

THE EXAMINER.

No. 81 SUNDAY, JULY 16, 1809

THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

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

No. 81.

ON THE WANT OF PHILOSOPHY IN POLITICS.

POLITICS, of all other sciences, ought to make men philosophers, because they concern the daily interest of mankind, and yet no study seems to make them less so. The leading politicians make it entirely subservient to their own interest; their followers make it subservient to theirs: the whole system of things, in the eyes of these men, takes the appearance of a scramble, in which every body must get what he can; and thus every succeeding generation is occupied not in thinking for himself, but in committing a thousand extravagancies upon which posterity may philosophize. Our wisdom looks back, our passions look about us, but neither our wisdom nor our passions look forward: and after all, the posterity that should grow wise upon our follies, acts just as we do, reads the history of past times, shakes its head at courtiers and conquerors, and then goes bowing and fighting for any foolish fellow that happens to sit on a raised chair with a gilt stick in his hand.

Yet people are not content with these eternal follies; they must do their utmost to sanction their own individual errors, and though their bones are destined to be annihilated by corruption, think to make their corrupt actions sacred from change. They forget, that all nature is a system of corruption and regeneration, that the death of one thing is the birth of another; and that it is precisely so in political as well as natural things. Old state systems are as subject to imbecility and dissolution, as old age is to catarrhs and to the sexton. Thus when the French monarchy was threatened with dissolution, the reason was the most obvious in nature: its time was come, it had lived to become feeble and foolish, and *protested against taking physic*; and the English were as absurd to interfere with its last moments, as if they had insisted that any dying, obstinate old gentleman was a hale young man, likely to live many years. It was the same with the interference of France in our Revolution; it was the same, the other day, with the Pope; and it has been the same with the other Continental old gentlemen: they were very legitimate, but then they were very sick, and luxurious, and lazy; and law will not hinder a man from dying, whatever physic may do. The present French system, as any politician at all tinged with philosophy well knows, has not attained its power solely from the talents it employs, still less from its depravity, which is the destroyer not the founder of governments; but from its youth in opposition to the old age of other systems; from its youth in corrup-

tion opposed to old age in corruption: this gives it the advantage in eye-sight and in the proper employment of its powers; and it is in vain that we oppose the changes it makes, unless the objects of its ambition can renew their own powers by renewing their own youth.

Were we to read history, not for the vanity, but for the self-application of knowledge, and thus contemplate as we ought the changes that have shaken the world, we should cease to respect the downfall of profligate nations; we should cease to be guilty of that gross absurdity of at once defending the corruption and attempting to drive off the misfortune. The nations that have preyed most upon others are now furnishing victims for *their* victims. Rome and Constantinople, once the capitals of the known world, are mere contingencies on the fortune of other States: the Gaul triumphs over the Romans, who were his first oppressors, and over the Goths, who were his second: a Scythian Prince, the Emperor of a people scarcely known in the ancient world, holds the place of arbiter between the representatives of CHARLEMAGNE and of AUGUSTUS; in short, the palms of poetry and philosophy have been disputed between those ancient "barbarians," the Gauls and the Britons, and so, at last, is the palm of empire. Thus the pride and tyranny of the ancients are at once revenged: the inhabitant of a barren and barbarous little island, hitherto known only to be despised, has mounted to military empire with greater rapidity and fewer vices than either CAESAR or ALEXANDER; in wit and in inventions of every kind, the "barbarians" have gone out of sight of their despisers; and two such men as NELSON and NEWTON are not to be found in the compass of the ancient world. These mighty changes have produced a mixture of good and evil, but the evil has invariably been the effect of corruption. The worn-out Governments produced neither NELSON nor NEWTON, neither the conquest of the world of waters nor of the world of stars; but they were the first cause of all the miseries which Europe has lately suffered; and the same corruptions that brought down ATTILA, "the scourge of God," upon the Romans, brought down NAPOLEON upon ATTILA's successors, scourge upon scourge.

Nevertheless, though thinking men despise many of NAPOLEON's enemies, it does not follow, as the Duke of YORK's parasites argue, that they cannot despise him too. But do these logicians despise him for his vices, or his vices for him? If for his vices, they must despise ambition, bloodshed, and usurpation, in India as well as in Spain, and whom will they despise then?—For my part, I can admire the talents of this wonderful man, his activity in prosperity, his prudence in adversity, his encouragement of the fine arts, and his freedom from luxury and effeminacy, without having the least respect for his bad temper; his bad pas-

sions, or his bloodshed. Let those, who, while they are hunting after the poins and vanities of the world, cry out indiscriminately against his actions, and defend in others the vices they abhor in him, take care that their hatred does not arise from *envy* rather than from virtue:—a reasonable man, who places happiness in the power of reflecting complacently, approves neither of them nor of their enemy, neither of the place-hunting courtier, nor the power-hunting conqueror. Their vices are of the same selfish nature, their follies of the same ridiculous motive. The most sneaking placeman, who without wife or family perhaps, creeps and crawls to get wealth, could but tell us, if he were obliged to confess the great end of his labours, that it was to be found in a plate of turtle, or a good side-board; and the mightiest conqueror, who sets virtue at nought, could but exclaim at the end of all his exploits, "I have done this to make barbers stare at me, and link-boys cry 'wonderful!'"—Heaven defend us both from courtiers and conquerors.

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FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

TWENTY-SECOND BULLETIN OF THE FRENCH GRAND ARMY.
Vienna, June 24.

Raab has capitulated; this city forms an excellent position in the centre of Hungary; it is defended by bastions, its ditches are full of water, and an inundation covers a part of it; it is situated on the confluence of three rivers; it resembles on a small scale the situation of the grand entrenched camp, where the enemy hoped to assemble and exercise the Hungarian Insurrection, and where he had constructed immense works. The garrison, 1800 strong, was insufficient. The enemy intended to have left 5000 men, but by the battle of Raab, his army was separated from that place. The city has suffered considerably from a bombardment of eight days, which has destroyed its finest edifices. All that could be said as to the inutility of a defence was ineffectual; it was misled by the hope of being relieved. Count Metternich, after having remained three days at the advanced posts, returned to Vienna. The Secretary of Embassy, Dudon, and the persons attached to the allied legation, who had not withdrawn previous to the capture of Vienna, were set free on the confines of Hungary, when intelligence of the battle of Raab reached Buda.

Two battalions of landwhers, two squadrons of Hulus, and one battalion of troops of the line, forming together 2500 men, have entered Bayreuth. They have, as usual, distributed Proclamations, and endeavoured to excite insurrections. At the same time, Gen. Amende entered Dresden with three battalions of the line, three battalions of landwhers, and a collection of men raised by the Duke of Brunswick, and some squadrons of cavalry, drawn from different corps, forming, in the whole, from 7 to 8000 men.

The King of Westphalia has joined the 10th corps, and is on his march; the Duke of Valmy has put in motion the advanced guard of the army of reserve, which he commands.

[Here follows the capitulation, by which it is agreed, that the garrison shall march out with the honours of war, and deposit their arms on the glacis, if not relieved by four o'clock in the afternoon of the 24th—they are afterwards to proceed to Comorn, and are not to serve against France or her Allies during the war, or till regularly exchanged.]

BULLETIN OF THE AUSTRIAN ARMY.

Head-quarters, June 17.

According to a report from General Am-Ende, dated the 12th, the Saxon General D'Yberra, on the approach of the Aus-

trian troops, left Dresden with 3700 men, and retreated to Wilsdruff. In the night of the 11th he however made an attack on the advanced posts established towards Freiberg, and probably flattered himself that he would retake possession of the town by a surprise; but the Duke of Brunswick proceeded against him with the advanced guard, obliged him to fly rapidly, and pursued him towards Frieberg. Several waggons with Saxon wounded prisoners have arrived at Dresden.

The Insurrection troops took a position as a corps of observation behind the Raab, not far from the town of that name, and extended by Szabad-Hegy, the right wing resting on the Raab. The height of Kys-Megyer, which formed a salient angle in the front, was mounted with cannon, and the Mayerhof was defended by infantry. On the left wing was the cavalry, consisting of new raised regiments of Hussars. As the enemy had several days before made attacks on the advanced posts, and had sent detachments across the Upper Raab, the Archduke John hastened with a part of the army-corps under his command by Papa, to support his brother the Archduke Palatine; and on the 12th had already formed a junction with him near Raab. On the 13th the enemy's advanced guard had penetrated the vineyards of Czanak, from which, on the 14th, the Archduke Palatine retreated. The enemy, however, anticipated the attack, and drove in our advanced posts. The Viceroy of Italy, who was reinforced by Marshal D'Avoust's corps, deployed also with 30,000 men by Czanak and Kis-Barat towards Pusztá-Taplan.

From this position at one o'clock A. M. the enemy made an attack on the whole of our line, and endeavoured, by vigorous charges, to break through our centre. Columns of infantry advanced to the attack, and were driven back.

Our infantry was drawn up in two echelons, and advanced in masses. All the attacks of the enemy were abortive, until at length he succeeded in taking the Maherhof and the Chapel of Kys-Megyer. From this moment the battle became general, and the heights of Szabad-Hegy formed the scene on which each further step of the enemy was fought for. Under a heavy fire of artillery, the attack was repeatedly renewed and repelled. The enemy manoeuvred at the same time against both wings, which, notwithstanding that the centre maintained its position, were at last compelled to give way. This occasioned a retreat, which took place at five P. M. by St. Javan, in the direction of Aes. Field-Marshal Meuser and Frimon covered the retreat, opposing the pursuit of the enemy, who advanced no further than Goenynne, where night put an end to the contest.—On the following day the Archduke Palatine proceeded to Comorn, as the large plain of the Aes afforded no advantageous position.

The loss on our side was from 1500 to 2000 men, in killed and wounded. The loss of the enemy must be far greater, as he was constantly exposed to a heavy fire of musquetry.

The division of the Bavarian General Deroy has suffered another defeat in the Tyrol. Thus have the brave Tyrolians a second time conquered their freedom. All the Iuthal is delivered from the enemy. Gen. Deroy has arrived, with the small remains of his corps, at Rosenheim, in Bavaria.

GERMANY.

PRAGUE, JUNE 16.—The accounts received here from the head-quarters of the Archduke Charles up to the 14th inst. state, that considerable movements are observed throughout the whole line of the enemy's army; we likewise learn, by information which has been received, that the dispositions made by the Emperor Napoleon for a fresh battle, which will be perhaps more sanguinary and also more decisive than that of Esling, are nearly finished; he will find his antagonist well prepared against an attack, which he momentarily expects.

JUNE 25.—The army of the Archduke Charles, which is now 160,000 strong, and is daily increasing in force, has thrown up fortifications on different points of the Danube, and adheres to its plan of defensive operations. The Arch-

duke, however, sends detachments to Hungary and Germany to alarm the rear of the enemy.

FRANKFORT, JUNE 27.—The Col. Gen. Marshal the Duke of Abrantes proceeded yesterday afternoon from hence to Hanau to assume his new command. It is believed that the head-quarters of the army of observation will soon be removed from Hanau to Fulda; in order to form an immediate junction with the army of the King of Westphalia, and that the united army, after completely driving the Austrians out of Saxony; will make a diversion in Bohemia.

FROM THE BANKS OF THE MAINE, JUNE 27.—Letters from Paris state, that serious negotiations for peace are carrying on, and that Napoleon will certainly celebrate his birth-day (the 15th of August) in the French capital.

LEIPSIK, JUNE 28.—This day about noon, the King of Westphalia left this city, and advanced with the whole of his army to the neighbourhood of Dresden.

HOLLAND.

AMSTERDAM, JULY 6.—Private letters from Vienna of the 22d June, state, that large droves of cattle have lately arrived there from Hungary. The new bridges across the Danube are of such peculiar construction, that persons of the first distinction, and even ladies, frequently apply for leave to view them. They are also well secured by stakes driven into the ground, that it is impossible to destroy them; and boats are besides stationed in the vicinity of the bridges, to impart to all bodies floating down against them a different direction. The same letters advise, that a company of French players has arrived at Vienna, who are to give Comic Operas, and Farces, at the Play-house of the Court.

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

The *Tyne Mercury* contains the following curious case:—The sister of Dennis Frith, an attorney of East Retford; a young and accomplished lady, felt or feigned a passion for Mr. John Bragge, a respectable old gentleman, about 70, and addressed several loving letters to him, which the beloved old gentleman never deigned to answer. Dennis Frith, enraged at this silence, went to Mr. Bragge on the 24th of last May, and a quarrel ensued; blows followed, and Smith repeatedly struck the beloved old gentleman over the head, breast, and legs, with a thick cane. In consequence of the wounds, Mr. Bragge was confined to his bed till the 23d ult. when he died.—The Coroner's Jury returned a verdict of "Died of mortal bruises given him by Dennis Frith."—Frith has absconded.

