitted to the Collectors of the several ports. If in permitting British vessels to depart, without giving bonds not to proceed to their own ports, it should appear that the tenor of legal authority has not been strictly pursued, it is to be ascribed to the anxious desire which was felt, that no individuals should be injured by so unforeseen an occurrence; and I rely on the regard of Congress for the equitable interests of our own citizens, to adopt whatever further provisions may be found requisite for a general remission of penalties involuntarily incurred.

The recal of the disavowed Minister having been followed by the appointment of a successor, hopes were indulged that the new Minister would contribute to alleviate the disappointment which had been produced, and to remove the causes which had so long embarrassed the good understanding of the two nations. It could not be doubted, that it would at least be charged with conciliatory explanations of the step which had been taken, and with proposals to be substituted for the rejected arrangement. Reasonable and universal as this expectation was, it also has not been fulfilled. From the first official disclosures of the new Minister, it was found that he had received no authority to enter into explanations relative to either branch of the arrangement disavowed; nor any authority to substitute proposals, as to that branch, which concerned the British Orders in Council; and finally, that his proposals with respect to the other branch, the attack on the frigate Chesapeake, were founded on a presumption, repeatedly declared to be inadmissible by the United States, that the first step towards adjustment was due from them; the proposal, at the same time, omitting even a reference to the officer answerable for the murderous aggression, and asserting a claim not less

contrary to the British laws, and British practice, than to the principles and obligations of the United States.

The correspondence between the department of State and this Minister will shew how inessentially the features presented in its commencement have been varied in its progress. It will shew also, that forgetting the respect due to all governments, he did not refrain from imputations on this, which required that no further communications should be received from him. The necessity of this step will be made known to his Britannic Majesty through the Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States in London. And it would indicate a want of confidence due to a government which so well understands and exacts what becomes foreign Ministers near it, not to infer that the misconduct of its own Representative will be viewed in the same light in which it has been regarded here. The British Government will learn, at the same time, that a ready attention will be given to communications, through any channel which may be substituted. It will be happy, if the change in this respect should be accompanied by a favourable revision of the unfriendly policy which has been so long pursued towards the United States.

With France, the other belligerent, whose trespasses on our commercial rights have long been the subject of our just remonstrances, the posture of our relations does not correspond with the measures taken on the part of the United States to effect a favourable change. The result of the several communications made to her Government, in pursuance of the authorities vested by Congress in the Executive, is contained in the correspondence of our Minister at Paris, now laid before you.

By some of the other belligerents, although professing just and amicable dispositions, injuries materially affecting our commerce have not been duly controuled or repressed. In these cases, the interpositions deemed proper on our part have not been omitted. But it well deserves the consideration of the Legislature, how far both the safety and the honour of the American flag may be consulted, by adequate provisions against that collusive prostitution of it, by individuals unworthy of the American name, which has so much favoured the real or pretended suspicions under which the honest commerce of their fellow-citizens has suffered.

In relation to the powers on the coast of Barbary, nothing has occurred which is not of a nature rather to inspire confidence than distrust, as to the continuance of the existing amity. With our Indian neighbours, the just and benevolent system continued toward them has also preserved peace, and is more and more advancing habits favourable to their civilization and happiness.

From a statement which will be made by the Secretary of War, it will be seen that the fortifications on our maritime frontier are in many of the ports completed, affording the defence which was contemplated, and that further time will be required to render complete the works in the harbour of New York, and in some other places. By the enlargement of the works, and the employment of a greater number of hands at the public armouries, the supply of small arms, of an improving quality, appears to be annually increasing, at a rate that, with those made on private contract, may be expected to go far towards providing for the public exigency.

The Act of Congress providing for the equipment of our vessels of war having been fully carried into execution, I refer to the statement of the Secretary of the Navy for the information which may be proper on that subject. To that statement is added a view of the transfers of appropriations, authorised by the Act of the Session preceding the last, and of the grounds on which the transfers were made.

Whatever may be the course of your deliberations on the subject of our military establishments, I should fail in my duty in not recommending to your serious attention the importance of giving to our militia, the great bulwark of our security and resource of our power, an organization the best adapted to eventual situations, for which the United States ought to be prepared.

The sums which had been previously accumulated in the

Treasury, together with the receipt during the year ending on the 30th of September last (and amounting to more than nine millions of dollars), have enabled us to fulfil all our engagements, and to defray the current expences of Government without recurring to any loan. But the insecurity of our commerce, and the consequent diminution of the public revenue, will probably produce a deficiency in the receipts of the ensuing year; for which, and for other details, I refer to the statements which will be transmitted from the Treasury.

In the state which has been presented of our affairs with the great parties to a disastrous and protracted war, carried on in a mode equally injurious and unjust to the United States as a neutral nation, the wisdom of the National Legislature will be again summoned to the important decision of the alternatives before them. That these will be met in a spirit worthy the councils of a nation, conscious both of its rectitude and of its rights, and careful as well of its honour as of its peace, I have an entire confidence. And that the result will be stamped by an unanimity becoming the occasion, and be supported by every portion of our citizens, with a patriotism enlightened and invigorated by experience, ought as little to be doubted.

