

# THE EXAMINER.

No. 142 SUNDAY, SEPT. 16, 1810.

## THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

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

No. 139.

### PROCLAMATION OF THE SPANISH REGENCY AGAINST THE CARACCAS.

JOURNALS form part of the groundwork of history; and it is generally their fate to have all the faults and none of the beauties of that species of writing. The greatest fault in both, but particularly in the former, is the absorbing attention they pay to a heap of minute occurrences, to the details of campaigns and of battles, and to the squabbles of Ambassadors. Occupied with this inferior business of observers, they overlook the real causes of what they see, and forget the true source of historical instruction—the mind and manners of the age. It is thus that more attention has been paid to the shew of things than to the substance; that so much has been said about the misfortunes of kings and so little about those of the people; that we hear such particular accounts of the movements of armies and of the fluctuations of trade, and nothing at all of the progress of intellect and the changes in national custom; in short, it is thus that political writers tell us so much and teach us so little.

Look at the English Newspapers, and you would think that the life and soul of this country and of every other was bound up in a few villages in Portugal. The editors contemplate with perfect indifference the progress of the sciences in arts and their inquisitive activity in every thing else; the downfall of the Pope or of the Inquisition excites nothing but a pitying shrug; and on the other hand, the miserable condition of our Irish brethren awakens less compassion than the confinement of two or three drunkards in the stocks. It was not to be expected therefore that the late eventful appearances in Spanish America would obtain any regard from these gentlemen, whose eyes, to use the quotation which Mr. CUMBERLAND has applied to our modern coxcombs, have "no speculation" in them. The dawn of a great day over a sixth part of the globe is scarcely noticed, in order that they may fix their eyes on a little spot at the south of Europe, where the last glimmering vapours of superstition and of political dotage are just about to expire.—The *Examiner* tries to do a little better.

The Reader is already acquainted with the Revolution in that part of the Caraccas called Venezuela, or Little Venice, a name given it by the discoverers of America from an imaginary resemblance of huts built in a marsh to the Adriatic city. He knows also that this revolution, which had been long expected, arose from the tyranny or the ignorant caprice of the Court of Spain, from

the most invidious and stupid restrictions upon commerce, and from a number of degradations combined, which the spirit of a rising country could no longer tolerate from the dotage of a declining one. Knowing this, he feels also, if he is a true Englishman, that such a revolution is not only justifiable upon every possible ground, but that it is highly laudable and patriotic, and ought to be encouraged by every lover of rational freedom. The best politicians in this country, and the best political writers without exception, have said the same thing: nothing is said against it but by the hirelings above mentioned, by the Ministers who at present enjoy power in this good-natured country, and by that contemptible refuse of despotism and superstition, which calls itself the Spanish Regency. Thus every argument is in it's favour, from the approbation of the sensible and disinterested, to the disapprobation of the foolish, the selfish, and the very refuse of bad government.

This refuse, or this Regency, which demands freedom of opinion and maintains the Inquisition,—which demands freedom of writing and enslaves the press,—which demands freedom of action for Spain and denies it to America,—has issued on the subject of the Caraccas what it calls a Royal Order, which is perhaps the most ridiculous paper that has appeared since the French Revolution. In this Order, there are three prominent absurdities, which excite one's laughter and indignation by turns:—1st, The very idea of those who issue it: 2d, The gravity with which they talk of the *absurdity* of the Caraccas in attempting to be independent; and 3d, The indignation they express against any fancied right and propriety in so doing.

Nothing can be more absurd in it's nature, than the tyrannical importance arising from imaginary power. In former times, the world has seen Anti-Popes excommunicating their conquerors and half Europe, petty princes calling themselves Emperors of the East without a jot of authority, and monks who on the strength of wearing a triple cap would give away Russia or Tartary to any body who would kiss their toe for it. In these times, however, such was the predominance of credulity and such the fluctuations of power, that what was essentially absurd was not always eventually so; but in an age like the present, such things are absurd in every respect and have no effect but what is purely ridiculous. The Spanish Regency think JOSEPH BONAPARTE absurd in calling himself King of Spain, but his absurdity is in calling himself King of the *Indies*, where he has not a foot of territory. Their friend the King of Sicily, driven as he is with his beloved pointers and sewing-pieces into his last corner, is still more ridiculous in keeping up the title of King of *Jerusalem*. But they themselves exceed both. Here are a few courtiers, stigmatised and despised, without money and without power,

who entrench themselves at the extremity of their country in the only safe place they can find, and from that little spot fulminate edicts against a country three thousand miles off, because the people there are gaining the very independence for which they themselves profess to hold out. As they are thus holding out without any power at land, so without any power at sea they threaten these free people three thousand miles off with a "rigorous blockade;" and all this is done in the name of a certain unconscious person who they call his Majesty, and who is now under confinement in France and gives balls and suppers in honour of the Emperor his master.—Can the lunatic be more insane, who through the bars of his cell brandishes his straw at the rising sun?