A most extraordinary accident occurred to — Goldfinch, of Canterbury, on Friday se'night; who, whilst in the act of cutting a loaf of bread, snapped the bone of his left arm, just above the elbow.

SINGULAR CIRCUMSTANCE:—The following account, as true as it is extraordinary, may be relied on as a fact. A sheep, a few days since, being near the time of yearning, was suddenly seized with indisposition, and obliged to be killed, and when ripped up the lamb was taken from her allee; the wife of the butcher who slaughtered her (named Tapley, living in White Horse-lane, Canterbury), having lately lain in, and suckling her infant, the thought occurred to him that she might perhaps be able to save the lamb, by bringing it up in the same way as her child, and he immediately for that purpose conveyed it to her. The good wife, instead of expressing displeasure, accepted with joyful countenance the helpless orphan charge, and has since continued to rear it. Since this woman took the lamb under her care, it has wonderfully grown both in strength and size.—*Taunton Courier.*

A few days since, Sergeant Welsh, of the 77th regiment of foot, in barracks at Winchester, immediately after paying his company in the mess-room, fastened the door, and pointing a loaded musket, with a string fixed to the trigger, under the side of his chin, he pulled the string with his foot; and by the explosion his brains were blown up to the ceiling. The door being burst open, he was found stretched out, a shocking spectacle. The Coroner's Jury gave a verdict of *Ludacy*.

The following particulars of the accident which happened at the coal-works of Messrs. Lee, Watson, and Co. at East-Ardsley, in Yorkshire, are extracted from a Provincial Print:—"The workmen, at the time the accident happened, were driving through a throw, as it is technically called, when coming in contact with some exhausted pits, the water rushed through an aperture with irresistible impetuosity, and almost instantly inundated the pit where the people were at work. Three lads, fortunately in a situation to take the bucket, were drawn up without injury, but eleven men and three boys were shut up in the subterraneous abode, and for three days and nights consigned in the imagination of their families and friends to the mansions of the dead. Every exertion was made to drain the pit, in hopes that some lives might be saved; two engines were set to work for that purpose, and the colliers unremitting in their endeavours to rescue some of their unfortunate fellow-workmen from the jaws of death. On Monday, voices were heard to ascend from the pits. Imagine the anxiety of wives, mothers, fathers, and children, all standing at the mouth of the abyss, anxious to catch a sound, and intensely anxious in that sound to recognise the well-known voice of some near and dear relative. The moment had arrived when the hopes of some were to be elevated into reality, and the fond expectations of others to be sunk to despair. Two men and two boys, John Hudson, Robert Kendrew, William Broad, and Joseph Good-year, were drawn up alive, and in health, though they had remained for three days and nights without rest or sustenance, except a little bread, which Kendrew happened to have in his pocket, and which, with unexampled generosity, he divided amongst his half-famished companions, supplying his own wants with a quid of tobacco. The catastrophe of this tragic story remains to be narrated. Two brothers of the name of Haight were alive for some time after the flooding; and expressed to their more fortunate companions, their resolution to make their way out, but the water flowing in upon them, they were drowned in the attempt. The other eight perished also, and were dragged out of the pit in succession as the water subsided, and their lifeless corpses presented to their heart-broken relatives."

TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTS.

- J. Cook, Bristol, looking-glass-manufacturer. Attorney, Mr. Batsford, Jamaica-row, Bermondsey.
 J. J. Fuller, Yoxford, Suffolk, shopkeeper. Attornies, Messrs. Hauret and Metcalf, Lueppl's Inn New-square.
 G. Seaborne, Hoxton, sacking-manufacturer. Attorney, Mr. Harding, Primrose-street, Bishopsgate.
 W. Martin, Homerton, broker. Attorney, Mr. Dawse, Gray's Inn-square.
 J. Dodds, Aldersgate-street, goldsmith. Attornies, Messrs. Higden and Sym, Currier's Hall.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE LONDON GAZETTE OF TUESDAY, JULY 11, 1800.

An Account of the Battle fought near Aspern, on the March-feld, on the 21st and 22d of May, 1809, between the Arch-duke Charles of Austria, Generalissimo of the Imperial Austrian Armies, and the Emperor Napoleon, Commander in Chief of the French and Allied Armies.

The Emperor Napoleon having, after some sanguinary engagements near Abensberg, Hohenlinden, and Ditzingen, in which the fortune of war favoured the Austrian arms so as to force

the French garrison at Ratisbon to surrender, succeeded in cutting off the left wing of the Austrian army, and driving it back to Landshut, and afterwards in advancing to Eckmühl with a superior corps of cavalry, taking the road of Eglofsheim, and forcing to retreat those Austrian corps that were posted on the heights of Leikepoint and Talmessing, the Archduke on the 23d of April crossed the Danube, near Ratisbon, and joined the corps of Bellegarde, who had opened the campaign by several successful affairs in the Upper Palatine, and had approached Stadt-am-Hof, in order to execute his junction with the Archduke.

The Emperor Napoleon ordered the bombardment of Ratisbon, occupied by a few battalions who were to cover the passage of the Danube. On the 23d, in the evening, he became master of it, and immediately hastened along the right bank of the Danube to enter the Austrian states, in order, as he openly declared, to dictate peace at Vienna.

The Austrian army had taken a position near Cham, behind the river Regen, which was watched by some of the enemy's divisions, while the Emperor Napoleon called all the disposable troops from the North of Germany to the Danube, and considerably reinforced his army with the troops of Wurtemberg, Hessa, Baden, and some time after with those of Saxony.

Near Kirn and Nittenau, some affairs had happened between the out-posts, which, however, had no influence upon the armies.

However easy it would have been for the Archduke to continue his offensive operations on the left bank of the Danube without any material resistance, and however gratifying it might have been to relieve Provinces which were groaning beneath the pressure of foreign dominion, the preservation of his native land did not permit him to suffer the enemy to riot with impunity in the entrails of the Monarchy, to give up the rich sources of its independence, and expose the welfare of the subject to the devastations of foreign conquerors.

These motives induced the Archduke to conduct his forces to Bohemia, by way of Klentsch and Neumarkt, to occupy the Bohemian Forest with light troops and part of the militia, and to direct his march towards Budweis, where he arrived on the 3d of May, hoping to join near Linz his left wing, which had been separated from him, and which was under the command of Lieut. Gen. Baron Hiller.

But the latter had been so closely pressed by the united force of the French armies, that, after several spirited engagements, and even after a brilliant affair, in which he had the advantage, near Neumarkt, and in which the troops achieved all that was possible against the disproportionate superiority of the enemy, he was indeed able to reach Linz, but was incapable of crossing the Danube, and obliged to content himself with destroying the communication with the left bank, and taking up a position behind the Traun, near Ebersberg. This was the occasion of an extremely murderous engagement, during which the enemy, in storming the bridge, lost near 4000 men: Ebersberg was set on fire, and Lieut. Gen. Hiller continued his retreat, till he got so much the start as to pass the Danube near Stain, without being disturbed by the enemy, and to wait the approach of the Archduke, who, after having in vain attempted the junction of the army near Linz, had marched from Budweis to Zwettel; still hoping, by a quick passage of the Danube, to arrest the enemy's progress towards the metropolis.

Meanwhile a corps of Wurtembergers had advanced from Passau along both the shores of the Danube, had occupied Linz, and the bank opposite to it; had restored the bridge, and had signalized itself by destroying the defenceless villages and castles which could not be protected.

The enemy, by marching through the valley of the Danube in the straightest line, had got so much a-head, that all hopes of coming up with him in front of Vienna vanished; still, however, if that city had been able to hold out for four or five days, it might have been relieved; and the Archduke resolved on venturing the utmost to rescue that good city, which, by the excellent disposition of its inhabitants, the faithful attachment to its Sovereign, and its noble devotion, has raised to itself an eternal monument in the annals of Austria. All his plans were now directed towards gaining the bridges across the Danube,

near Vienna, and endeavouring to save the Imperial residence, by a combat under its very walls.

Vienna, formerly an important fortress, was in vain besieged by the Turks, and would, even now, from the solidity of its ramparts, the strong profiles of its works, and the extensive system of its mines, be capable of making a protracted resistance, had not, for upwards of a century back, the luxury of a large metropolis, the wants of ease, the conflux of all the Magistrates in the Empire, and the pomp of a splendid Court, totally effaced every consideration of military defence. Palaces adorn the ramparts, the casemates and ditches were converted into workshops of tradesmen, plantations mark the counter-scarps of the fortress, and avenues of trees traverse the glacis, uniting the most beautiful suburbs in the world to the Corps de la Place.

Although under such circumstances no obstinate resistance of the capital was to be expected, yet from the unexampled loyalty of the inhabitants, it was confidently hoped that Vienna might, for a few days, serve as a tete-de-pont to cover the passage of the river; whence all preparations amounted to no more than to secure the place against a coup-de-main; and for this reason the Archduke had some time before directed Field-Marshal Hiller to send part of his corps along the right bank towards the Capital, in the event of his (the Archduke's) passage to the left shore.

Field Marshal Hiller now received orders to burn the bridge near Stain in his rear, to leave a small corps of observation near Krems, to hasten by forced marches with the bulk of his army to the environs of Vienna, and, as circumstances would permit, by occupying the small islands, to keep up the communication with the city and the debouches across the bridges.

The army of the Archduke now advanced, without interruption, upon Stockerau; and, in order to overawe such enterprises as the enemy might project from the environs of Linz, part of the corps of Count Kollowrath, which till then had remained near Pilsen with a view to secure the North and West frontier of Bohemia, was ordered to march to Budweis.

Napoleon had used so much expedition on his march to Vienna, that on the 9th of May his advanced troops appeared on the glacis of the fortress, whence they were driven by some cannon shot. From three to four thousand regular troops, as many armed citizens, and some battalions of country militia, defended the city; ordnance of various calibre was placed upon the ramparts; the suburbs were abandoned, on account of their great extent; and the numerous islands and low bushy ground behind the town were occupied by some light troops of the corps of Hiller, as well as by the militia.

The corps itself was posted on what is termed "the Point," on the left shore of the river, waiting the arrival of the army, which was advancing in haste.

The occupation of Vienna formed too essential a part in the extensive plans of the French Emperor; its conquest had been announced by him with too much confidence, and was of too great importance towards confirming the prejudice of his irresistible power, for him not to employ every method of taking it before the assistance which was so near could arrive.

For the space of 24 hours the howitzers played upon the town; and though several houses were set on fire, the courage of the inhabitants remained unshaken. But a general devastation threatened their valuable property; and when at length the enemy, availing himself of the numerous craft which he found there, crossed the smaller branches of the Danube, dislodged the troops from the nearest islands, and menaced their communication with the left bank, the city was justified in capitulating, while the troops retreated by the great bridge of Tabor, which they afterwards set on fire.

The Archduke received this intelligence in his head-quarters, between Horn and Meissau; and though it was scarcely to be expected that the city, surrounded as it was, should continue its resistance, the Archduke proceeded on his march without interruption, flattering himself that he might be able to execute his favourite project by a bold attempt to pass the Danube near Vienna.

The city capitulated on the 13th of May, so that there was no further occasion to expose the army to hazard, by crossing

the Danube, for which no sufficient preparations had been made, and which must have been effected in the face of the enemy, and under local circumstances of the greatest disadvantage. By the surrender of Vienna, the army had also lost a point of support on which to rest its military operations.

In this situation of affairs the Archduke resolved to collect his army at the foot of the hill Bisamberg, and allow it a few days of rest, which, after so many forced marches, it urgently wanted. The cavalry, for the convenience of water, was posted along the Russ, a small rivulet, which is concealed by ground covered with bushes; and the advanced guards pushed forward to the Danube, in order to observe the movements of the enemy, and prevent his passing the river, which he had already attempted to do, from Nussdorf, to what is called the Black Lake, but with so little success, that a battalion of his advanced guard was taken. The chain of the out-posts extended on the left side as far as the march, and on the right to Krems; this place and Presburgh were occupied by some battalions; and the head-quarters of the Archduke, on the 16th of May, at Ebersdorf, near the high road leading to Brunn.