In the midst of the wrongs and vexations experienced from external causes, there is much room for congratulation on the prosperity and happiness flowing from our situation at home. The blessing of health has never been more universal. The fruits of the seasons, though in particular articles and districts short of their usual redundancy, are more than sufficient for our wants and our comforts. The face of our country every where presents the evidence of laudable enterprise, of extensive capital, and of durable improvement. In a cultivation of the materials, and the extension of useful manufactures, more especially, in the general application to household fabrics, we behold a rapid diminution of our dependence on foreign supplies.—Nor is it unworthy of reflection, that the revolution in our pursuits and habits is in no slight degree a consequence of those impolitic and arbitrary edicts, by which the contending nations, in endeavouring each of them to obstruct our trade with the other, have so far abridged our means of procuring the productions and manufactures, of which our own are now taking the place.

Recollecting always, that for every advantage which may contribute to distinguish our lot from that to which others are doomed by the unhappy spirit of the times, we are indebted to that Divine Providence, whose goodness has been so remarkably extended to this rising nation, it becomes us to cherish a devout gratitude, and to implore from the same Omnipotent Source a blessing on the consultations and measures about to be undertaken for the welfare of our beloved country.

JAMES MADISON.

CIRCULAR.

"SIR, Washington, Nov. 13, 1809.

"I have to inform you, with much regret, that the facts which it has been my duty to state in my Official Correspondence with Mr. Smith, have been deemed by the President of the United States to afford a sufficient motive for breaking off an important Negotiation, and for putting an end to all communication whatever with me as the Minister charged with that Negotiation so interesting to both nations; and on one most material point of which an answer has not been returned to an official and written overture*.

"One of the facts alluded to has been admitted by the Secretary of State himself, in his letter of the 19th of October, viz. That the three conditions forming the substance of Mr. Erskine's original Instructions, were submitted to him by that Gentleman. The other, viz.—That that instruction is the only one in which the conditions were prescribed to Mr. Erskine for the conclusion of an arrangement on the matter to which it related, is known to me by the instructions which I have myself received.

"In stating these facts, and in adhering to them, which my duty imperiously enjoined me to do, in order to repel the fre-

* This overture is on the affair of the Chesapeake.

quent charges of ill faith which have been made against his Majesty's Government, I could not imagine that offence would be taken at it by the American Government, as most certainly none could be intended on my part; and this view of the subject has been made known to Mr. Smith.

"But, as I am informed by him that no further communication will be received from me, I conceive that I have no alternative left, which is consistent with the King's dignity, but to withdraw altogether from this city, and to await elsewhere the arrival of his Majesty's commands upon the unlooked-for turn which has been given to his affairs in this country.

"I mean, in the interval, to make New York the place of my residence, where you will henceforward please direct your communications to me, as I shall be accompanied by every Member of his Majesty's Mission.—I am, with great truth and respect, Sir, your most obedient humble Servant,

(Signed) "F. JACKSON."

"To ———, his Majesty's Consul, at ———."

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO THE EDITOR, DATED ELKTON, NOV. 20.

"The Duchess of Baltimore, (Mrs. Jerome Bonaparte) attended by Colonel Tousard, with the young Prince, are now at this place, on their way to honour the city of Philadelphia with their august presence. You have been accused of announcing to the public, upon insufficient authority, the creation of the Duchess and Prince, by the Emperor Napoleon, but no doubt of the fact is entertained in this quarter. Col. Tousard is now attending them in his and their official character."

[We understand the Duchess and Prince have arrived in this city.]—*Edit.*

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

THE PLYMOUTH MONSTER.—A long-eared gentleman has been assiduously and meritoriously engaged, during the past and present week, in personating the wretch whose title we have designated at the head of this article, and who justly merits the epithet with which he has been dubbed. Several unprotected females have been grossly insulted by this "less than man;" but were we to give credence to the various tales which have been conjured up by "female terror," our friends would, and perhaps justly, class us amongst the disciples of Munchausen.—We have heard the names of three females who have been ill-treated, but none of them are seriously injured; and as a sharp look-out is kept, it is presumed the monster, whoever he may be, will not long evade the castigation he merits.—(*Plymouth Telegraph.*)

A young lady of Bath, possessed of a very handsome fortune, and about 26 years of age, lately eloped with her uncle, who is about 60, and who deserted a wife and two children, whom he lived with at Bath, to cohabit with his niece. The uncle and niece are now living together in London, and their relations have in vain endeavoured to put an end to this disgraceful connexion.

A man of the name of Satterthwaite, aged 82 years, residing at Cool house, in the North part of Lancashire, has five children living, aged 257 years; 36 grand children, aged 712 years; and seven great-grand children, aged 18 years. Their united ages amount to 1023!