2. But even this is not the height of the absurdity. The revolt of the Caraccas is called an "*absurd idea of declaring themselves independent without the means of maintaining their independence.*"—How little do these men understand a struggle for real liberty! And, above all, how little do they consider their own situation!—What! Is the very idea of independence absurd in a country so distant and so indignant,—and do the Regency call their own struggle reasonable? Has a country, so distant and so indignant, encouraged by a large portion of the American continent, and without any potent enemy near it, no means of maintaining its independence,—and do the Regency, driven into a nook by the greatest military power existing, think they can maintain their's? There is an insolence in this stupidity, which can result from nothing but the emptiest pride. It has no meaning whatever, and wants no comment but contempt.

3. Yet it is exceeded by the utter indignation which these men affect at the *immorality* of the attempt. They attribute it entirely to "inflamed passions," "blind credulity," and "unbounded ambition;" nothing is mentioned of the time and the situation of things, under which this *expected* circumstance occurred; and not a word is hinted respecting any probable redress of the various colonial grievances:—yet of all countries in the world, the Spanish colonies have the greatest right to declare themselves independent; they are at a great distance from the mother-country, who has no power to debase them; they are able, if left to themselves, to become great and happy; and they have long toiled and suffered for an overbearing mistress, whose only return has been to despise and oppress them. What right to freedom can be greater than this? Answer, Englishmen,—you who deposed your monarchs when they threatened the freedom of your opinions only. Answer, Spaniards,—you who formerly said to your kings at their coronation—"We who are as good as you and who can do more than you, constitute you our king, provided you keep our laws,—otherwise not."—This, it is true, is not the way in which modern Spaniards can address their rulers; but so much the more ought they to hope for the independence of their brethren, to whom these very rulers

must soon look for an asylum. The hire'ing writers, who wait upon the opinions of the Ministry or of a few Spanish merchants in this country, say it is not time for a revolution in South America, and that the Caraccas do not behave well to the mother-country in commencing it. But there is one small thing one has always to request of these writers,—and that is, a little meaning. What time can be so fit for a revolution of this nature as the hour in which all Europe is threatened with the conquests of France? And what, in the name of common right and decency, do the colonies owe to the mother-country? The mother-country indeed owes a great deal to them; and if the gold which they yielded to her tyranny, has proved pernicious to her glory, surely she can claim nothing on that account from the natives or from those who have mingled with them. But how ridiculous becomes all objection to the right of revolt in this instance, when the situation of the mother-country is considered! The Spaniards have been fighting against an invader, and what have been their professed objects in so doing? They told us it was because they wished to preserve their independence, that is to say, because they wished to cultivate their own lands, pursue their own commerce, and enjoy the fruits of both free from the rapacity of a tyrant. How far they would have enjoyed liberty by conquering a foreign despot is another matter; but such was the avowed object of their rulers and such the expectation perhaps of the peasants who took up arms for them. Well, this is precisely what the South Americans wish to enjoy; they wish to enjoy their agriculture and commerce free from the rapacity of tyrants, and so wishing, they endeavour to throw off a yoke which has galled them for centuries and which their Spanish oppressors would never consent to render supportable. Their avowed object therefore is exactly the same as that of the Spaniards, with this difference only, that it is more probable, more rational, and more deserving, and the Spaniards and not their colonists are "absurd" in thinking to maintain their independence *without the means* of so doing. What then says the conduct of the Spaniards to the South Americans? It says distinctly this—"We may fight for our liberties and we ought to obtain them; but we cannot suffer you to obtain any such blessings; you are Creoles, Mestizoes, and men "best distinguished by black, brown, and fair," and what possible right can you have to enjoy the privileges of rational beings? Therefore, while we are fighting against the *common* enemy, be quiet,—behave yourselves—and shew a decent gratitude for being suffered to exist." And now, after all, who are the men that talk thus to a country struggling for liberty three thousand miles off? They are the very persons,—or at least some of them are the very persons,—for they are a strange mixture—who *deposed their doting monarch Charles* in favour of a son equally doting; they are the very persons who in consequence of this useless deposition, the result of their dislike to a minion who despised their haughty

nobility, applied to the British nation for assistance against a foreign oppression;—they are the very persons who have said to all Europe with tears in their eyes, “Behold the unmerited hardships we endure—pity, assist, and deliver us!”—Propped up with a palsied despotism on one side and a dying superstition on the other, these drivelling zealots fancy they can at once be tyrannically corrupt and resist a young tyranny in the full vigour of its ambition: they maintain all that they can of despotism, and think they have a right to be free; they count their beads and their slaves, and think that Heaven is on their side; they gasp in proclamations, and fancy that a distant continent trembles at the sound.—Wretched infatuation! Abominable inconsistency!—Common sense has marked them out, and history will record them, as nothing but the last, miserable pageants that bring up the rear of departing bigotry, of monks, of miracle-working stocks and stones, of preachers of assassination, of inquisitors with their racks and torches, and of a thousand phantoms that oppressed the senses of mankind.