On the 19th, the out-posts reported, that the enemy had taken possession of the great Island of Lobau, within about six English miles of Vienna; that his numbers increased there every hour, and that he seemed to be employed in throwing a bridge across the great arm of the Danube, behind the island. From the top of the Bisamberg, the whole of the opposite country appeared to be enveloped in a cloud of dust; and the glitter of arms evinced a general movement of troops, beyond Summering, towards Kaiser-Ebersdorf, whither according to later accounts the Emperor Napoleon had removed his head-quarters, and was by his presence hastening the preparations for passing the river.

On the following morning, at day-break, the Archduke resolved to reconnoitre the island, and employ for this purpose part of the advanced guard, under the command of Field-Marshal Lieutenant Count Klenau, supported by some regiments of cavalry.

The isle of Lobau forms a convenient place of arms, which is about six English miles long, and four and a half broad; and being separated by the large arm of the Danube from the right bank, nothing prevents the building of a bridge, which is concealed by ground covered with bushes; and the great extent of the island affords the advantage of sending troops and ordnance from so many points of it, that the passage across the smaller arm to the large plain of Marchfeld, may be made good by force of arms.

It was soon perceived by the strength of the enemy's columns which advanced upon the island, and placed their cannon so as to support the second passage, that he meditated a serious attack. The advanced guard sustained a tolerably warm engagement, and the cavalry routed the first division of the enemy, which debouched from the low grounds on the edge of the river, late in the evening; upon which the Archduke, whose intention was not to prevent the passage of the enemy, but to attack him the following day, retreated with his cavalry to Anderklna, and ordered the advanced troops to fall back to Maass, according as the enemy should extend himself.

On the 21st at day-break, the Archduke ordered his army under arms, and formed it in two lines on the rising ground behind Gerasdorf, and between the Bisam-hill and the rivulet Russ. The corps of Lieutenant-General Hiller formed the right wing, near Stamsersdorf; on its left was the corps of the General of Cavalry Count Bellegarde, and next to that the corps of Lieut. Gen. Prince Hohenzollern, in the alignment of Deutsch-Wagram. The corps of Prince Rosenberg was posted by battalions in column on the Russbach, on the rivulet Russ, kept Deutsch-Wagram strongly occupied, having, for the security of the left wing, placed on the heights beyond that place a division en reserve. The whole cavalry, which the day before had advanced under the command of Prince Lichtenstein by Anderklna, was called back into the line, filing, in two lines, the space intervening between the left wing of Prince Hohenzollern and the right of Prince Rosenberg.

The vast plain of the Marchfeld, spread like a carpet before the front of the line, appeared, by the absence of every obstruction, to be destined to form the theatre of some great event. The grenadiers remained in reserve near Seiering, and the corps of the General of Artillery Prince of Reus, kept the Bisam-hill and the low bushy ground along the Danube strongly occupied.

At nine o'clock the Archduke ordered the arms to be piled, and the troops to dine. The piquet of observation on the Bisam-hill, reported that the bridge across the Danube behind the isle of Lobau, being now quite finished, was plainly perceivable, and that troops were without intermission seen filing off over it, as well as passing in boats, to the isle. The out-posts likewise gave information of the gradual augmentation of the enemy in the town of Enzersdorf, and in the villages of Essling and Aspern, and of his advancing towards Hirschstetten.

The Archduke Charles now thought that the moment for giving battle had arrived, and hastened to Gerasdorf, where the Chief of his Quarter-master-General's Staff, Gen. Baron Wimpfen, sketched out the following plan:—

[Here follows the Plan of attack, the principal object of which was "to drive back the enemy entirely over the first arms of the Danube, destroy the bridges he had thrown over them, and occupying the bank of the Lobau with a numerous artillery, especially howitzers."]

The 1st Column consisted of 19 Battalions,	22 Squad.
2d — — — — — 20 — — — —	16 — — — —
3d — — — — — 22 — — — —	8 — — — —
4th — — — — — 13 — — — —	8 — — — —
5th — — — — — 13 — — — —	16 — — — —
The corps of Cavalry	— — — — 78 — —
The corps of Grenadiers	16 — — — —
Total	103 Battal. 148 Squad.

all which amounted to 75,000 effective troops.

Of artillery there were two hundred and eighty-eight pieces of different calibres.

The enemy had availed himself extremely well of the advantages of the ground to cover his passage. The extensive villages of Essling and Aspern, mostly composed of brick houses, and encircled all round by heaps of earth, resembled two bastions, between which a double line of natural trenches, intended to draw off the water, served as the curtain, and afforded every possible security to the columns passing from the isle of Lobau. Essling had a granary furnished with loop-holes, and whose three stories afforded room for several hundred men, while Aspern was provided with a strong church-yard. The left side of the latter village borders on an arm of the Danube. Both villages had a safe communication with the bushy ground near the Danube, from which the enemy had it constantly in his power to dispatch, unseen, fresh reinforcements. The isle of Lobau served at once as a place of arms and as a *tete-de-pont*, (a bridge-head) for the bridge, in the rear across the main arm of the river.

The enemy, with divisions of Generals Mollitor, Boudet, Nansouty, Legrand, Espagne, Lasalle, and Ferrand, under the Marshals Massena and Lasnes, as well as Marshal Bessieres, together with the guards of the Wurtemberg, Hesse-Darmstadt, and Baden auxiliaries, had already left this position, and was directing his march towards Hirschstetten, when the first Austrian guards advanced to meet him.

If it be at all permitted in war to indulge favourable presentiments, it was certainly excusable so to do at that great moment, when, on the 21st of May, exactly at twelve o'clock, the columns began to put themselves in motion for the attack. A general enthusiasm had taken possession of the troops; joyful war-songs, accompanied by Turkish music, resounded through the air, and were interrupted by shouts of "Long live our Emperor, long live the Archduke Charles!" whenever the Imperial General appeared, who had placed himself at the head of the second column. Every breast panted with anxious desire and high confidence after the decisive moment; and the finest weather favoured the awful scene.

BATTLE OF THE 21ST OF MAY.

First Column.

The advanced guard under Gen. Nordman, consisting of two battalions of Hussars, had formed near the destroyed bridge of Tabor, and leaving the villages of Kagran and Hirschstetten to the left, and Stadlau to the right, marched in the plain towards Aspern.

It was followed by the column, which having left the high road before the post-office at Stammersdorf, had marched from the right by half divisions. Its right flank along the Danube was covered by a battalion of St. Georgians, by the first battalion of Vienna volunteers, and by a battalion of militia.

Within a cannon-shot of Stadlau the out-posts met the enemy's piquets, which gradually retreated to their original divisions.

At this time Gen. Nordman ordered two battalions to draw up en echelon, in order to favour the advance of the column. The enemy, drawn up in large divisions, stood immediately before Aspern, having, to cover his front, occupied all the ditches of the fields, which afforded excellent breast-work:—his right was covered by a battery, and his left by a deep and broad ditch (one of those that carry off the waters of the Danube when it overflows), as well as by a bushy ground, which was likewise occupied by several bodies in close order.

Though the enemy had the advantage of position all to himself, inasmuch as the freshes of the Danube were only passable by means of a small bridge, at which he kept up a vigorous fire from behind the ditches both with cannon and small arms, it did not prevent the second battalion of Gyulay, immediately after the first had penetrated as far as the bushy meadows, to pass the bridge in a column, to form without delay, and with charged bayonets to attack the enemy, who precipitately retreated to Aspern, on which occasion that village, after a vigorous but not very obstinate resistance, was taken for the first time. It was, however, not long before the enemy had it in his power, by the arrival of a fresh reinforcement, to expel again the battalions of Gyulay. By this time some battalions of the column had arrived; the Chasseurs of the second column joined the advanced guard of the first; Gyulay formed again, and the enemy was a second time pushed to the lower end of the village, though he succeeded again in regaining what he had lost.

Both parties were aware of the necessity of maintaining themselves in Aspern at any rate, which produced successively the most obstinate efforts both of attack and defence; the parties engaged each other in every street, in every house, and in every barn; carts, ploughs, and harrows, were obliged to be removed during an uninterrupted fire, in order to get at the enemy; every individual wall was an impediment of the assailants, and a rampart of the attacked; the steeple, lofty trees, the garrets and the cellars were to be conquered before either of the parties could stile itself master of the place, and yet the possession was ever of short duration; for no sooner had we taken a street or a house, than the enemy gained another, forcing us to abandon the former. So this murderous conflict lasted for seven hours; the German battalions were supported by Hungarians, who were again assisted by the Vienna volunteers, each rivalling the other in courage and perseverance. At the same time the 2d column equipped its attacks with those of the first, having to overcome the same resistance, by reason of the enemy's constantly loading fresh reinforcements into fire. At length Gen. Wacquant, of the second column, succeeded, becoming master of the upper part of the village, and maintaining himself there during the whole of the night.

By the shells of both parties many houses had been set on fire, and illuminated the whole country.

At the extremity of the right wing on the bushy meadow, the combats were not less severe. The left flank of the enemy were secured by an arm of the Danube; impenetrable underwood, intersected only by foot-paths, covered his front, and a broad ditch and pallisadoes afforded him the advantage of a natural rampart.

Here fought at the beginning of the battle the battalion of Gyulay, under Col. Mariassy; then the battalion of Chasseurs, under Major Schneider; next the St. Georgians, under Major

Mihailovich; and finally, the two battalions of Vienna Volunteers, under Lieut.-Cols. Steigentesch and St. Quintin. Here, also, the enemy was defeated, and the first day of this sanguinary engagement terminated by the occupation of Aspern by General Wacquant, at the head of eight battalions of the second column, while Lieut. Field-Marshal Hiller drew his troops of the corps from the village, placed them again in order of battle, and passed the night under arms.

Second Column.

The advanced guard, commanded by Lieut. Gen. Fresnel, advanced towards Hirschstetten. It was followed in the same direction by the column from its position near Gerasdorf.

The enemy having been discovered from the eminencies to be near Aspern and Esslingen, the Brigade Veesey was detached against the latter place, and the Brigade Winzingerode to dislodge the enemy from Aspern.

The column deployed before Hirschstetten, in order to support the advanced guard, and leaving Aspern to the right, followed upon the plain at a proper distance.

The brigade of Winzingerode, however, met with so spirited a resistance in its attempt upon Aspern, that an attack upon the front alone was not likely to be attended with success; the cavalry, therefore, of the advanced guard was pushed forward from Aspern on the left, in order to support the attack on the flank with the two batteries of cavalry, as well as to facilitate the junction with the third column, which was advancing by Breitenlee. At the same time, the regiment of Reuss Plauen was ordered to the right side of Aspern, with a view to an attack on that place; the rest of the corps was formed into close columns of battalions.

Meanwhile the enemy formed his left wing, which he refused, towards Aspern, and his right upon Esslingen. Thus he advanced with columns of infantry and cavalry upon the main army, while an extremely brisk cannonade supported him. A line of twelve regiments of cuirassiers formed the centre of the second line of the enemy, giving to the whole an imposing aspect.

Meanwhile the attack of a battalion of Reuss Plauen on Aspern was repulsed, and it gave way, being thrown into consternation by the loss of its Commander, but it rallied immediately after. Count Bellegarde ordered General Wacquant to renew the attack upon the regiment of Vogelsang, and to carry the village at all hazards. The latter obeyed the order with the most brilliant success; and Aspern, though defended by 12,000 of the best of the enemies' troops, was carried by storm; Wacquant being assisted by the regiment of Reuss Plauen, by a battalion of Archduke Rainer, and by the brigade of Maier of the third column.

To frustrate this attack, the enemy advanced with two columns of infantry, supported by his heavy cavalry, upon the main army, repulsed the two regiments of Klenau and Vincent's light horse, and fell upon the infantry.

The latter expecting him with their firelocks ready, and with cool intrepidity, fired at ten paces distance so effectually, as totally to rout the enemy; upon which General Veesey, at the head of a division of Klenau, attacked the enemies' cuirassiers with such energy, that their retreat was followed by that of the infantry.

Hereby the army along the whole of its line was disengaged from the enemy, obtained communication on the left with the corps of Prince Hohenzollern, and became possessed of the important post of Aspern. The enemy being in full retreat, attempted no further attack, and confined himself merely to a cannonade. The corps remained during the night under arms. The enemy repeated, indeed, his attacks on Aspern, but they all proved unsuccessful.

Third Column.

This column, according to its destination, had begun its march from its position at Seiering, by the road of Sissenbrunn and Breitenlee. Some divisions of Q'Reilly's light horse and chasseurs formed the advanced guard of the column, and at three o'clock in the afternoon met near Hirschstetten the left wing of the enemy, which consisted mostly of cavalry.