The friends of Mr. Meredith, the celebrated bass singer, will be sorry to hear that he has lately been obliged to submit to an amputation of a leg; a loss, we fear, ill-suited to the state of his body and the period of his life.—*Tyns Mercury.*

A few nights since a shocking murder was committed on the servant of Mr. Ford, of York farm, near Dorchester. Mr. Ford's house was attacked by thieves, and, on a dog barking, Mary Thomas went to the door, which had been broken open, when two men disguised hurried her off the premises, and she was found dead the next morning in an adjoining field, with her head beaten to a mummy. One of the supposed murderers has been taken into custody.

A Gentleman of the name of Darley, resident at Bridlington, in Yorkshire, while sitting at supper last week with some

friends, observed to them that they ate nothing, but he would set them an example. He accordingly took a large mouthful, which sticking in his throat, almost instantly suffocated him.

TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTCIES ENLARGED.

T. Burland, Hungerford, Berkshire, draper, from Dec. 26 to Feb. 13, at eleven, at Guildhall, London.

J. Feary, Kingsland-road, Middlesex, builder, from Dec. 30 to Jan. 17, at ten, at Guildhall.

BANKRUPTS.

W. Morris, Birmingham, timber-merchant. Attornies, Messrs. Sparrier and Ingleby, Birmingham.

G. Smallwood, Beech-street, Barbican, brass-founder. Attornies, Messrs. Harris and Son, Castle-street, Houndsditch.

W. Brown, Kepier Mill, St. Giles's, Durham, miller. Attorney, Mr. Ward, jun. Durham.

A. W. Lee, Sunderland, grocer. Attorney, Mr. Shafto, Sunderland.

J. Bland, Moulton, Lincolnshire, blacksmith. Attorney, Mr. Rushworth, Helbeach.

Wm. Bowser, Chatham, iron-manufacturer. Attorney, Mr. Mowbray, Bankside, Southwark.

F. Wood, Tottington-Lower End, Lancashire, cotton-manufacturer. Attorney, Mr. Woodcock, Bury.

J. Barlow, Newport, Isle of Wight, mercer. Attornies, Mess. Clarkes and Sewell, Newport.

W. Y. Jones, Liverpool, flour dealer. Attorney, Mr. Clements, Liverpool.

SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

Downing Street, December 30, 1809.

A Dispatch, of which the following is a copy, was yesterday morning received at Lord Liverpool's Office, addressed to his Lordship by Lieutenant General Don, dated his Majesty's ship *Cæsar*, off the Duerloo Passage, December 22, 1809.

His Majesty's ship Cæsar, off the Duerloo Passage, Dec. 23, 1809.

MY LORD,

Although I have regularly communicated to your Lordship the principal circumstances which have occurred, relative to the army under my command, yet I have judged it advisable to postpone my detailed report on the Evacuation of the Island of Walcheren until the troops were withdrawn and the fleet had sailed.

On the receipt of your Lordship's dispatch of the 13th of last month, conveying to me his Majesty's commands to evacuate the Island of Walcheren with the forces under my orders, and further signifying the determination of his Majesty, that previous to the evacuation I should take such measures as I might deem most effectual for the demolition of the basin of Flushing, and the naval defences of the Island, I made the necessary preparations for the removal of the sick and convalescents of the army, and the arrival of a division of transports afforded me the means of completing their embarkation on the 26th ult.

On the same day the new frigate that was built in the dock-yard was got out of the basin, and which enabled me on the following morning to commence the demolition of the sea defences, basin, dock yard, arsenal, magazines, naval store-houses, &c. of the town of Flushing, the total destruction of which was completed on the 11th instant.

These services were conducted under the immediate direction and superintendance of Lieutenant-Colonel Pilkington, commanding engineer, assisted by a strong party from the navy, under the command of Captain Moore, and for the particulars, I beg leave to refer your Lordship to the Lieutenant-Colonel's report, a copy of which I enclose.

The very judicious and skilful manner in which these measures have been completed, reflects great credit upon Lieutenant-Colonel Pilkington, and the several officers who acted

with him, and I am persuaded it will afford your Lordship peculiar satisfaction to know, that the whole of this extensive work has been accomplished, without any injury being done to the inhabitants; the destruction not having extended beyond what was necessary to deprive the enemy of the advantage of Flushing as a naval station.

The embarkation of the Ordnance and the Stores of the several departments having been completed, the army was withdrawn and embarked on the 9th inst., but the weather being extremely unsettled, and conceiving it probable, from the active and continued preparations of the enemy, that he might hazard an attack, I judged it expedient still to hold the towns of Flushing, Middleburg, and Ter Veer, and Fort Ramekins; at the same time I made an arrangement for the disembarkation of the army, the four divisions of which were stationed as follows, viz. the 1st division immediately off the town of Flushing; 2d division to the westward of that town; 3d division between Flushing and Fort Ramekins, to act and co-operate with the naval force in the Sloo Passage, under Capt. Mason; and the 4th off Ter Veer, to act and co-operate with the naval force between the Veer Gat and Wulversdyke, under Commodore Owen.