It was fondly imagined by some, that Great Britain, fighting as she does for Spain upon no other *ostensible* ground than that of obtaining freedom, would not have condescended to uphold inconsistencies so monstrous. Some people even thought that the Marquis WELLESLEY, finding he could not be the Regenerator of Europe, would take it into his head to be the Regenerator of America; and they congratulated each other on the interview which General MIRANDA had with him a fortnight since. But General MIRANDA understands these interviews better than his well-wishers. The newspapers have published a letter written from Downing-street to a British General in Curacoa in answer to his information respecting the Caraccas, and in this letter we see the old spirit of bad, courtly policy, that has done so much mischief. It says that his Majesty engaged to “secure, if possible, the independence of”—what?—of the Spanish people in all parts of the world?—No; but “of the Spanish monarchy in all parts of the world.”—It is monarchs who are to be independent and not the people,—a few individuals, and not the millions who defend and enrich them.—Doubtless it is just and necessary to adhere to the promises of nations; and it is only to be wished, that we had been as delicate and as scrupulous when we seized the Spanish frigates before the declaration of war, and pounced unexpectedly upon the poor inhabitants of Buenos Ayres. But his Majesty engaged to fight for the independence of this monarchy no longer than it appeared to have a chance of being secured; and here we might have indulged some little hope of a result in favour of the South Americans; but no: “his Majesty,” says the paper, has “well-founded expectations” of Spanish success,—nay, he has not only “well-founded expectations,” but the subjugation of Spain or even its “compromise” with the enemy, is “an event which he can in no degree consider as probable!”—One has nothing to say in answer to convictions like these; but in perusing this Ministerial docu-

ment we can easily run through all the hidden causes that inspired the writer—the tenacity of bad systems,—“legitimate” corruption,—unwillingness to countenance popular efforts—the United States—and last but not least, *Ireland*. Let these things be as they may, it is nevertheless certain, that an ignorant despotism, which has once provoked inquiry, cannot long survive, and that a distant country, bound to it by imaginary ties, and interested in this inquiry, cannot long be its slave. General MIRANDA, that excellent patriot, who can practise patience as well as activity, and who won the confidence and admiration of all honest men by his conduct at the turn of the French Revolution, must wait a little longer,—but only a little. Old Spain will soon fall, and when that end of the beam is down, the other will inevitably rise, and New Spain will be emancipated.

## FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

### PORTUGAL.

LISBON, Aug. 26.—Many people here seem much inclined to view affairs in a favourable light, on comparing our strength and resources with those of the enemy, and seem to think that there are means sufficient to defend this country for years against the forces at present on this side of the Pyrenees. The enemy began to bombard Alveida, at 2 o'clock in the morning of the 16th, with 60 pieces of heavy ordnance.

### PROCLAMATION OF LORD WELLINGTON.

“LORD VISCOUNT WELLINGTON, MARSHAL GENERAL, &c.

“The time which has elapsed, during which the enemy has remained on the Frontiers of Portugal, must have proved to the Portuguese nation what they have to expect from the French. The inhabitants of some villages have remained in them, confiding in the promises of the enemy, and hoping that by trusting the enemies of their country, they might conciliate and mollify them, and inspire them with humane sentiments, that their property would be respected, their females preserved from brutal violation, and their lives secured.—Vain hopes! the inhabitants of these submissive places have suffered all the evils which a cruel enemy could inflict; their property has been plundered; their habitations burnt; their women atrociously violated, and those whose age and sex did not provoke the brutal violence of the soldiers, have fallen victims to the imprudent confidence which they placed in promises, made only to be broken. The Portuguese must now see that no other means remain to avoid the evils with which they are threatened, but a determined and vigorous resistance and a firm resolution to obstruct, as much as possible, the advance of the enemy into the interior of the kingdom; by removing out of his reach all such things as may contribute to his subsistence, or facilitate his progress. This is the only and most certain means to prevent the evils with which the country is threatened. The army under my command will protect as large a portion of the country as is possible; but it is obvious that the people alone can deliver themselves by a vigorous resistance, and preserve their goods, by removing them out of the reach of the enemy. The duties, therefore, that bind me to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent of Portugal and to the Portuguese nation, oblige me to make use of the power and authority with which I am furnished, and compel the careless and indolent to make the necessary efforts to preserve themselves from the dangers which threaten them, and to save their country. In conformity with this, I make known and declare, that all Magistrates, and persons in authority, who shall remain in the villages or towns, after having received orders from the military officers to remove from them, and all persons, of what-

ever class they may be, who shall maintain the least communication with, or aid and assist in any manner the enemy, shall be considered as traitors to the State, and tried and punished as such an enormous crime requires.