As about this time the first and second columns advanced in

trepidly upon Aspern, and the enemy began to fall back to his position between Esslingen and Aspern. Lieutenant-General Hohenzollern ordered up his batteries, and a very brisk cannonade commenced on both sides.

The first line formed in close columns of battalions, and advanced with the greatest resolution upon the enemy, when his cavalry suddenly rushed forward in such disproportionate numbers, and with such rapidity, that there was scarcely time to save the artillery which had been brought up, and the battalions were left to defend themselves by their own unsupported exertions. This was the remarkable moment in which the regiments of Zach, Joseph Colloredo, Zettwitz, Froom, a battalion of Stein's, and the second battalion of the Archduke Charles's legion, under the conduct of Lieut.-General Brady and Generals Buresch, Maier, and Koller, demonstrated with unparalleled fortitude what the fixed determination to conquer or die is capable of effecting against the most impetuous attacks.

The enemy's cavalry turned these battalions on both wings, penetrated between them, repulsed the squadrons of O'Reilly's light horse, who were unable to withstand such a superior force, and, in the confidence of victory, summoned these corps of heroes to lay down their arms. A well directed and destructive fire was the answer to this degrading proposition, and the enemy's cavalry abandoned the field, leaving behind them a considerable number of dead.

This corps, as well as the others, passed the night on the field of battle.

Fourth and Fifth Columns.

These were both composed of the corps of Lieutenant-General Prince Rosenberg, on either bank of the Russbach, and directed their march from their position to the right and left of Deutsch-Wagram.

The fourth proceeded through Roschdorf straight to Esslingen.

The fifth directed its march towards the left, in order to go a circuit round the little town of Enzersdorf, and drive the enemy out of the place. It was reinforced by Stipsic's hussars.

As this circuit round Enzersdorf obliged the fifth to describe a longer line, it was necessary for the fourth to advance rather more slowly.

Enzersdorf, however, was quickly taken possession of by a detachment of Stipsic's hussars, and of the Wallacho Illyrian Frontier regiment, as it was already for the greatest part evacuated by the enemy, from whom no more than thirty prisoners could be taken.

Both columns now received orders to advance upon Esslingen. The fourth, in close columns of battalions of Ozartowsky's, Archduke Louis's and Coburgs, who were twice successively attacked by upwards of two thousand of the enemy's heavy cavalry; but these were each time put to flight by our brave infantry with considerable loss.

Of the fifth column, two battalions advanced directly upon Esslingen, while two battalions were ordered to penetrate the left flank of the village, and the small contiguous wood. Two battalions, besides the Archduke Ferdinand's and Stipsic's regiments of hussars, and two divisions of light horse, were in the plain in readiness to support them.

These combined attacks were made twice successively with uncommon rapidity. The enemy's troops were repulsed at all points, and driven into the village of Esslingen, which had been set on fire. But as the enemy's army was drawn up in several lines between Esslingen and Aspern, and met each new attack with fresh reinforcements, because the safety of his retreat depended on the possession of this village, our troops were obliged to abandon it at the approach of night, and to await, under arms, the arrival of morning.

The reserved corps of cavalry had marched in two columns, and advanced upon the New Inn between Raschdorf and Breitenlee.

No sooner did the enemy perceive the general advance of the army, than he placed the bulk of his cavalry, supported by some battalions of infantry, in order of battle between Esslingen and Aspern, and commenced a brisk cannonade upon the Austrian cavalry as they approached.

Prince Lichtenstein directed his columns to march forward in two lines, on which the enemy detached four or five thousand cavalry from his position to the right by way of Esslingen, and excited some apprehension that he would impede the progress of the fourth column, or even break through it. The Prince therefore ordered four regiments to the left, and kept the second column formed in two lines, till he was convinced that the fourth would not meet with any impediment to its march.

During this movement, the remainder of the enemy's cavalry also advanced with the greatest confidence towards the right wing of the Austrians. They were received with a firmness which they probably did not expect. The intrepidity of the cavalry which had marched up, particularly Maurice Lichtenstein's regiment and the Archduke Francis's Cuirassiers, frustrated the repeated assaults of the enemy by counter-attacks, by which they at length put a stop to his impetuous advance, and completely repulsed him with considerable loss. In these conflicts, the French General Durosnel, Equerry to the Emperor, was taken prisoner a few paces from him; as was also General Fowler, Equerry to the Empress, after having been slightly wounded. Notwithstanding the fire of musketry which now ensued, the Prince ordered a general advance, by which the enemy was straitened in the *alignement* between Esslingen and Aspern; but, on account of the flanking fire from Esslingen, could not be pursued any further. The fire of his guns was answered with spirit by the horse artillery. About seven in the evening, 3000 horse were again detached towards the point of union between the cavalry of the reserve and the left wing of Prince Hohenzollern, and fell en masse upon the Cuirassiers of Generals Kroyher, Klary, and Siegenthal; but by the steady intrepidity of the Blankenstein's and Reich's regiments, who with the utmost gallantry made a sudden attack on the enemy's flanks, his cavalry was again repulsed; and part of it, which had fallen upon some of the new levies, placed in the third line, was cut off and there taken.

Meanwhile night came on, and it was passed by the Prince in the best state of preparation on the ground which he had gained from the enemy.

For the first time Napoleon has sustained a defeat in Germany. From this moment he was reduced to the rank of bold and successful Generals, who, like himself, after a long series of destructive achievement, experienced the vicissitudes of fortune. The charm of his invincibility was dissolved. No longer the spoiled child of Fortune, by posterity he will be characterised as the sport of the fickle Goddess. New hopes begin to animate the oppressed nations. To the Austrian army the 21st of May was a grand and glorious epoch, that must inspire it with a consciousness of its strength, and a confidence in its energies. Overwhelmed by our irresistible infantry, its proud opponents were extended in the dust, and the presence of their hitherto unconquered Emperor was no longer capable of snatching from the heroes of Austria the laurels which they had acquired.

Napoleon's glory was obviously at stake. New efforts were to be expected the following day; but he was also obliged to fight for his existence. By means of fire-ships sent down the Danube, the Archduke had caused the enemy's bridge on the Lobau to be broken down, and its repairs would take up several hours. Meanwhile Napoleon had already in the evening been joined by the corps of General Oudinot; and all the disposable troops followed from Vienna and the Upper Danube, and were transported across the river in vessels as fast as they arrived. The Archduke on his part, ordered the grenadier corps, which had not had any share in the first engagement, to advance from its position near Gerasdorf to Breitenlee; and the short night was scarcely sufficient to complete the respective preparations for the commencement of a second tragedy.

BATTLE OF THE 22d OF MAY.

Corps of Lieutenant-General Hiller.

With the morning's dawn the enemy renewed his attacks, which far surpassed in impetuosity those of the preceding day. It was a conflict of valour and mutual exasperation. Scarcely

and the French guards compelled Gen. Wacquant to abandon Aspern, when the regiment of Klebek again penetrated into the burning village, drove back the choicest troops of the enemy, and engaged in a new contest in the midst of the conflagration, till at the expiration of an hour it was also obliged to give way. The regiment of Benjovsky now rushed in, and at the first onset gained possession of the church-yard, the walls of which Field-Marshal Lieutenant Hiller immediately ordered the first division of pioneers to pull down, and the church, together with the parsonage, to be set on fire. Thus was this regiment, supported by some battalions, at length enabled to maintain itself at the entrance of the village, after overcoming the resistance, bordering on despair, opposed by the flower of the French army.

Neither could the enemy produce any farther effect upon the bushy meadow, after Lieut. General Hiller had ordered the force there to be supported by two battalions and a battery; on which the Jagers, St. George's, and two battalions of Vienna Volunteers, drove him from his advantageous position, which he never afterwards attempted to recover.

As about this time the left wing of the corps was likewise placed in security by three batteries sent by the Lieut.-General, to support Count Bellegarde, and the latter maintained his ground against the most desperate attacks of the enemy: the Lieut.-General Hiller kept his position on the left flank of the enemy, and the victory was decided in this quarter. The corps was therefore again formed in two lines, and thus awaited the approaching events.

Corps of the General of Cavalry Count Bellegarde.

Count Bellegarde having received a message from General Wacquant that the enemy was assembling in force before Aspern towards the bushy meadow, and apparently had in view an assault upon that point, was just going to throw a fresh battalion of Argenteau's into Aspern, when the enemy, in heavy columns of infantry and cavalry, supported by a numerous artillery, began to advance upon the centre of the corps in the plain.

The troops stationed at Aspern, exhausted as they were with the incessant fire kept up during the night, were unable to withstand the impetuosity of the attack; their ammunition began to fail, and General Wacquant retreated in good order to the church-yard. This post, gained at so dear a rate, was again taken from him, after several attacks sustained in conjunction with Lieut.-General Hiller; the place was alternately taken and lost, till at length the superiority of our fire obliged the enemy to abandon the houses, and a last assault of Hiller's corps prevented all further attempts.

From the moment of the retaking of Aspern, it became possible to oppose an offensive movement to the enemy advancing upon the centre, and to operate upon his left flank and communication. The defence of Aspern was therefore left entirely to Hiller's corps, and while Count Bellegarde appaid his right wing on Aspern, he formed his left and centre in the direction of Esslingen, in such a manner that, by degrees, he gained the right flank of the enemy, compelled him to retreat, and by the complete effect of the artillery, brought to bear upon the left wing, which commanded the whole space from Aspern to Esslingen, gave him a most severe defeat.

Corps of Lieut.-General the Prince of Hohenzollern.

The dawn of the morning was with this corps also the signal for the renewal of the gigantic conflict. The enemy's infantry was drawn up in large divisions, and between it the whole of the heavy cavalry was formed in masses. Prince Lichtenstein, on observing this order of battle, perceived the necessity of keeping up a close communication with the infantry placed near him; he therefore drew up his right wing *en echiquier*, behind the corps of infantry, but kept his left wing together, with reserves posted in the rear.

A prodigious quantity of artillery covered the front of the enemy, who seemed desirous to annihilate our corps by the murderous fire of cannon and howitzers. Upwards of 200 pieces of cannon were engaged on both sides, and the oldest soldiers never recalled to see, witnessed so tremendous a fire. Vein was the intrepidity of the Aus-

trian troops. Napoleon rode through his ranks, and, according to the report of the prisoners, made them acquainted with the destruction of his bridge, but added, that he had himself ordered it to be broken down, because in this case there was no alternative but Victory or Death. Soon afterwards the whole of the enemy's line put itself into motion, and the cavalry made its principal attack on the point where the corps of cavalry of Prince Lichtenstein communicated with the left wing of the Prince of Hohenzollern. The engagement now became general; the regiments of Rohan, D'Aspre, Joseph Colloredo, and Stain, repulsed all the attacks of the enemy. The Generals were every where at the head of their troops, and inspired them with courage and perseverance. The Archduke himself seized the colours of Zach, and the battalion which had already begun to give way followed with new enthusiasm his heroic example. Most of those who surrounded him were wounded; his Adjutant-General, Count Colloredo, received a ball in his head, the wound from which was at first considered dangerous; a squeeze of the hand signified to him the concern of his sympathizing commander, who, filled with contempt of death, now fought for glory and for his country.

The attacks of our impenetrable corps, both with the sabre and the bayonet, so rapidly repeated and so impetuous, as to be unparalleled in military annals, frustrated all the intentions of the enemy.

He was beaten at all points; and astonished at such undaunted intrepidity, he was obliged to leave the field of battle.

About this time, the Prince of Hohenzollern observed on his left wing, near Esslingen, a chasm, which had been formed during the heat of the engagement, and afforded an advantageous point of attack. Frolich's regiment was ordered thither, and repulsed four regiments of cavalry, accompanied with infantry and artillery. The corps remained in the position which they had taken, till the grenadiers of the reserve arrived to relieve the battalions exhausted with the sanguinary conflict, and continued the attack upon the centre of the enemy's position. Lieut.-General D'Aspre penetrated with four battalions of grenadiers, without firing a shot, to the enemy's cannon, where he was flanked by such a destructive fire from Esslingen, that nothing but the presence of the Archduke, who hastened to the spot, could have induced his grenadiers to maintain their ground. Capt. Count Dombasle had already reached the enemy's battery, when he was wounded by two balls, and quitted the field.