By this disposition, had the enemy attempted to invade the island, the four posts above-mentioned could easily have been reinforced, and the enemy in the event of his effecting a landing, attacked in his flanks and rear; as from the precautions I had taken in stopping the fresh-water sluices, his advance into the country must have been confined to the Dykes and Causeway, from Ter Veer through Middleburgh to Flushing.

The fleet continued wind-bound until this morning, when the rear-guards were withdrawn, the ships of war and transports from the West Scheldt got under weigh, and I conclude those in the Veer Gat moved about the same time.

I feel great satisfaction in mentioning the very able and cordial support I have uniformly received from Rear-Admiral Otway, and that our arrangements for the final evacuation of the Island were approved of by Rear-Admiral Sir Richard Strachan, on his arrival on the 11th instant.

I cannot conclude this report without acquainting your Lordship that I found the army in an excellent state of discipline, and that the conduct of the troops has in every respect merited my warmest approbation.

On the day of embarkation, the different corps of the army marched from the several points, and embarked in the most perfect order and regularity; and the magistrates of the towns and villages expressed to the officers left in the command of the rear Guards, that the troops on their departure had in no instance molested or injured the Inhabitants. I have the honour to be, &c.

G. DON, Lieut.-Gen.

[Here follow several letters respecting the naval operations during the evacuation: they possess but little interest.]

BANKRUPTS.

J. Lindsay, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, cheesemonger. Attorney, Mr. Seymour, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

W. Rich, Charlotte-street, Whitechapel, tallow-chandler. Attorney, Mr. Wilson, King's-Bench-Walk, Temple.

R. Wright, W. Malcolm, and C. Wright, Watling-street, warehousemen. Attorney, Mr. Harrison, Craven-street, Strand.

W. and J. Thornton, New Malton, Yorkshire, coal-merchants. Attorney, Mr. Walker, New Malton, Yorkshire.

R. Kimpton, Holderness, Yorkshire, horse-dealer. Attornies, Messrs. Piccard and Co. Hull.

W. H. Troutbeck, Minories, victualler. Attornies, Messrs. Hall and Co. Salter's-Hall, Cannon-street.

S. Dawson, Fiddleford, Dorsetshire, jobber in bullocks. Attorney, Mr. Score, Sherborne, Dorsetshire.

Many persons think that the fate of Lord Eldon at Oxford is decisive of the fate of Ministers. The University people, it must be allowed, have a nice eye to future prospects.

PRICE OF STOCKS ON SATURDAY.
 Consols for Account....70 $\frac{1}{2}$ | Red. Ann.....69 $\frac{1}{4}$

The Proprietors last week announced their intention of occasionally printing an EXTRA SHEET of the *Examiner* during the Sessions of Parliament,—but as some Subscribers have objected to the cost of this additional sheet, and as it certainly cannot be done without cost, *the plan will not be carried into effect.* The profit attending half a dozen extra sheets would have been of little value to the Proprietors, though they thought it might have added some to the work; of this the Subscribers are possibly the best judges.

THE EXAMINER.

LONDON, DECEMBER 30.

THE public curiosity has been forcibly excited by a very singular though not unexpected event, the divorce of BONAPARTE and his Empress. The affair has been managed with as much importance as good-breeding. BONAPARTE, it seems, has long been afflicted at having no children, and his wife, though blest with issue by her former husband, the Viscount BEAUHARNOIS, is now past the age of child-bearing. The Imperial pair therefore assemble their relatives and chief officers with great solemnity, and read their loving souls for the good of France by renouncing each other in the most amiable manner possible: NAPOLEON vows, for his part, that he “sacrifices the sweetest affections of his heart” purely for “the good of the state,” and calls upon the persons present to witness his “courage” in getting rid of an elderly wife. JOSEPHINE, on her side, declares that she gives up her husband purely for “the welfare of France,” that she knows how much it has “chilled his heart” to part with her, but that “both of them exult in a sacrifice made for the good of the country.” To this mutual agreement, all the Members of the Imperial Family give the approval of their signatures, and the next day, Prince EUGENE, the son of the Empress, goes himself to the Senate and makes a speech on the noble views of his Father-in-law and the grand devotion of his mother, informing them at the same time, that when the Empress was crowned “she contracted an obligation to sacrifice all her affections to the interests of France.” Count REGNAULT also makes a speech, full of an admiring astonishment at the aforesaid sacrifice, a sacrifice, not only made to the best of husbands—through devotion to the best of kings—through attachment to the best of nations—but “the greatest sacrifice ever made on earth.” Count LACEPEDE is of much the same opinion, and very much pities the condition of those on whom royalty imposes such severe obligations; but at the same time thinks it necessary to state, that the best Monarchs France ever saw have acted in the same manner—all, of course, for the good of the nation. The Senate then carry up two separate addresses to the Emperor and Empress, full of an astounded admiration; and the business is settled. BONAPARTE goes to Trianon, and the Empress separates for Malmaison.