“WELLINGTON.”

“Head-quarters, Aug. 4, 1810.”

#### GENERAL ORDERS.

[Mr. J. Tindale, a respectable merchant of Oporto, received a letter from an English Officer of rank, describing Massena's force as amounting to 105,000 men, 40 regiments whereof were cavalry; stating also that 80,000 men were marching against the rear of the British army,—that it was hardly to be supposed Lord Wellington meant to oppose such a force,—that he must retreat and quit the country,—that, in short, it would be madness to engage with Massena's army, &c.—Upon this, Mr. Tindale wrote a letter to the Commander of the Dart sloop, requesting, in the name of the British Merchants in Oporto, that he would “take into consideration the necessity of having a sufficient force off this bar, to protect all English ships which can be got ready for setting sail, as well as all the English subjects who, on account of the imminent danger, may be under the necessity of embarking without the least delay.”—In consequence of these proceedings, General Beresford published the following Order of Lord Wellington:—]

“The Commander in Chief will not make any inquiry to ascertain the authors of letters, which excited so much fear and consternation in a place where it is most to be wished none should exist.—He has frequently lamented the ignorance displayed in opinions announced in letters from the army, and the indiscretion with which the late letters are published. It is impossible that many officers of the army can possess a sufficient knowledge of facts, to be able to form a correct opinion on the probable events of the campaign, and yet their opinions, although erroneous, when once published, cannot but produce mischievous results. The Commander in Chief, therefore, requests that the officers, on account of their own reputation, will refrain from giving an opinion on matters with regard to which they cannot possibly possess the necessary knowledge for giving it with correctness, and if they chance to communicate to their correspondents facts which relate to the position of the army, its strength, the formation of its magazines, preparations for cutting down or blowing up bridges, &c. they will at least desire their correspondents not to publish their letters in newspapers, unless it be certain that the publication thereof cannot prove injurious to the army and the public service.

(Signed) “CHARLES STEUART,  
“Brigadier and Adjutant General.”

And General Beresford adds:—

“Although the Marshal hopes, that the letters in question are not written by any officers employed in the Portuguese army, yet he thinks it right to express his earnest wish, that all the officers may constantly bear in mind the observations made by his Excellency Marshal-General Lord Wellington; and also hopes, that not only the large towns of this kingdom, but also that smaller places, will not suffer themselves to be thrown into confusion and intimidated by similar relations of Portuguese Officers.

(Signed) “MOZENHO, Adj-Gen.”

#### STATE PAPER.

#### IMPORTANT DOCUMENT RELATIVE TO SPANISH AMERICA.

BRIGADIER-GENERAL LAWARD.

Downing-street, June 29, 1810.

SIR—Your dispatch, with its inclosures, have been received, and laid before the King. I am commanded by his Majesty to express his approbation of your conduct in sending your Aide-de-Camp, Captain Kelly, to this country, with the intelligence of the events which have recently occurred in the province of Venezuela. I think it of the utmost importance that Captain Kelly should return with as little delay as possible to Curacao, and that you should be apprised of the line of conduct which,

under the circumstances stated in your letter, it is his Majesty's pleasure that you should pursue in his name.

The great object which his Majesty has had in view from the first moment when intelligence was received in this country of the glorious resistance of the Spanish nation, against the tyranny and usurpation of France, was to assist, by every means in his power, this great effort by a brave, loyal, and high spirited people, and to secure, if possible, the independence of the Spanish Monarchy in all parts of the world.

As long as the Spanish Nation persevere in their resistance to their invader, and as any reasonable hope can be entertained of ultimate success to their cause in Spain, his Majesty feels it to be his duty, according to every obligation of justice and good faith, to discourage any proceeding which may have the effect of separating the Spanish Provinces in America from the Parent State in Europe; the integrity of the Spanish Monarchy, upon principles of justice and true policy, being not less the object of his Majesty than of all loyal and patriotic Spaniards.

If, however, contrary to his Majesty's most anxious wishes, and as he still continues to think, well founded expectations, the Spanish dominions in Europe shall be doomed to submit to the yoke of the common enemy, either in consequence of actual force, or of any compromise which may leave to them only the semblance of independence, an event which his Majesty, relying on the tried energy and patriotism of the Spanish people, can in no degree consider as probable, his Majesty will feel himself bound by the same principles which have influenced his conduct for the last two years in the cause of the Spanish nation, to afford every assistance to the provinces in America, which may render them independent of French Spain, may afford a place of refuge to those Spaniards, who, in disdaining to submit to their oppressors, may look to America as to their natural asylum, and may preserve the remains of the Monarchy for their unfortunate Sovereign, if it shall ever be his lot, under such circumstances, to recover his liberty. His Majesty in thus explicitly declaring the motives and principles of his conduct, disclaims every view of territory or acquisition for himself.