About noon the Archduke ordered a new assault upon Esslingen, which was immediately undertaken by Field Marshal Lieut. D'Aspre, with the grenadier battalions of Kirchenbeter and Scavaux on the left, and Scharluch and Georgy in front. Five times did these gallant troops rush up to the very walls of the houses, burning internally, and placed in a state of defence; some of the grenadiers thrust their bayonets into the enemy's loop-holes; but all their efforts were fruitless, for their antagonists fought the fight of despair. The Archduke ordered the grenadiers to take up their former position, and when they afterwards volunteered to renew the attack, he would not permit them, as the enemy was then in full retreat.

Corps of Field Marshal Lieutenant Prince Rosenberg.

Both divisions of this corps were formed before break of day for a new attack, for which the enemy likewise made preparation on his side, but with a manifest superiority in numbers.

Prince Rosenberg resolved to attack the village of Esslingen with the Archduke Charles's regiment of infantry, to push forward his other troops in battalions, and in particular to go and meet the enemy, who was advancing in the open country between Esslingen and the nearest arm of the Danube.

The village was already gained; and battalions advancing on the left, obliged the enemy, drawn up in several lines, to yield. The most violent cannonade was kept up incessantly on both sides, and it was sustained by the troops with the greatest fortitude.

Favoured by a fog, which suddenly came on, the enemy's heavy cavalry ventured to attack on all sides the corps formed by Szarray's and Hiller's regiments of infantry. These brave



fellows received them with fixed bayonets, and at the last moment poured in their fire with such effect, that the enemy was compelled to betake himself to flight with considerable loss. Five times were these attacks repeated, and each time were they repelled with equal courage and resolution.

Coburg's, the Archduke Lewis's, and Czartorisky's regiments belonging to the division of Lieut.-General Dedovich, stationed on the right, renewed the exertions of the preceding day with the same distinction and the same success. After this severe conflict, the enemy seemed to have no inclination to expose himself to any fresh disaster, and confined himself merely to the operations of his superior artillery.

About eleven A. M. Prince Rosenberg received orders from the Commander in Chief to make a new attack upon Esslingen, and a message to the same effect was sent to Lieut.-General Dedovich.

Prince Rosenberg immediately formed two columns of attack, under Lieut.-General Prince Hohenlohe and Rohan, while Lieut.-General Dedovich advanced against the citadel of the place, and the magazine surrounded with walls and ditches.

The attack was made with redoubled bravery, and our troops rushed with irresistible impetuosity into the village. Still, however, they found it impossible to maintain this post, into which the enemy kept continually throwing new reinforcements, which was of the utmost importance for recovering his retreat, which he had already resolved upon, and which he defended with an immense sacrifice of lives. Prince Rosenberg therefore resolved to confine himself to the obstinate maintenance of his own position, to secure the left flank of the army, and to increase the embarrassment of the enemy by an incessant fire from all the batteries.

In the night between the 22d and 23d the enemy accomplished his retreat to the Lobau, and at three in the morning his rear guard also had evacuated Esslingen and all the points which he had occupied on the left bank of the Danube. Some divisions pursued him closely, and took possession as near as possible of the necessary posts of observation.

Thus terminated a conflict of two days, which will be ever memorable in the annals of the world, and in the history of war. It was the most obstinate and bloody that has occurred since the commencement of the French Revolution. It was decisive for the glory of the Austrian arms, for the preservation of the monarchy, and for the correction of the public opinion.

The infantry has entered upon a new and brilliant career, and by the firm confidence it has manifested in its own energies, has paved the way to new victories. The enemy's cavalry has seen its acquired but hitherto untried glory dissipated by the masses of our battalions, whose cool intrepidity it was unable to endure.

Cavalry and artillery have surpassed themselves in valour, and in the space of two days have performed achievements sufficient for a whole campaign.

Three pieces of cannon, seven ammunition waggons, 17,000 French muskets, and about 3000 cuirasses fell into the hands of the conqueror. The loss on both sides was very great; this, and the circumstance that very few prisoners were taken by either party, proves the determination of the combatants either to conquer or die.

The Austrian army laments the death of 87 superior officers, and 4199 subalterns and privates. Lieut. Generals Prince Rohan, Dedovich, Weber, and Frenel; Generals Winzingerode, Grill, Neustadter, Siegenthal, Colloredo, May Hohenfeld, and Buresch; 663 officers, and 15,651 subalterns and privates were wounded. Of these Field Marshal Lieutenant Weber, 8 officers, and 829 men were taken prisoners by the enemy.

The loss of the enemy was prodigious, and exceeds all expectation. It can only be accounted for by the effect of our concentric fire on an exceedingly confined field of battle, where all the batteries crossed one another, and calculated by the following authentic data.—Generals Lasnes, D'Espagne, St. Hilaire, and Albuquerque, are dead; Massena, Bessieres, Molitor, Boudet, Legrand, Lasalle, and the two brothers Lagrange, wounded; Durosuel and Fouler, taken. Upwards of 7000 men, and an immense number of horses, were buried on the field

of battle; five thousand and some hundred wounded sent to our hospitals. In Vienna and the suburbs there are at present 29,773 wounded; many were carried to St. Polten, Com, and as far as Lintz; 2300 were taken. Several hundreds of corpses floated down the Danube, and are still daily thrown upon its shores; many met their death in the island of Lobau; and since the water has fallen in the smaller arms of the river, innumerable bodies, thus consigned by their comrades to everlasting oblivion, have become visible. The burying of the sufferers is not yet over, and a pestilential air is wafted from the theatre of death.

His Imperial Highness the Generalissimo has indeed undertaken the duty so dear to his heart, of acquainting the Monarch and the Country with the names of those who took the most active share in the achievements of these glorious days; but he acknowledges with profound emotion, that, amidst the rivalry of the highest military virtues, it is scarcely possible to distinguish the most valiant, and declares all the Soldiers of Aspern worthy of public gratitude. His Imperial Highness considers the intelligent dispositions of the Chief of the Staff, Gen. Baron Wimpffen, and his incessant exertions, as the foundation of the victory. The officers commanding corps have rendered themselves deserving of the highest favours by uncommon devotedness, personal bravery, warm attachment to their Sovereign, and their high sense of honour. Their names will be transmitted to posterity with the achievements of the valiant troops who were under their direction. Col. Smola, of the artillery, by his indefatigable activity in the proper application of the ordnance, and his well known bravery, rendered the most important services. The commanding officers of corps and columns have furnished the following list of the Generals, Staff, and superior Officers, who particularly distinguished themselves. —[Here follows a long list of Officers.]

Sub-Lieutenant Count Rozewusky distinguished himself in a manner that does him the highest honour. On the attack of the grenadiers, he voluntarily accompanied Lieutenant-General D'Aspre into the thickest of the fire, and when the Field Marshal's horse was shot under him, he sprang from his, and presented it to him with these words:—"You want him more than I." He then joined on foot in the assault made by the grenadiers, till a wound which he received put an end to his exertions. As a reward for such extraordinary zeal, his Imperial Highness has appointed Sub-Lieutenant Count Rozewusky Captain of the Hulans.

Many individual traits of heroism are not yet known, and consequently cannot be recorded. Thus Corporal Prager took prisoner one of the enemy's *Chefs d'Escadron* before the mass of his battalion. Corporals Donner and Horner, and the privates Pressich, Hirna, and Semerlia, of the battalion of Prince Kinsky's legion, were cut off by a fire of musketry from their corps, and surrounded by the enemy's cavalry; they fought their way through, and rejoined their battalion. The *Oberjäger* Fickerberger and the *Unterjäger* Schasser penetrated into the French Emperor's guard, and seized one of the enemy's Captains in the midst of his ranks. The private Larda, of Duke Albert's cuirassiers, retook a six-pounder which had fallen into the enemy's hands, and brought it back with its equipage. Serjeant Pop, of Chasteler's, snatched the colours of his battalion from the hands of the dying 1st Lieutenant, Cazau, who had himself taken it from the Ensign who had been killed, and headed his troop with the most exemplary intrepidity. Among the artillery, there are few but what highly distinguished themselves by deeds of the noblest daring and contempt of every danger.

But a grateful country will not fail to hold in honourable remembrance the departed heroes who found death in the arms of victory. In this number those particularly worthy of mention are, Colonel de Fiennes of Belegarde's; Major Danzer of O'Reilly's; Major Gerdech, of Froun's; Captain Charles Kaiser and Kogvsky of Rosenberg's; Captain Surgeant of Reoss-Greyx's; First Lieutenant Cazau of Chasteler's; and Lieutenant Zakazill, of the artillery, who displayed the most extraordinary proofs of valour, and with his dying breath recommended his widow to the paternal care of his Majesty.

SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

This Gazette contains a Letter from Captain Warren, of the *Bellerophon*, giving an account of an attack made by the boats of that ship, under Lieutenant Pilch, on a Russian battery, upon one of the islands near Hango Head, which was carried, after an obstinate resistance, the guns spiked, and the magazine destroyed. Three vessels were taken, but were abandoned as of no consequence. The enemy's loss was great. The British had five men wounded.

BANKRUPTCY ENLARGED.

J. Gorton, Manchester, merchant, from July 4 to July 25, at ten, at the New Exchange Buildings, Manchester.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

J. Dumelow, Hinckley, Leicestershire, grocer.

BANKRUPTS.

J. Atkins, Norwood, dealer in cattle. Attornies, Messrs. Collett, Wimburn, and Collett, Chancery-lane.

R. Manning, Stock-Exchange, London, stock-broker. Attornies, Messrs. Nethersole and Portal, Essex-street.

I. Fennel, Bath, builder. Attorney, Mr. Jacobs, Bristol.

W. Heywood and R. S. Heywood, Manchester, linen-draper. Attornies, Messrs. Duckworth and Co. Manchester.

A. M. Hockly, Wickwar, maltster. Attornies, Messrs. Rolph and Parslow, Thornbury.

G. Gibson, Liverpool, mariner. Attorney, Mr. Avior, Liverpool.

E. Harris, Whitechapel, stationer. Attorney, Mr. Harman, Fleet-street.

T. Swaine, Birmingham, common carrier. Attornies, Messrs. Smith and Arnold, Birmingham.

R. Pick, Wakefield, grocer. Attorney, Mr. Scholefield, Horbury.

CERTIFICATES—AUGUST 5.

P. Stuart, Fleet-street, printer.—J. and J. Brown, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, sadlers.—D. Whitmarsh, Brokenhurst, Hants.—E. Bradley, sen. Bromley, Middlesex, baker.—H. J. Powell, Uxbridge, builder.—J. T. Chowles, Finch-lane, Cornhill, painter.—W. Anderson, Chorlton-row, Lancashire, builder.—V. Unsworth, Ardwick, Lancashire, cotton-spinner.—G. Miller, Woolwich, taylor.—J. C. Finch, Russell-court, Drury-lane, tavern-keeper.—W. Procter, Great Ealing, Middlesex, dealer.—T. Roe, Wolverhampton, druggist.—J. Gill, Naburn, Yorkshire, draper.—E. and H. Beaton, Portsmouth, butchers.

SATURDAY.—ST. SWITHIN.—HOLIDAY AT THE PUBLIC OFFICES.

The press of matter obliges me to defer the Criticism on Mr. DIMOND'S Play till next Sunday, and to apologize for the non-insertion this day of the LETTER respecting Lord CHATHAM.—J. F. on the METHODISTS, AMICUS, and "A READER," are delayed for the same reason.

THE EXAMINER.

LONDON, JULY 16.

ACCOUNTS from the Austrian head-quarters, received at Prague in the middle of last month, state, that considerable movements were observed through the whole line of the enemy's army, and that a battle was momentarily expected. It had not taken place however as late as the 24th, and no news has been received from the Danube since that day. This delay is said to be owing to such ominous appearances, that the Parisians have not only become melancholy, but BONAPARTE himself has gone mad and been sent home by his Generals! This is one method of reduc-

ing him to a level with the "legitimate" monarchs, but unluckily he has never shewn his reasoning powers so much as in times of difficulty, and if such a man goes mad with despair in the capital of his enemy, I know those who would go mad with joy to be in such a situation. But in truth, it is the Austrians, who seem to have gone mad at the very idea of having given him a check, for in a long account which they have published of the late battle they tell us that this battle, which by their own confession failed in two of its objects, and which has still left the enemy in the heart of their country, has been "decisive for the preservation of the Austrian monarchy," and that in consequence of a single check, "NAPOLEON will be characterized by posterity as the sport of the fickle Goddess Fortune." The extravagant sallies of his enemies on such an occasion give one as great an idea of the man, as their consternation at other times.