The insincerity, manifest in this solemn proceeding, on the part of the Emperor and his creatures, naturally gives it a farcical character; but it must be confessed, that no divorce could be conducted with fairer semblance, and that it was managed in the very best manner that could be adopted—the manner most congenial to good common sense. The character of the times, and the feelings of the Empress, have been consulted as much as they possibly could under such circumstances, and indeed the conduct of the Empress, to judge fairly of what she must feel, demands great approbation for its dignity and prudence, and suits well with the matronly and irreproachable character which she has maintained since her elevation. That BONAPARTE acts as he does purely for the good of France, nobody but the blindest of enthusiasts could believe; but that he sincerely wishes for children is natural to the founder of a new dynasty, and that he should have children would certainly be better for France than to leave the succession in dispute. In this respect, the divorce is politic and allowable: the Empress retires with a magnificent establishment, and at her time of life may reasonably sacrifice certain feelings to the views of a younger husband and the interests of the State. At the same time it is quite clear, that BONAPARTE’S love for her cannot be of the exquisite nature he talks of, or he would not have been making those cold-blooded stipulations with her at the time of the coronation: an intercourse, such as he has described it, of 15 years’ length, might at least have given him one fixed and placid attachment, to which his respect should have been inviolable. But royalty manages these matters in a way quite inexplicable to us poor jog-trot men who worship the faith of our firesides. The person, after all, most to be pitied on this occasion, is the future wife of BONAPARTE, whether the daughter of the King of Saxony, the sister of the Emperor ALEXANDER, or whoever else she may be. He has already insulted her feelings before all the world by lamenting his divorce so much, and protesting that it was a violence to his sweetest affections: if he does not mean what he says, she marries a gross hypocrite on whose word she can never rely; and if he does, she becomes a mere instrument of his political designs—a devoted and degraded machine of state.—But then again, the lady’s royalty may induce her to reason differently, and she may find sufficient happiness in the pomp and the power of an Imperial throne. The event is interesting in every point of view, domestic, political, and religious, and will form the subject of next week’s politics.

A grand ceremony is talked of as likely soon to take place at Frankfort, and it is rumoured that NAPOLEON intends to be crowned in that city Emperor of the West.

M. GENTZ has been arrested at Berlin, and his papers sealed up.

The conduct of BONAPARTE towards his Empress, is more merciful than that of HENRY VIII. of England, who divorced the heads of his consorts from their shoulders.

Private accounts, received by the late arrivals from Bombay, communicate intelligence of a most unpleasant nature: they not only confirm the previous information, of the existence of a serious misunderstanding between the Civil Government of one of the Indian Presidencies and the *Military*, but add a particular not generally known, that one of the Company's regiments had forcibly possessed itself of the fort of Masulipatam. The Commanding Officer of the regiment is said to have been previously placed under arrest by the soldiery. The accounts do not state, whether the fort had been subsequently surrendered by the mutineers, though mention is made, that after a vain attempt to divide the regiment by ordering small detachments from it, Colonel Malcolm had been sent with conciliatory proposals, and had returned to Madras without effecting the purport of his mission.

There was a report yesterday morning that another flag of truce had arrived, and brought back the Austrian Messenger MAYNZ. The report is not true. MAYNZ did not reach Paris before Wednesday. It is said that the Secretary of the Austrian Embassy will set off for Paris before MAYNZ comes back.

It is ascertained that a strong French force is on its march to Holland, for the two-fold purpose of carrying into effect the incorporation of that extinguished Republic with the Empire of France, and of forming a cordon on the coast. Another army has entered Trieste, and another Fiume, thus preventing the passage of British goods into the Austrian territory. These steps indicate sufficiently the commencement of the exclusion system; and as American vessels are interdicted from commercial intercourse with France, there seems to be already an insuperable difficulty of commercial communication with the Continent of Europe.

The Subscription for Col. WARDLE, in London *only*, already nearly amounts to 1500*l.*—The Ward of Aldersgate have just sent 50*l.* to the Fund, as "A tribute of respect and gratitude from the free and independent Inhabitants of the Ward of Aldersgate—(First Subscription.)"

A Letter in yesterday's *Chronicle*, remarkable chiefly for its dull falsehoods, makes the following modest assertion, "that the *character* of the late COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF has suffered *solely* from the too hasty credit given to the purchased and *unsupported* evidence of a profligate prostitute." From the eagerness of the Whig organ in giving place to every attack on Colonel WARDLE,—its refusing to insert a single article in his vindication,—and its thus endeavouring to prove that the Duke of YORK is a much injured Gentleman,—one should not be surpris'd, if its patrons ever again obtain power, to see that best of Commanders-in-Chief re-instated in office. The leader of the Whigs, EARL GREY, would no doubt lend his potent aid to such a salutary arrangement, so pregnant with blessings to this happy land.