His Majesty observes with satisfaction from the Papers which have been transmitted to him, that the proceedings in the Caraccas appear in a great measure to have originated in a belief, that in consequence of the progress of the French armies in the South of Spain, and the dissolution of the Supreme Junta, the cause of the Parent State had become desperate. He trusts, therefore, that as soon as the actual state of things shall have been correctly known in that quarter, the general acknowledgement throughout Spain of the Regency, and the unremitting exertions of the Spaniards in defence of their country under that authority, the inhabitants of the Caraccas will be induced to return to their connection with Spain as an integral part of the Spanish Monarchy.

His Majesty is led more particularly to entertain this expectation, from the consideration that the Regency now established at Cadiz appears to have adopted the same wise and generous principles, with respect to the provinces in America, as were previously adopted by the Supreme Junta, in establishing the connection between every part of the Spanish Monarchy upon the most liberal footing, in regarding the American provinces as integral parts of the empire, and in admitting them in consequence to a place in the Cortes of the kingdom.

His Majesty feels confident that the same generous and enlightened policy which has dictated these measures, will induce the Government of Spain to regulate the intercourse of the American Provinces with other parts of the world, upon such a basis as will contribute to their growing prosperity, and, at the same time, augment all the advantages which the Parent State may justly expect to derive from them.

His Majesty trusts, that this exposition of his sentiments will enable you, without difficulty, to regulate your conduct in any intercourse you may find it necessary to have with the contiguous Spanish Provinces in South America; and as his Majesty has directed that a copy of his letter should be communicated to the Government of Spain, he can have no objection to your making any use of the avowal of these sentiments which circumstances may appear to you to require.

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

A young man named Whitehead, servant with Mr. Stubbings, of Preston, had some time ago paid his addresses to the daughter of Benjamin Ockleton, of Aldborough, but had been discarded. He met with her at that place on Tuesday evening, followed her into the fields, where she had gone to milk along with her aunt, and on her refusing to countenance his addresses, swore he would either have her, or make her that nobody else would. He then drew out a knife, and stabbed her in the breasts and throat several times, until she succeeding in wresting the knife from him, in doing which both her hands were much cut. The knife she threw away, and when he had found he could not recover it, he attempted to tear open with his fingers the wounds he had given her. Fortunately the aunt having run back to the town, sent several people to the spot in time to prevent him from taking her life; though she is yet severely ill of the wounds. The man had once or twice before threatened her life; but bore a very good general character. He has been committed to York Castle.

A young man of the name of Holles, son of a farmer, near Borking, put a period to his existence on Sunday last by cutting his throat with a clasp knife, in the presence of a young lady to whom he had paid his addresses. This horrid act was occasioned by jealousy, the lady having permitted the addresses of another person in consequence of a quarrel with Holles. The deceased met her going to church with her new admirer, when he committed the suicide.

At Presteigne Assizes, a lamentable instance of early depravity occurred: a boy not more than 12 years old, was tried for a burglary, which he had committed in company with two others boys about his own age. These young depredators had acted, it appeared, with more artful caution than could be expected from older offenders. One has escaped, and the second being admitted King's evidence, brought the fact home to the third boy, who received sentence of death, but on account of his tender years was reprieved.

The unfortunate malefactors, Wilson and Langley, left at the last Sussex Assizes for execution, on Saturday week at Horsham received the dreadful sentence of the law. In the cart, on the way to the place of execution, they both appeared very attentive to their books, and on their arrival at the fatal tree, spent half an hour in fervent prayer with the Clergyman who attended them. They both appeared truly penitent, and conducted themselves with manly fortitude. They forgave their prosecutors, and said they died in peace with all the world. As soon as the Clergyman left them, their caps were pulled over their faces, when they again both prayed most fervently; after which Wilson said to Langley, "are you ready?" to which he replied "yes, when you like." Wilson then dropped a handkerchief from his hand, as a signal to the executioner, at the same time throwing himself along in the cart, which moved off immediately. Langley put up his hand above his ear, and caught hold of the rope, but as soon as his body was suspended, he instantly let go. They both appeared to die remarkably easy. Wilson, alas White, the soldier, was a Leicestershire man, and a plasterer by trade. Just before he was turned off, he observed to Mr. Sartar, the keeper, that he thought the rope was not placed right, and he wished it to be altered, as he hoped to be soon out of his misery. Wilson was 27 years old, and Langley 35.—The Clergyman addressed some of the populace, who appeared to behave in a manner unbecoming the occasion, on the impropriety of their conduct.

TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTCIES ENLARGED.

- D. Henning, Leicester-square, upholsterer, from Sept. 2 to Sept. 22, at ten, at Guildhall.
- J. Sharpe, Great Peter-street, Westminster, baker, from Sept. 13 to Oct. 13, at ten, at Guildhall.
- J. Wyatt, Mitre-court, Aldgate, stationer, from Sept. 9 to Sept. 15, at ten, at Guildhall.