Ourselves and our allies seem to forget, that when a powerful enemy, with the passages to his country open behind him and a complication of talent in his Generals, is in possession of his enemy's capital, while the enemy in the midst of their own countrymen and resources cannot manage to cross a river and attack him, the chances are not only against the latter, but a hundred to one against them; and we should soon reason differently, were BONAPARTE in possession of London under the same circumstances, and our last resources collected against him in Surrey. In other respects the document is candid and well-written, and the dignified honour of the Archduke is well displayed in his mention of General WIMPFEN, to whose "intelligent disposition and incessant exertions" he attributes "the foundation of the victory." This is indeed to conquer BONAPARTE in a soldier's finest virtue, a generous heart; but as to military invincibility, no man ever thought the Frenchman invincible, except against corrupt states and systems, and no doubt he is so still. If any body can give him a check, it is certainly the Archduke CHARLES, an excellent soldier and an uncorrupt statesman; and if adversity could have taught the Austrian Court to be like its hero, BONAPARTE would no longer be invincible; but to check is not to conquer; to render a man partially resistible, is not to take away his power of being generally irresistible; and when we talk of vincible and invincible, we must look to great results not to common reverses. If BONAPARTE conquer Austria, history will still say that Austria found him invincible: and if one may judge from all past, present, and probable events, the Archduke will still be found invincible in honour, but his antagonist quite as invincible in success.

Letters from Dover received yesterday state that the French flotilla sailed on Thursday last from Boulogne, and had reached half way between that port and Calais, when they were obliged to put back by an adverse wind. Some letters state the amount of this flotilla to be between four and 500, and others at 250. It is however, certain, that

they have been obliged to put back. It is supposed that they were destined for Flushing, in consequence of an expected Expedition from this country.

Of *Negotiation*—an *Armistice*—and *Peace*—a battle on the Danube—*Insurrections*—a Northern Confederacy against France—the destination of the Grand Expedition—and lastly, the *insanity* of BONAPARTE—the reports are as numerous as they are absurd and improbable. On the subject of the departure of the Expedition, it is said that early this morning (Sunday), the Earl of CHATHAM, and a numerous train of Officers, will leave town for Ramsgate, where a *sumptuous dinner* is ordered to be ready on their arrival. The first division is expected to sail on Tuesday.

The following ships have arrived from India:—William Pitt, Hugh Inglis, Earl St. Vincent, Harriet, Sir William Bensley, Huddart, Indus, Northumberland, Euphrates, Sovereign, and Lord Eldon.

By the recent arrivals from India, intelligence has been received of some disturbances having taken place at Travancore, where the DEWAT had assumed the supreme authority, embodied the natives, and attacked our troops at Quilon and Cochin. Several skirmishes had taken place, in which about 200 of our troops had been killed and wounded. The new Rajah of COCHIN had joined the Travancorians, after two Rajahs had previously been put to death in succession, for refusing to join them. Col. MACAULEY, the President, had gone on board the Piedmontaise, off Cochin. Gen. MAITLAND had sent the 19th regiment from Columbo, as a reinforcement to Quilon.

An unpleasant dispute is stated to have arisen at Madras, between Gen. MACDOWALL and the Government, in consequence of the former having ordered Lieut.-Col. MONRO, Quarter-Master-General, under arrest, of which the latter disapproved. The General protested against the conduct of Government, and subsequently took his passage for Europe in the Lady Jane Dundas. It is said he had great difficulty in getting away, the Government having attempted to compel him to disembark.

Mr. JACKSON, the new Envoy, has taken his departure for the United States. Carrying out, as he does, the news of BONAPARTE'S defeat on the Danube, he of course is instructed to assume a lofty tone. It is really a curious fact, that defiance or conciliation, with respect to America, has ever been occasioned by success or defeat on the Continent. Ministers, like all weak-minded men, appear to act from *circumstances*, and not from *principle*.

His Majesty's ship Greyhound, Captain PAKENHAM, is lost on the coast of Luconia; but only one seaman suffered. Captain PAKENHAM and the crew had arrived at Manilla, and were proceeding from thence in carts, when Capt. PAKENHAM and 150 men, in the Discovery, unfortunately fell in with two French frigates and were captured. The Diana, with the remainder of the crew, escaped, and is arrived at Penang.

Mr. DIXON, of place-begging memory, gave notice on Wednesday, in the Common Council, of a motion to rescind the proceedings of the Court for thanking Mr. WARDLE, and presenting him with the Freedom of the City, in a box of one hundred guineas value, on account of the circumstances which have since transpired on a late trial. Mr. DIXON, weak as he may be, cannot suppose this motion will succeed; but it will please those who have the good things of office to bestow, and that is of much more importance to the DIXONS.

Intelligence has been received that Cuxhaven has been taken possession of by a small party of the British.

The Gazette of last night contains an Order in Council for a General Embargo on all vessels in the Ports of the United Kingdom.

The Melpomene frigate, Capt. WARREN, lately had a severe action in the Great Belt, with 20 Danish gun-boats.

A special General Court of India Proprietors was held on Friday, when Mr. SANSON, after a very eloquent speech, moved, "That the Resolution of the Court of Directors, dismissing certain Writers and Cadets from the Company's Service, was not necessary, and should not be carried into execution."—This motion was warmly opposed, and the previous question was finally carried; so that all the young men, whose friends had purchased situations for them, are to be recalled. Thus the innocent and not the guilty are to suffer; the purchasers, and not those who basely and meanly received the money, are to be punished.—This may indeed be East Indian justice, but it is not English; it is not even common honesty: in short, it is the climax of oppression and cruelty; and it is to be hoped will be one means of putting an end to a self- and baneful monopoly, by completing the measure of public contempt and disgust.

Captain BARCLAY on Wednesday completed his arduous pedestrian undertaking, to walk a thousand miles in a thousand successive hours, at the rate of a mile in each and every hour. He had until four o'clock, P. M. to finish his task, but he performed his last mile in the quarter of an hour after three, with perfect ease and great spirits. Capt. BARCLAY immediately after the match went into a warm bath. The Captain next put on his flannels by the advice of his surgeon, and went to bed, and was not called until eleven o'clock at night. He felt no inconvenience during the match, until the fourth week, when he became rather lame in the hack sinews and calf of his right leg. The lameness could not be effectually removed, although he was much better at the termination of the match than at the end of the fourth week. The Captain has won about 3000l, and the aggregate of betting may be computed at 15,000l.—The multitude of people who resorted to the scene of action, in the course of the concluding days, was unprecedented. Not a bed could be procured on Tuesday night at Newmarket, Cambridge, or any of the towns and villages in the vicinity, and every horse and every species of vehicle was engaged.

A young Lady of considerable property, 22 years of age, who resided with her uncle and guardian, not far from Chelsea Hospital, being missing at nine o'clock on Wednesday evening, when expected from her usual walk, an inquiry was set on foot, and she was traced to Kingston, in the company of a dragoon officer, and afterwards to the place where they breakfasted at Hampton Court, but no further tidings have been heard of her.

At the memorable trial of Patch, for the murder of Mr. Blight, at his house near Deptford, it was proved that Mr. Blight was possessed of a pair of pistols—one of them could only be found—every possible exertion was made to find the other, but in vain. The East Country Dock, which is within a few yards of the late Mr. Blight's house, has been excavating for some time past, for the purpose of deepening it, to admit large vessels and to increase the stowage; within these few days a pistol has been found among the mud, which, on comparison with the pistol at Mr. Blight's house, proves to match.

A woman of the town, of the name of *Bambridge*, hung herself in her bed-chamber, in Titchfield-street, on Friday night, as it was supposed, in consequence of embarrassment. She was lately under the *protection* of a Baronet!

Yesterday a bricklayer fell from the top of the works of Covent-garden Theatre, and with such a shock, that there was no sign of life. The poor man was in a mangled state, and he was conveyed to the Middlesex Hospital on a shutter, without any probability of his recovery.—The Methodists will say that this is a judgment on the bricklayer, for assisting in the erection of a theatre.

THEATRICAL EXAMINER.

No. 48.

HAYMARKET.

THE new farce of *Killing no Murder* is Mr. HOOK'S best production. It's hero is a strolling player, full of shifts and deceptions, who is introduced to us as the lover of an innkeeper's sister; with this innkeeper he runs up a bill, of which he contrives to get rid,—firstly, by personating a Member of Parliament and cutting the poor fellow short, when he presents it, by voluble digressions,—and secondly, by striking a bargain with him upon condition of personating a number of servants of whom the Innkeeper stands in need on the arrival of an old Nabob:—these tricks occupy the whole of the first act, so that the title of the piece belongs to the second only, in which the stroller, in order to gain his fair one, throws a temporary slur upon her reputation and persuades her affianced bridegroom, who has a horror of "ready-made families," not only to give himself out for dead, but to act the part of his own cousin in mourning, a trick which eventually succeeds, to the satisfaction of the lovers, and the very lively regret of the deceased. These incidents, as they have not a shadow of probability, belong to the lowest kind of farce; but at the same time, as they pretend to nothing higher, they at least afford us the negative advantage of not having our expectations raised; the author aims at nothing above him, and is therefore at full liberty to grovel in puns and be as low as he pleases: in short, he does not call the piece a comedy, and this is a great virtue now-a-days. When a modern dramatist makes his bow in the epilogue and thanks the audience for tolerating his "comedy", he is as mad as Dr. WATTS when he used to bend his head in going under Temple Bar; he bows, to use a cant phrase of the day, without having made a "hit."—If Mr. HOOK, however, is hampered with difficulties when he attempts a play, and in endeavouring to be solid or sentimental, produces something worse than farce, he finds his proper level and his proper spirits in a frank, acknowledged piece of low farce, and becomes as amusing as an entire freedom from restraint can make him. There is little that is new in the present production, and as it is written to display the talents of LISTON and MATHEWS, it's perusal and it's performance are very different things. *Buskin's* theatrical pedantry, which applies the cant of the stage to common actions, is a very old and poor species of humour; and the application of the titles of plays is still worse: *Buskin* says to the Dancing-master, "we must withdraw *Matrimony* and the *Honey Moon*, or we shall have the *Devil to Pay* before *Three Weeks after Marriage*:" this is the last hackneyed nonsense of the Ladies Magazines, and is at best despicable

from it's facility. But Mr. HOOK has no remorse in copying these ancient jokes: the exclamation *Alas!* he turns into *A Lass*; a lover, who is bent on desperate measures, is advised to *marry*; and a man in a sedan chair, on being asked if any body is at home, thrusts forth his head, and answers with FOOTE'S cobbler, "No! I've just popped out." This grinning servility of imitation is a proof, if not of entire want of originality, at least of such an entire want of pride, that it would tempt one to dismiss the writer at once as a hopeless buffoon, were there not in the present piece two or three touches of something a little more indicative of a proper taste for humour. Puns, I trust, have almost had their day in comedy. In farce, they are of course allowable, but then only in the lowest species: GARRICK and FOOTE, who studied human nature, had no need of them, and their farces were of the highest order, that is, comedy just caricatured; DIBDIN and CHERRY on the other hand, who know nothing of human nature, find every species of false-humour of the greatest utility, and therefore their comedies are below other mens' farces. The age of these men confirms them in their errors and in their reputation for sheer incapacity; but as Mr. HOOK is a very young man, and his critics cannot be sure whether he is incapable, or idle, or uninstructed, it becomes them to cherish any little spark of better taste, that may glimmer out of the rags and odd ends of his dramatic tinder-box, not by puffing it out as his flatterers would do, but by clearing it from obstructions and selecting it's proper fuel. The great difference between punning and being witty is, that a pun consists in mere similarity of sounds, whereas the soul of wit is in the contrast or similarity of remote ideas: any boy therefore who has gone through the list of "words of similar sound," so pithily set forth in the works of the immortal DYCHE and DILWORTH, such as

Cousin, a relation	Hair, of the head—
Cozen, to cheat	Hare, animal of chase—

may become a very scientific punster; and in fact, these two examples of sound, which are found in the Spelling-books, are also to be found in the identical farce before us; a coincidence, which I mention merely to indulge the reader's curiosity, who if he has any recollection of Messrs. DIBDIN and CHERRY, may find much entertainment in comparing their works with the list abovementioned;—not that I would insinuate that the said dramatists did absolutely write with the Spelling Book before them, as I have every reason to give them credit for having forgotten that work altogether. When Mr. HOOK then makes one of his Dramatis Personæ observe, that the old man who will not believe the story about the *cousin*, is "not to be cozened," he displays no more humour than any fancy might, at all impregnated with DILWORTH; but DILWORTH would never teach him to make resemblances in things, and to carry them on, as in the following passage:—

Ap. What of Fanny?