The result of the annual Election for Common Councilmen has been very satisfactory. Thirty new Members have been chosen; the Friends of Reform have been put at the top of the poll;—and many of the Tools of Corruption thrown out of their seats.—This looks well.

The French are said to have ordered that the left eyes of all the horses and mules in Spain, except those in requisition by themselves for the army, shall be put out. This horrid order is evidently designed to prevent the Patriots availing themselves of the beasts for military objects.

NAPOLEON must have as many lives as a cat, or as O. P. whose death was so often announced in the late cont. st. The newspapers have again assassinated him. The *first* life that NAPOLEON lost, was by the "*Tripoline Gentleman*."—How many lives he has since lost, we do not recollect; but they are very numerous. The life of which he was deprived on Thursday was, as usual, by assassination. A *story* of the master of a vessel from Calais was said to be confirmed by that of another master from Dunkirk, in both of which places it was in every body's mouth, &c. &c. &c.—and so at Lloyds they immediately set to work on a policy—take 6 to give 100 if BONAPARTE'S *done* in 6 months. Now *ps* NAPOLEON has just told his Senate that he wishes to live 30 years longer; this assassination comes a little *mal a propos*. We should really like to know how many lives this man has.

SIR R. STRACHAN, with the remainder of the men of war and transports, arrived in the Downs on Wednesday, having sailed from Flushing Roads on the preceding day. At the same time the flotilla in the Roompot and the West Scheldt, under the command of Captains OWEN and MASON, was withdrawn, without, as we understand, any attempt on the part of the enemy to harass it on the retreat.

On Friday a Court was held at the East India House, to receive the Persian Envoy Extraordinary, MIRZA ABDUL HASSAN. The passages were covered with matting, and the stairs with green baize; at two o'clock his Excellency, accompanied by Sir GORE OUSLEY, Mr. MORIER, and suite, was received at the portico by the Hon. WM. FULLERTON ELPHINSTONE, and Sir THEOPHILUS METCALFE, Bart. who, with Colonel SMITH, conducted his Excellency to the Court Room, where he was received by the Chairman and Deputy. After the forms of introduction, his Excellency engaged in conversation with the Directors, through the medium of Sir GORE OUSLEY, for nearly half an hour, when he was attended by the Court to the Museum, where Dr. WILKINS exhibited the various curiosities and scarce Eastern manuscripts, with which his Excellency appeared highly gratified. He then proceeded to the Committee of Correspondence room, in which is the picture of his Persian Majesty, presented by that Sovereign to the Company, which his Excellency perceiving made a profound obeisance to it. An excellent collation was prepared, of which his Excellency and suite partook; the band playing military airs in the court adjoining, to which his Excellency paid the most marked attention, it being the first time he had heard any English martial music. On his Excellency's return to his carriage, he was saluted by the troops, and repeatedly cheered by the spectators.

A duel was fought on Wednesday morning, in the Paddington Canal towing-path, between Mr. C——, a *Clergyman*, and a Captain SMITH. The parties married two sisters, the daughters of a General; and the dispute which led to the duel, originated in some family matters. Captain S. was slightly wounded on the left breast in the second fire.

When Count ESSEN applied to BONAPARTE for a passport for the deposed King of SWEDEN, it is said the latter replied, "I grant a free passport to that Monarch to reside at any place wherever he may chuse; and I engage, on my honour, that he shall receive all protection in my States. Do you think, Count ESSEN, that GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS would have done this to me, had I been in his situation?"

A day or two ago, as the Earl of Portsmouth was amusing himself at the gate of a slaughter-house, near Lincoln's Inn-fields, with observing the process of killing, flaying, and cutting up, a pail-full of blood was thrown over his Lordship by some person, it was supposed, belonging to the slaughter-house. His Lordship applied for a warrant, but not being able to identify the offender, the Magistrate could not grant one.

On Tuesday evening, at Covent-Garden, Mr. COOKE presented himself in such a deplorable state of intoxication, that he could not utter a single word of his part, and was obliged to be led off. On Thursday, he was to have played *Shylock*, but was so much indisposed, that Mr. C. KEMBLE was under the necessity of performing the character for him.—Mr. COOKE appears to have a tolerable contempt both for the Managers and the Public.

MR. WARDLE.

SIR,—In the various companies I mix, I hear many popular topics thrown out by Mr. WARDLE's enemies, which those who wish him well are not always prepared to answer. As the obvious effect of such suggestions at the present time, is to prevent the subscription arising to a sum which would be worthy of the British public to give, or him to receive, I shall beg leave to give a very short answer to the different objections separately.