- J. Pearson, Manchester, grocer, from Sept. 8 to Sept. 18, at ten, at Guildhall, London.
- B. Benjamin, Chatham, glass and chinn-man, from Aug. 25 to Sept. 25, at ten, at Guildhall, London.
- M. Davies, Liverpool, shopkeeper, from Sept. 22 to Sept. 28; at the Palace Inn, Manchester.

BANKRUPTS.

- R. Bland, Threadneedle-street, merchant.
- M. Fielding, Manchester, manufacturer.
- M. Cameron, Great Yarmouth, milliner.
- T. Caw, Bush-lane, London, merchant.
- J. Bamford, Soyland, Yorkshire, fastan-manufacturer.
- J. Bickford, Brixham, Devonshire, grocer.
- S. Holman, Calne, Wiltshire, victualler.
- T. Gordon, Tower-street, wine-merchant.
- J. Fairburn, Minories, bookseller.
- H. Carpenter, Seven Oaks, Kent, innkeeper.

SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

Whitehall, September 15, 1810.

The King has been graciously pleased by warrant under his royal signet and sign manual, to give and grant unto Sir John Carr, Knight, his royal licence and permission that he may, in compliance with the desire of his Majesty Ferdinand the Fourth, King of the Two Sicilies, accept the rank and wear the insignia of a Knight of the Royal Military Order of Constantine, conferred upon him by that Sovereign as a testimony of his royal regard and esteem:

And also to order, that his Majesty's said concession and declaration be registered, together with the relative documents, in his College of Arms.

BANKRUPTS.

- J. Smith, Monxon, Southampton, grocer.
- S. Eady, St. Ives, Huntingdon, warehouseman.
- J. Davies, Chepstow, watchmaker.
- S. Packer, South Lambeth, underwriter.
- J. Bellas, Manchester, cotton-merchant.
- J. Greaves, Fish-street-hill, London, leather-seller.
- D. Lant, West-Smithfield, salesman.
- J. B. Furze and Co. Webbe-street, Southwark, merchants.
- J. Unsworth, Manchester, jeweller.

PRICE OF STOCKS ON SATURDAY.

3 per cent. Cons. .... 67  $\frac{1}{2}$  | Omnium ..... 4 dis.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

VALERIUS,—F—R,—INSKIP,—W.G.T.—J.B.—and other Communications, next week.

Articles of Information, designed for insertion in the Examiner, must always be sent before Saturday.

THE EXAMINER.

LONDON, SEPTEMBER 16.

UPON the strength of Lord Wellington's letters, we are told by the Newspapers, that MARSENA has been compelled by want of provisions to quarter 25,000 of his troops upon the natives at a distance from the main army, and that his Lordship, in consequence, has advanced to Almeida with the design of compelling the Marshal to recall his troops and eat himself into starvation. This is a very likely business truly! Not that MARSENA may not be seriously distressed for provisions; but when the English and French meet in such a country as Portugal, it is well known which of them is most distressed by such wants,

both from custom, from habit of body, and from inferior skill and activity in *resource*. There is indeed no appearance in the state of things to give any joyous colouring to the movements of MASSENA, whatever they may be. Letters are written from officers in the allied army to merchants in Oporto, recommending them, in plain terms, to take care of themselves; and when these letters are disclosed, Lord WELLINGTON does not think proper to *inquire* into the matter. So far from congratulating himself on any favourable appearances in the disputed country, his Lordship issues a Proclamation reproaching the natives with "*trusting*" their enemy, admonishing them that a vigorous resistance is their only salvation, and, finally, threatening them that if he does not find them becomingly patriotic, he must "*compel*" them to fight for their country! The Proclamation is full of tautologies and inconsistencies. The Portuguese, it says, must make not only a "*determined*" but a "*vigorous resistance*;" in addition to which they must have a "*firm resolution*;" in further addition to which they must again make a "*vigorous resistance*;" in short, they are informed that the careful removal of all goods and victuals out of the way of the French is the *only* means of preventing the threatened evils, and the reader is astonished to learn that this being the only means is also—the "*most certain*."—Thus we are reduced at last to remonstrate with our friends the Portuguese, and if remonstrances will not do, we must *compel* them, it seems, to work out their own salvation! *Compel* the "*friendly*," the "*gallant*," the "*persevering*," the "*enthusiastic*" Portuguese, to *aid us in assisting* them! What a proclamation, and what a prospect!—How fit an epilogue for such a farce!

☞

German Papers were received yesterday morning to the 2d—they contain the following intelligence:—MURAT, after *talking* of terrifying our seamen, and *feeling* the effects of their terror in the destruction and capture of his flotillas, has adjourned the invasion of Sicily.—The troops destined for the invasion have been ordered into cantonments, and the *Hamburgh Correspondent* frankly owns that it was the destruction of the flotilla under CONACCEGA, that has obliged MURAT to postpone the enterprize.