Busk. Why, her character has suffered a little from the breath of calumny, and her brother has had art enough to get some stupid fellow out of the country to come and marry her;—a lump of fullers' earth to take out stains—a piece of sticking plaster to hide blemishes—you'll enjoy it amazingly.

Ap. (crying) Why do you know—I don't think I shall?

Busk. Why?

Ap. Why?—Because I am that piece of fullers' earth.

Busk. You?

Ap. I am that damned unhappy piece of sticking plaster.

The "lump of fuller's earth" is not original, and Mr. HOOK has only extended the idea, but by personifying the tr

substances he has raised a lively image of contrast, which is in a much better taste of pleasantry, and approaches much nearer to wit, than all the puns he could string together. Again, in the dialogue between *Buskin* and *Fanny*, he does not simply pun upon the word *return*, when *Fanny* asks whether a lady *returns* a gentleman's love, but raises a new association of ideas, and presents the lovers in an unexpected mode of intercourse:—

Fan. And does she return his love?

Busk. Yes, over a damn'd high wall.

There is no wit in swearing, and the best excuse for the oaths in this farce, is the vulgarity of those who utter them; but the species of wit, which Mr. HOOKER has attempted in what I have just quoted, is much worthier of his dramatic studies, if indeed he studies at all, than any similarity of sound however sprightly, from the harmony between Mr. DIBDIN'S puns to the harmony between PUNCH'S head and stick. There is more attempt at character in the present piece, than in any other of Mr. HOOKER'S productions. *Apollo Belvi*, who was a Methodist till the LORD CHAMBERLAIN made him a lawyer, and who afterwards became a dancing-master, is a mixture of cunning, naivete, and stupidity, and was of course intended for LISTON: the stupidity is indeed supereminently farcical even for a dancing-master. *Buskin's* Member of Parliament, who with his abrupt shifts and voluble dexterity, talks the landlord out of his bill, is an eloquent, if not intentional, picture of a certain statesman, who has acted the Parliament man for many years past, with as much plausibility as *Buskin*, and for the very same purposes. But the best idea in the piece is the character of the *Inn Shoeblick*, or, to use his generic name, *Boots*; a personage who has long called for his place in farce: the impudent modesty and systematic drunkenness of the fellow are sketched to the life, and really look like a portrait. Of the songs, I can only say, that if the shoeblick himself wrote them, he should not have been encouraged. The concluding duet displays the most vacant felicity of namby-pamby,—not to mention it's logic:—

Blest with all we wish for here,
Banish far all sorrow;
If to-day we chase the tear,
Let us smile to-morrow.

Really, this is inexcusable in a young man, who has the least leisure.

The honours of the representation belong entirely to Messrs. LISTON and MATHEWS. The former I need not describe, for his performance, though excellent, was precisely the same as in his other mixed characters of frivolity and fatuity: his dancing however, on the first night, did not appear so killingly degagee as usual. MATHEWS excelled himself in mimicry. He personated, in the course of the evening, an actor, a shoeblick, a waiter, a barber, a cook, and a great man; and OVID himself could not have painted a better set of metamorphoses. The pompous volubility of the great man made an excellent contrast to the servile prosing of *Boots*, and *Boots* again to the smart tittle-tattle of the waiter; in the shoeblick's voice Mr. MATHEWS gave a specimen of that vulgar hoarse fatness of utterance, which seems to belong exclusively to the retainers of inns, hucksters, &c. it was much the same as the coachman's voice, which he gives us in his song of the Mail-coach, and which baffles all description, unless it be called a compound of gin and bad weather. The barber

and cook he performed together, half blinding his subject with powder, and then appearing on different sides of him, on the right as the barber, and on the left, by means of a scratch wig, as the cook; but still handling the puff, in the latter character, over the old gentleman's shoulder:—much allowance of course must be made for such a scene; but the rapidity with which he changed his appearance, features, and voice, was admirable: at one time, as he stood powdering behind the chair, he pretended to call a little boy and send him in search of the cook, and here he exhibited a fresh talent, himself answering in the voice of a child with perfect *ventriloquism*. This various as well as close power of imitation renders him indisputably the first mimic on the stage.

After all however, the most entertaining part of the new farce is it's private history. That a Methodist should share my office with me and be an "*Examiner of Plays*," may reasonably astonish those who have heard the godly anathemas against play-wrights and play-readers; but such, it seems, is the official title of a Mr. LARPENT, whose name may be seen in the Red-book under the head of the King's "*Artists*"—with four hundred a-year tacked to it, a sum, of which, I assure the reader, I have not received a farthing, though I have examined plays for more than five years and have done my best to suppress all the nonsense which my brother *Examiner* has licensed. However, in the present instance, my brother and myself are at issue, he refusing his license to a passage in the new farce in ridicule of the Methodists as absurd and impious, and I regarding the said ridicule as conducive both to the cause of sound sense and of sound morals. Mr. HOOKER had represented the dancing-master, *Mr. Apollo Belvi*, as having formerly turned Methodist preacher out of love for a *Miss Hephzibah Buckram*, which said Miss Hephzibah, being an amiable young lady much devoted to the pulpit and pint-bottle, did nevertheless cut short the intended match by the production of a third person, whose presence is usually dispensed with in the earlier stages of matrimony. Of the truth of these accidents among the godly, let Mr. WHITFIELD'S and Mr. WESLEY'S Journals bear witness, for the modern publications are more discreet: of their frequency, let every methodistical town in England bear witness: of their causes, let the hymn-books, and the love-feasts, and the night-watchings bear witness. If Mr. HOOKER had said that none but Methodists are liable to these errors; he would have been unjust and absurd indeed; but to unmask the pretensions of "outrageous virtue," and to show how easily the same mind, which is cheated by vile preaching and by unintelligible distinctions between religion and morality, may be led away by any other rhapsody, was every way fair and rational. To a fanatic however, nothing is so formidable as ridicule: gravity is his means of success, and to see this baffled, throws him at once into a passion. The Methodists therefore require you to exercise against them nothing but plain reason, which they themselves reject as earthly and carnal; and they protest against all ridicule, which they themselves invariably use as much as they can. Upon this principle, Mr. LARPENT, under the sanction of the LORD CHAMBERLAIN, refuses his license to the scene, and Mr. HOOKER waits upon him for an explanation. After some grave remonstrances on the barbarity of persecuting a "harmless set of people," the latter gentleman receives two most curious pieces of information; 1st. That the Government does not wish the

Methodists to be ridiculed; and 2d. That there is no difference in its eyes between a Clergyman and a Methodist Preacher. "The licenser told me," says Mr. Hook, "that I had introduced a Clergyman to ridicule him: I said, 'not a Clergyman—a Methodist Preacher.'—'It is exactly the same,' was his reply."—Now if by the word *Government*, Mr. LARPENT means the present Ministry, Mr. PERCEVAL, my Lord CASTLEREAGH, &c. it must be acknowledged, that a natural sympathy may exist between the Ministers and the Methodists with respect to the contempt of mere good works; but if Government means the established system of Church and State, we have here an assertion, that this established system does not wish its antagonists to be opposed, and that it sees no difference between its best friends and its bitter enemies, between TILLOTSON and WHITFIELD; LOWTH and WESLEY, PORTEOUS and ROWLAND HILL; or between any one of our Bishops and Mr. HUNTINGTON. Now the Bishops unfortunately do so decidedly contradict this assertion, by their system of ordination, as well as by their avowed principles, that Mr. LARPENT would find it difficult to prove, how any dignified clergyman of the Church of England thinks like himself, or who the Bishop is that makes no difference between a man who has *been taught before he teaches*, and the herd of illiterate divines, who are self-illuminated, like so many will-o'-the-wisps, only to become vagabonds and lead people astray. An author, in ridiculing the Methodists, has the authority of the wisest and best of men: I will not quote BAYLE, who says that the devoutest fanatics are always unmasked in something relating to sensual pleasure, for he had the misfortune to be a believer in nothing but good works; but Bishop LAVINGTON wrote a set of pamphlets directly against the Methodists, in which he ridiculed them with all his powers: Bishop WARBURTON, a most decided churchman, wrote a book against their opinions of Grace; and Dean SWIFT, who thought it his duty to ridicule fanatics of every kind, and Methodists among them, turns his satire upon the very subject of the obnoxious scene in the farce, and shows us, in one of the most perfect similes ever invented by human wit, how natural it is for a man who walks about, pertinaciously contemplating the Heavens without a guide, to be betrayed by his lower parts into a ditch. So much for the Church and its opinions. As for those laymen who take part with the Methodists upon the principle of fair dealing, and tell us, that they have no opportunity of retaliating upon stage ridicule, how can such persons forget, that the Methodists have a multiplicity of stages and farces of their own? Mr. ROWLAND HILL is not content with writing a book against the Theatre, but he and his preachers revile it and ridicule it in open assembly, and yet the players never expostulate against *them*: no, they have too much sympathy with their brother-comedian, however he may differ with them in his subjects, and they can enjoy his farces, though he persists in taking offence at theirs. The charge, therefore, that the Methodists cannot retaliate, should be directly the reverse: they indeed have the advantage in every respect, not only in the favour of the licenser, but because they are at once the writers and players of their own farces, and whereas in other Theatres it is the audience that damns the actor, in them it is the actor that damns the audience. The Methodists, therefore, who are the only party allowed to ridicule and revile by license, are the persecutors of the players, not the

players of them: nobody would think of saying on the stage, that it would be a good thing to see the Methodist chapels in flames and their frequenters in the midst of them, yet this is precisely what the godly cry out from their pulpits. Mr. HOOK tells us in a note, that at ROWLAND HILL'S Chapel, "the destruction of Covent-garden Theatre; and the annihilation of a score of firemen," were noticed in the following manner: "Great news, my brethren, great news; a great triumph has taken place over the Devil and the Stage-players—a fire in one of their houses:—Oh may there be one consumed every year!—It is my fervent prayer." Such has been the language of these "best of Christians," from WHITFIELD to the present time. Even an accident could not happen at Sadler's Wells, by which several persons were bruised to death, but the friends, as they call themselves, of the All-merciful Deity, must be congratulated next day from the pulpit upon the happy event; nay, their preachers not only asserted that every one of the deceased went inevitably to Hell, but one man, who was "anointed with the oil of gladness above his fellows," insisted, that every body who had visited Sadler's Wells *once* in his life, without repenting it, was howling in everlasting agony.* I say nothing of the inconsistent logic which teaches such men to call an accident at a playhouse an *avenging* providence, while they are continually telling us with Scripture, that the Deity "chasteneth every son whom he loveth," and applying this passage to their own adversities. They confess they have nothing to do with reason, and who can contradict them? But which of the two is the more likely to persecute, the audience at a Theatre, who come to laugh at human error, and who are certainly no bigots, or the audience at a Methodist Chapel, who are told that a Theatre on fire is a sight of joy to all good Christians, and that it would be an excellent thing if there were one destroyed every year? They are *enraged* because we make fun of them, but they feel no hesitation in making fun of us. It was precisely such a doctrine that led GERVAUX, with his matches and his gunpowder, into the cellars of the Parliament House, and ultimately to the gallows. Heaven preserve us, I say, from such men, and the Methodists from such machines; but had the Papists in those days succeeded, they would have preached exactly such sermons as the Methodists do now; such sermons as were preached on the *burnings* of Queen MARY, and the *Massacre of Saint BARTHOLOMEW*. The puritans of the age are not only making progress all over the nation, but from begging their way, they are now, it seems, almost arrived at the power of dictating it; but let us never forget that what the violent Papists were, the violent Methodists are; and that if the tragedies of our Theatres conclude with a farce, the farce of fanaticism has generally concluded with a tragedy.

* See EXAMINER, vol. 1st. p. 459.