In the first place, it is asserted that if Mr. WARDLE gave money to Mrs. CLARKE, (his witness), or made her any promises of money, he did something contrary to the received notions of justice. The answer to this is, that it is the practise of every day in *criminal cases* to give rewards to those by whose information and testimony guilt is brought to light. It frequently happens, as it did on the memorable investigation, that a *particeps criminis* is the only person who can give material information on the subject. We all know that Government, the Police Offices, the public bodies, and even individuals, do almost daily offer rewards in the public papers, to be paid on the conviction of certain offenders, to those whose evidence shall produce that conviction. Now, Sir, I consider this to be a most clear and undeniable distinction; that in civil actions money or reward should never be given to witnesses; but that in criminal prosecutions, which are brought forward for the sake of the public, and not of the individual complainers, it is the practice of every day (and if it were not, almost all the enormous crimes which are committed would escape detection) to reward informers according to the value of their information. When Mrs. CLARKE is called Mr. WARDLE's witness, it should be recollected that Mr. WARDLE was only the prosecutor on the part of the public, and it would be more correct to call her the witness for the public than the witness of Colonel WARDLE.

The next objection which I hear from the enemies of Mr. WARDLE, is that his character for *veracity* is overturned by the late verdict, as the Jury believed Mr. STOKES in preference to him. Now, Sir, I cannot agree in this conclusion, nor do I believe that the Jury would prefer (in itself) the evidence of Mr. STOKES to that of Mr. WARDLE. If the testimony of Mr. STOKES, joined to that of Mrs. CLARKE and the WRIGHTS, and supported by the strong observations of the ATTORNEY-GENERAL and Lord ELLENBOROUGH, were sufficient to make the case doubtful, the

defendants were entitled to an acquittal; for it is perfectly well known by every body that has ever entered our Courts of Justice, that in all criminal cases, wherever there can be a reasonable doubt of the guilt of the accused, the Jury are bound to give them the benefit of that doubt and to acquit them. In civil actions a bare preponderance of testimony is sufficient, but it is by no means sufficient in criminal prosecutions. It is not enough that the case on the part of the prosecution be the more probable; the Jury has a right to expect that it shall be quite clear and beyond a doubt.

Having answered the most prominent objections, I now come to the consideration of what ought naturally to be expected from the present Subscription. While the enemies which Mr. WARDLE's public conduct has procured him shew a greater degree of rancour and malice than perhaps was ever before directed against any individual, shall he receive a *cold* support from his political friends, who have so often confessed, that he was the only one of the 650 Members of the House of Commons who had the boldness, address, and perseverance which were necessary to manage that great public cause; or shall the public, who have received all the benefit of his exertions, be backward in repaying the great debt of gratitude they owe him?—Now that the Subscription has commenced, it is by the Subscription alone that the people of England can express their sentiments and answer the friends of corruption and the enemies of Mr. WARDLE. If he shall now receive the warm support of the country, the *public robbers* will still tremble at his name and fear exposure; but if he be now deserted and given up to the malice of his enemies, they may indeed institute another *Jubilee*, for it will be long before any man will venture to attack them. Sir, there is a Fable in *Æsop*, which mentions that the wolves had once the address to persuade the sheep to give up those faithful dogs which used to watch or protect them. The consequence was, of course, that the flocks fell an easy prey to the wolves. Every day's experience will shew the application of this fable: no man ever takes a conspicuous part against corruption, that is not immediately traduced in his private character. The people should however be on their guard against this trick, and support warmly those who have supported them.

A. B.

COL. WILLIAMS.

TO THE RIGHT HON. R. RYDER, ONE OF HIS MAJESTY'S SECRETARIES OF STATE, &c. &c.

Liverpool, 19th Dec. 1809.

SIR,—The copy of a circular letter to the Lord Lieutenant of this County, transmitted to me, announces the dissolution of the Volunteer Corps of Liverpool Infantry under my command, on the ground of its being 'deficient in discipline.'

I trust, Sir, that I may be permitted to avert the reflections which must necessarily fall on me in this case.

The inspecting Field Officer, who saw us for the first and only time on the 10th of October last, particularly commended the condition of our arms and appointments, which he said were superior to any Volunteer Corps he had seen. And with regard to discipline—having persevered for six years and more in the public cause, and being in the practice of assembling weekly, I conceived we had attained habits of subordination of more value than

the eighteen manoeuvres (and which *time only* can give), and had acquired a steadiness peculiar to ourselves, I cannot admit that we ought to have been suppressed for deficiency, or in a way that could reflect discredit upon us.

My ardent devotion to the public good has, however, derived new life and hope from the introduction of this salutary doctrine, for if *dismissal is become a just consequence of deficiency*, then assuredly, when this principle is brought into general application and full activity, we may expect to have the *Councils of the State directed by Wisdom, and its Armies conducted by Soldiers*.—I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

Geo. Williams,

Liverpool Vol. Licut.-Col. Com.