There was a curious report in circulation on Friday night, that the Danish Government, vexed at the rejection of the King of DENMARK as Crown Prince of Sweden, had proposed to Sir JAMES SAUMAREZ to put Copenhagen and the Island of Zealand under British protection—that a dispatch had been received from Sir JAMES SAUMAREZ, requesting a sufficient military force from this country. There is not the slightest foundation for the rumour. Indeed the Danish Government affect to be quite pleased with the nomination of BERNADOTTE; and the *Danish Court Gazette* speaks of him as having acquired the esteem and gratitude of the Danes.—*Courier*.

In the Ordnance Estimate for the current year (1810) the expence of buildings and repairs in Great Britain and abroad, is calculated at about 519,617. The unprovided services belonging to the same head, are about 39,425.

A Portuguese vessel, laden with barilla, re-captured from the French by the boats of the Dreadnought, was brought into Plymouth on Tuesday. This is one of the dearest conquests which the impetuous gallantry of our navy has obtained this war. It has been achieved with no smaller loss than that of *nine killed*, and *thirty wounded*. Among the former, we understand, were two Midshipmen, Messrs. MIDDLETON and ROBERTSON; among the latter, Lieutenants ALTON and BLACKLIER. The prize was cut by the boats of the Dreadnought from under the island of Ushant, where she was lying, moored head and stern, and protected by a strong military force, 500 men at least, posted behind the rocks, who kept up an unintermitting fire of musketry. The Dreadnought lost two of her boats on the occasion.

Marshal SOULT has published a proclamation, in which he terms the adherents of FERDINAND, acting in flying detachments, called Guerrillas, "*robbers*," and directs the punishment of death on those taken with arms in their hands. By way of retaliation for this, the Rengency have published another Proclamation, in which they denounce SOULT as "*a lunatic*, calling himself the Duke of DALMATIA," and declare that three Frenchmen shall be executed for every Spaniard; and that SOULT himself will be "*personally considered as unworthy of the protection of the law of nations*, and be treated like a robber, if he should happen to be taken."

ANOTHER COALITION!—A writer in the *Post* says, "there is every appearance of a war between Russia and France; and if England would send 20,000 infantry, and 5000 cavalry to join the Russians, and lead them on to close combat or assault with both artillery and bayonets, the revolutionary French Empire would disappear like a bubble, and the *old regime* might be restored." This advice is addressed to the Right Hon. S. PERCEVAL, and will doubtless make a due impression upon that great statesman.

Though the Sheriffs of Dublin (Sir J. RIDDALL and Sir EDWARD STANLEY), have openly differed in opinion, the compliance of the former has been obtained, and an aggregate Meeting of the Freemen and Freeholders of Dublin is to be held on Tuesday next, "*for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of petitioning our gracious Sovereign and the Imperial Parliament for a REPEAL of the ACT of UNION*." The *Dublin Evening Post* says,—"A considerable display of talent is expected on this interesting occasion. The Right Hon. JOHN PHILIP CURRAN, Master of the Rolls, ever consistent in his political career, is expected to deliver his sentiments. Mr. G. PONSONBY is now in town, and we cannot possibly suppose that he will decline coming forth to advocate the cause of his suffering country. The son of our revered Patriot, the Father of that Constitution which we now hope to see restored, intends, we believe, at the approaching meeting, to make his *debut* in public life. It will be a proud day when Ireland is assured that she has another HENRY GRATTAN."

The prices of gold in Hamburgh and in London are very nearly equal—yet in Hamburgh 1000 English guineas of standard weight will purchase a bill on London for 1200.

It appears from *The Gazette* of Tuesday, that his Majesty has honoured the Superior Officers who have fought in the various battles in the Spanish Peninsula, with an appropriate medal. A list of the Officers thus distinguished is given in the *Gazette*.

The sentence of the General Court-Martial held at Chelsea, for the trial of Captain WILLIAM MASON, Adjutant of Tower-Hamlets' Militia, on five charges preferred against him by private RICHARD PEROP, of the said regiment, was last week promulgated. Captain MASON was fully acquitted of the 1st, 2d, and 3d charges, and partially so of the 4th and 5th; but the Court directed him to be reprimanded for having struck Serjeant WOOD and private WILLIAM WRIGHT.—This sentence has caused the utmost astonishment, as Capt. MASON, by his own defence even, had acknowledged himself guilty of a charge of a much heavier nature than that of striking the men.

On Monday a Court of Inquiry was held at No. 19, Great George-street, Westminster, Major-General TURNER, President, to investigate various heavy charges preferred by Lieutenants KEMPE and SCOTT against Captain DANIEL O'MEARA, of the First Royal Tower Hamlets' Militia. Some serious charges are likewise preferred against Adjutant PEYTON of the same regiment. The Court adjourned till Thursday.