THE OPERA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

MR. EDITOR,

The new opera of *Ne quattro Nazioni* (the four Nations), produced on Tuesday last, is like all the productions of Signor BUONAIUTI, the very essence of absurdity. In his preface he states, that he does not attempt to treat

of the "character and manners of four nations, since the narrow compass of a dramatic work does not allow it; and particularly because the dialogues and recitatives must be so short as to allow hardly time to mention the comic events intended to happen, and without which an opera is always dry and uninteresting." So the reason why he never gives a plot, or attempts a distinction of character, is, that he cannot find time for it in two long acts;—fortunately he is not a writer for the English stage, or his pieces would last from night till morning;—but let us see what the comic events he alludes to are, which will be shewn by the following quotation from his preface:—"The opera ends with a masquerade, where the actors, all masked, have several ridiculous adventures to furnish the stage effect, the principal of which is, that *Ortensia* and *Dejanira* go to the masquerade with the Marquis in a Turkish habit, and pin on his back a paper with his name!" Having given the principal incident of the opera, I am sure my readers will not require to know the others, and shall therefore pass on to the music of *Puccitta*, to which this abominable trash has been allied with some justice, for there is scarcely a bar of originality throughout the opera, and neither good melody nor harmony: the little invention he at first appeared to possess is now exhausted, and he has recourse to the tricks of music, the pizzicato and ponticello stops, in the same manner as Messrs. REEVE and Co. rely on the jingle of bells or the long-winded flourishes of that renowned exhauster of our patience, Mr. PARKE. The only pleasing movement in the opera that I remember, is a quartett in the first act for four female voices, which is very sprightly and ingeniously constructed. Madame BUSSANI is most heroically determined not to be discouraged by ill success, and instead of embarking for the Continent to delight her Portuguese admirers, has once more ventured on the stage; but as she now appears in a subordinate part, her performance is less obtrusive or disgusting.

I have also the satisfaction of communicating to you the grateful intelligence of Mr. D'EGVILLE's dismissal, and of his having, in revenge, withdrawn his seraglio of children, who will now no longer annoy the public with their amorous importunities. For the six skeletons this will be a most fortunate event, should their parents at length see the impropriety of their conduct, and withdraw them from the stage now that an opportunity offers; it is true that it will be some mortification to relinquish their ambitious hopes of seeing their children married to noblemen, and the girls will assuredly feel some qualms in laying aside their spangled frocks and silk pantaloons; but what trifles are these compared with the total ruin of morals which must attend their continuance in the profession? Every body knows it is scarcely possible to be a good dancer without resigning all pretension to modesty, and the circumstance of its being a mere exhibition of the person for hire, is sufficient to shew how hurtful it must be to the children, who are doubtless told that their salaries will bear proportion to their powers of allurements. If their weak, infatuated parents, are still determined to risk their future reputation for temporary gain, let them procure engagements for their exhibition at Exeter 'Change, where their companions will be less depraved than those they must unavoidably associate with on the opera stage; if, on the contrary, they feel as parents ought to feel, they will give them an useful education, and teach them to read and write,—acquirements that daily rehearsals and nightly per-

formances have most probably prevented them from obtaining; they may then become industrious and modest women, and get rid of their present haggard countenances and consumptive coughs, which, unless their course of life is altered, seem to threaten an early dissolution. H. R.

LAW.

COURT OF CHANCERY.

Thursday, July 13.

MISS JUPP.—HORROCKS AND OTHERS V. JUPP.

Sir S. ROMILLY stated, that this case came before his Lordship again under an Order which had been made for compelling Mr. Wm. Jupp, of Goring, in Sussex, and his daughter, Miss Clara Jupp, to attend in Court, to answer for a contempt of his Lordship's injunction. Miss Clara had been at Miss Wilmot's boarding school, at Farnham, in Surrey, and there had met with a minor of the name of Peter Horrocks, who was one of Mr. Lock's scholars. An attachment was formed between the parties, but the uncle and guardian of Peter Horrocks, who is a minor, with a fortune of 50,000l., took measures to interrupt the happiness of the lovers, like one of the cruel fathers whom we hear of in novels and romances. He made her a ward of Chancery, and obtained an order to prevent all correspondence between them. This order was served upon Miss Clara and her father. The guardian, Mr. Samuel Horrocks, together with his partners, Mr. Meredith and Mr. Robinson, filed affidavits in June last, stating that they had reason to believe that the intercourse and correspondence between the lovers were still carried on, with the connivance and countenance of the father, and a Mr. Eisdale in Baker-street; and that Miss Clara, upon being served with the order, had made the magnanimous declaration, that "she did not care for a hundred Lord Chancellors!" Sir Samuel further stated, that Mr. Jupp had now filed an affidavit in his own exculpation, affirming that he had never encouraged the intercourse, and justifying himself in general terms. The affidavit, he observed, was defective, however, inasmuch as it omitted to answer particularly to some of the most material charges, especially in not answering to the fact of his having given a ball in his house subsequent to the order, at which he allowed Miss Clara and the minor to dance together. As for Miss Clara herself, she had said nothing in her own defence.

Mr. HEALD appeared for Mr. Jupp, who was himself in Court, and stated, that the plaintiffs had represented Mr. Jupp as merely a farmer, in order to impress the impropriety of the intercourse between the parties the more strongly upon his Lordship's mind, from the very inferior condition in life of the defendant. But though Mr. Jupp farmed part of his own property, he was a man of some thousands a-year, and of an ancient family. Though he had not thought proper to state these circumstances in his affidavit, it being no very pleasant task for a man to vaunt of his own property and income, and of the large fortune he could give his daughter. He then contended that the affidavit was a complete answer to the most material allegations on the other side—that Mr. Jupp had endeavoured to put an end to the intercourse—that he knew nothing of the meetings at Mr. Eisdale's, though when on one occasion Mr. Peter Horrocks had come to his house, he could not turn him out of doors.

Sir S. ROMILLY wished for nothing harsh, but he still contended that there were defects in the affidavit. All he asked with respect to Mr. Eisdale, was, that the injunction should be served upon him.

Mr. RICHARDS appeared for Mr. Eisdale, and assented to this.

Mr. HEALD stated that Mr. Jupp was ready to amend his affidavit.

The LORD CHANCELLOR said that Mr. Jupp must turn the minor out of his house if he came there, and desired her father to tell Miss Clara that she must go to prison if she permitted another visit. He allowed time for Mr. Jupp to amend his

affidavit, and ordered the case to be mentioned again on Monday.

Mr. HEALD expressed his hope that his Lordship would impose some restraint on the minor, as Mr. Jupp would almost prefer any present punishment, to the constant apprehension of the violation of the injunction by any meeting between his daughter and Mr. Horrocks; to which his Lordship replied that he would attend to the suggestion.

COURT OF KING'S BENCH.

Friday, July 14.

SALE OF PUBLIC OFFICES.—THE KING v. POHLMAN, KEYLOCK, SARAH HARDY, AND JOHN WATSON.

This was an indictment, charging the defendants with conspiring to sell a certain office in his Majesty's Customs, namely, that of coast waiter, for the sum of 2000l. with the intent to defraud his Majesty, and with the intent to defraud Le Grue Hesse, Esq. to which indictment they severally pleaded Not Guilty.—This prosecution emanated from the late Inquiry before a Select Committee of the House of Commons, appointed to investigate public abuses. Our readers will recollect, that in the course of the foregoing Inquiry it came out that an office was opened in the City where places under the Government were publicly advertised to be bought and sold. It was therefore found expedient to discover and punish the parties.—The principal witnesses to prove this fraudulent conspiracy were a Mr. Hesse and a Mr. Harvey, the former had been a barrister, the latter a Clerk in the Office of the Solicitor to the Treasury.

Mr. Hesse proved that, in pursuance of an advertisement in a Morning Paper, he went to an office in Threadneedle-street, where he became acquainted with Pohlman and Keylock; that they undertook to procure him, through the medium of Sarah Hardy, the place of Coast Waiter in the Customs, for which he was to pay 2000l. which he was previously to deposit in the banking-house of the other defendant Watson; and it was proved that Sarah Hardy joined in the undertaking and received 10l. on account from Mr. Hesse.—Pohlman told the witness that the place was obtained from a Lord of the Treasury, one very near the Duke of Portland; that the Duke, when he granted the warrant, knew that every thing was sold, and that he made 20,000l. a-year by it. He told him also that there was a *little temporary oath* to be taken, that he had not purchased the place; but this he might easily swear, as he did not purchase the place, but only their interest in it!—Mr. Hesse was employed by Government in this negotiation, on purpose to convict the offenders.

Mr. Harvey confirmed Mr. Hesse's testimony in all the principal points.—Mr. Watson was acquitted, and the other three defendants were found guilty.

ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

A dreadful fire broke out on Saturday se'night, in the house of Miss Slack, milliner, No. 62, Conduit-street. It appears that no one was in the house; for it was first discovered by the watchman, and he found the door open, with a blaze of fire in the back parlour. He sprung his rattle in the house to alarm the family, but not a creature heard him. He then alarmed the neighbourhood, and Mr. Hurley, the grocer, next door, was raised from his bed, and his family was saved. No water was to be found, as usual, for more than an hour, during which time the flames got such an ascendancy as to make the destruction of the houses, No. 62 and 63, inevitable; but it was hoped that the fine mansion of the Hon. Frederick North, situate next door to the west, might escape the flames, on account of its strong party wall. The woman in possession refused to open the door. Mr. Windham was drawn to the spot, by the lively interest he took in the preservation of Mr. North's inestimable library. The roof of the house at length caught the flames, and the firemen broke open the doors. A number of the books were saved, but we lament to say, that in the midst of their exertions the roof fell in, and crushed three of the fire-men; and all that part of the library in the upper part of the house was de-

troyed. The loss to literature is incalculable. The collection has been the labour of Mr. North's life; and has been made with a research, skill, taste, and perseverance, unparalleled. He visited all the known stores and depositaries of the world for rarities in science and literature; and though a part has escaped the flames, yet we fear that the library is irreparably affected, by sets being broken, others totally burnt, and the whole essentially damaged. His house was most superb in decoration and furniture, but that is of little estimation when compared with the books and manuscripts. Mr. North is now on his way to Malta and Constantinople, animated by the hope that, through the friendly intercourse re-established by Mr. Adair, he may be able to pursue his search after the precious relics of antiquity, and add to the stock of human knowledge.

Between six and seven o'clock on Wednesday evening a young man, a fifer, went into the Maidenhead, in George-street, late Dyot-street; St. Giles's, in company with an idle woman of the name of Brown. After they had been some time in company, the young man missed 4s. and his life; several violently abusive words ensued, which were followed by blows; a man of the name of Dillon, who took the woman's part, obtained possession of the fifer's regulation sword, with which the young man was wounded so dreadfully that but little hopes are entertained of his recovery. He was carried in a most deplorable state to the Middlesex Hospital. The woman, Sarah Brown, and a man of the name of John Hogan, who were supposed to be accessories, were taken into custody; and had a hearing on Thursday, at Marlborough-street Police Office; but were ordered for re-examination, when Dillon shall be apprehended, and further evidence brought forward.

A gentleman of the name of Forten, and a man of considerable property, put an end to his existence in the Park, on Wednesday morning; by discharging a pistol at his head. The suicide was seen committed by a couple of porters to a china-man in Oxford-street; but on going to the unfortunate man there were no signs of life. The deceased was nearly 60 years of age, and laboured under a malady which deranged his intellects at times. He lodged in Duke-street, Oxford-street.

On Tuesday night, Mr. Holloway, parish-clerk of St. Lawrence Church, in a fit of mental derangement, which had for a considerable time preyed on his spirits, put an end to his existence by suspending himself from one of the balustrades of the church-gallery railing, and was found lifeless on Wednesday morning by the Sextoness on her coming to sweep the pews. A Coroner's Jury was held on the body.—Verdict, Lunacy.

MARRIAGES.

On Monday se'night, at Teignmouth, G. Noel Noel, Esq. M. P. for Rutland, to Miss Wellman, only daughter of T. Wellman, Esq. of Poundsford Park, near Taunton.

On the 14th of June, at Glasbury Church, Breconshire, T. Howse Gwynne, Esq. to the Hon. Georgiana Mariana Devereux, youngest daughter of the late, and sister to the present Viscount Hereford.

DEATHS.

On Friday, in Great Cumberland Place, his Grace the Archbishop of Dublin, Primate of Ireland, Earl of Normanton, &c. His Grace was in his 73d year; he had kept his bed only three days.

James Boufns, of Carbolly; parish of Gehaghey, and county Down, at the advanced age of 100 years. He retained all his faculties until the last.

THOMAS PAINE.—In the New York Public Advertiser of the 9th of June last, the death of this once celebrated man, is announced to have taken place on the preceding day.

Monday morning, as a man of the name of Taylor, who was gardener to Mr. Elliot, the brewer, was passing through Brewer-street; apparently in good health, he fell down, and was picked up by some persons passing at the time, and asked if he had hurt himself; he answered in the negative. He walked on a few paces further, and fell down again lifeless.

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