THEATRICAL CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR,—Perhaps some of your numerous Correspondents who are more acquainted with Theatrical Affairs than I am, will favour me with an answer to the following Query.—“For what reason do the Proprietors of Covent-Garden Theatre omit stating in their public advertisements the name of the present Box-keeper of that establishment?” You will perceive by my laying before the Public the above question, that I have my doubts respecting the actual discharge of Mr. Brandon. In fact, I have reason to suppose that he still retains his situation, and like many of our very able Ministers, performs the duties of it by deputy. By the insertion of this, you will greatly oblige your Constant Reader,

Dec. 29, 1839.

SIST TO THE BOTTOM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR,—Your paper of last Sunday having been put into my hand by a friend, I find it contains an anonymous paragraph, very injurious to my character. That a *secret* writer should thus endeavour to “filch from me my good name” must, I am certain, appear to the Editor of the Examiner a nefarious act. Let him avow himself—let him come forth, not with initials—but with his name at full length—let him state his charges against me—not in ambiguous terms, but in plain language, and then if I cannot vindicate myself to the satisfaction of the public, I must submit to his lash. I was first marked out by a certain junta as an obnoxious individual, in consequence of publishing a hand-bill containing strictures on Cobbett, in which I gave an explanation of the appearance of the magistrates, the lowering of the traps, and the introduction of the engines, in an early stage of the O. P. contest; this explanation I received in a quarter, and in a manner, which prevented my having a single doubt of its authenticity. The other part of the bill related to the restoration of Mr. Brandon to his office of Box-keeper. I was by no means singular in my opinion on that head, and to this moment, I believe, all the moderate part of the public will join me in wishing his restoration. I do not at all mean to say Brandon's conduct was correct, but I will say, that the Proprietors must have acquiesced in his conduct, or he never would have continued it; he never received from them a reprimand, but continued in the same line of conduct throughout the contest, while all the diurnal prints teemed, and the whole town rang, with execrations on that conduct; yet we never once heard of his having been reprov'd for it, consequently the

blame does not rest wholly on him. The hand bill I have just alluded to produced “a letter from Mr. Powell to the Editor of the Statesman,” by which I was brought before the tribunal of the public, and, I must say, have been treated in this business in the most unhandsome manner. I wrote a letter to the Editor of the Statesman, and left it myself at the office, when an insertion of it was promised, and an assurance also given that no person (except a gentleman on that establishment) should see it until it was published. The MS. however, notwithstanding the solemn pledge to the contrary, was, to my great surprise, shewn to Mr. Powell and his friends, by whom it was exposed to those whose names were unavoidably inserted in it. How this breach of Public faith in the Proprietors of the Statesman can be justified, I am at a loss to say: they evidently acted with partiality, and, by thus consigning to oblivion my vindication, have exposed me to the attacks of anonymous writers. If, however, I was deserving the censure which your correspondent insinuates, my name would not have been added to the advertisements and tickets for the ensuing dinner at the Crown and Anchor; and convinced of the rectitude of my actions, I shall for the future despise the base inuendos of all those who do not boldly subscribe their names, like, Sir, your humble Servant,

111, Cheapside, Dec. 29.

THOMAS TEGG.

ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

On Thursday evening, during the absence of her relations, a young lady who is in possession of considerable property, attended by a servant, eloped with a Naval Officer from her residence in the neighbourhood of Manchester Square.

An Inquisition was taken on Friday, at the house of Mr. Keyne, in Oxford-street, on the body of Harriet Priscilla Poulton, a lady only 19 years of age, who expired suddenly at Mr. Keyne's house on Wednesday. The deceased was the daughter of a tradesman in Poland-street; she was dancing with a party at Mr. K's house, when she felt a momentary fatigue, and after sitting down for a few minutes expired.—Verdict, Died by the Visitation of God.

An Inquisition was held on Friday at Sommers Town Coffee-house in Charlton street, upon the body of Samuel Yareman, who, on the 18th instant, went from Sommers Town, to pay some club-money in Westminster, and on returning home was knocked down by two men. He died on Wednesday, in consequence of the injury he had received; and the Jury returned a verdict of WILFUL MURDER against some person or persons unknown.

A pistol was lately fired off, in the evening, at Mr. Swane, the Clergyman of Itchley, in Hertfordshire, the ball of which passed within a foot of him, as he was reading, and lodged in the wainscot of the room. A reward has been offered for the discovery of the offender.

DEATHS.

Tuesday morning, in John-street, Nathaniel Newham, Esq. many years Alderman of Vintry Ward, and the next senior Alderman to Sir Watkin Lewis.

Lately at Arnheim, in Holland, Matthys Bademaker, at the great age of 110 years. He worked at his trade as a shoemaker, until the age of 99. He was only once married, and had no more than two children, both females. He retained his faculties and health until within three weeks of his death. When King Louis visited Arnheim, last year, he settled a pension of 400 guilders on him; from that time he drank three bumpers of wine a day, in which he did not forget the health of his benefactor.

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