A DISGRACE TO THE CLOTH—A curious case of assault was lately tried at the Londonderry Assizes, in which an innkeeper of the name of *Brown* was plaintiff, and the *Rev. F. L. Cary* was defendant. The *divine*, according to the evidence for the plaintiff, had taken a Miss Ormsby to sleep at the inn, which the wife of the innkeeper, on discovering, very much resented, and compelled her to leave the house. This seems to have roused the indignation of the reverend gentleman, who attempted to rush into the hostess's chamber, to which she had been confined by illness, with pistols, which he termed his "angels;" he then went into the kitchen, where he and his servant amused themselves with swearing and singing improper songs, and shortly afterwards quarrelled with, kicked and fought the landlord. The Counsel for the defendant acknowledged that his client was not free from what he termed "the failings incident to human nature;" and that, "perhaps his receiving a classical education, might enable him to swear more pathetically and elegantly than the generality of swearers!!" but said, he could bring a witness to disprove the evidence of the plaintiff. He then called the defendant's servant, who affirmed that the plaintiff first struck his master, and blackened his eyes; that his master had no pistols that night; and that he (the witness) by his master's desire, stripped and engaged the plaintiff, by which an old chair was fractured. This fellow also confessed, that he had advised Betty Elwood, the plaintiff's cook and housemaid, to live with his profligate master. The Jury gave a verdict for the plaintiff.—Damages 40s. with 6d. costs.

RONAPARTE has certainly studied MACHIAVEL, whose policy he is at this moment following in every possible direction. The wily Italian says,—“Whoever makes himself Lord of a State, especially if he suspect his ability to keep it, must, as the best course, make every thing as new as himself,—after the magistracy, create new titles, confer new authorities, uncharter old corporations,—that what was said of DAVID may be said of him, “He filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he sent empty away.”

In consequence of the settlement that has taken place between Mr. SHERIDAN and the Drury-lane company, Mr. COCHRAN has given up the idea of acting on the winter licence he had obtained.

## CLERICAL MISCONDUCT.

SIR,—You are a Reformer; I shall therefore make no apology for communicating to you the following scandalous circumstance, which occurred yesterday in one of the Parish Churches of this Metropolis:—Our afternoon-lecturer has (I believe on account of ill-health) for some weeks performed his duties by means of a substitute. Instead of this gentleman, the congregation were yesterday surprised by the entrance of a perfect stranger, and I leave you to imagine the horror of every one present, when almost immediately upon his beginning the service, it was evident, too evident to pass unnoticed by the most careless eye, that he was in a state of literal intoxication. After the Liturgy, which was read in a manner too disgusting to relate, the lecturer's substitute made his appearance, and relieved us from the task of listening to a sermon from the mouth of such a monster. Well may the Church fall into disrepute, when such are its Ministers!—I am, Sir, your humble servant,  
Z. Z. Z.  
Sept. 3, 1810.

## AN APPEAL.

MR. EXAMINER,—On the 29d of last July, a young man, whose Family lives at Holborn-Bridge, absconded, and although the usual means of advertising and offering forgiveness, have been resorted to, the fugitive has not been regained. That an individual should by an indiscreet act plunge a whole family and a numerous circle of friends into a state of misery, is much to be deplored; but it is unfortunately too true, that the innocent unavoidably suffer for the guilty. The young Man was an admirer and constant reader of the *Examiner*, like myself, and I am anxious to inform him, through its medium, that his mother is wearing away with excessive grief; that his father is on the eve of madness; and that his numerous brothers and sisters are in the utmost anguish. I conjure him to have compassion on these powerful claims to his affection;—and must tell him, “the piety of a child is sweeter far than the incense of Arabia.” Although he has acted improperly, he may return and be the prime comfort of his loving parents, and most disconsolate wife.—His offences are forgiven, and every endeavour will be used to render him happy. Wherever he may be, Mr. Editor, your Paper is assuredly read by him, and although the addresses to him through other channels, may have escaped his notice, I flatter myself that this short appeal will share a different fate. Your constant reader,  
PHILANTHROPOS.

Kent Road, September 14, 1810.

## PUBLIC EXPENDITURE.

## PRINTING.

The 9th Report of the Committee on the Public Expenditure, contains much curious information on the expence annually incurred by the public for printing. The manner in which the pages of the documents printed by order of the Houses of Parliament were formerly stretched out, must have struck every eye. The hot press and wide extending margin of modern printing, are, perhaps, adapted to the vitiated and perverted taste of the age in which we live; but, as the perusal of the voluminous official publications of Mr. Nichols, Mr. Hansard, and Messrs. Byre and Strachan, cannot be comprehended under the title of *light reading*, there seems an adequate reason for the profuse and superfluous consumption of paper, which has so long and so absurdly been endured by the country. In the single charge for printing Acts of Parliament for Magistrates, which the Committee have selected as an example to illustrate the absurdity of the practice, a saving of more than 50 per cent. is made, and that too with an increased convenience to the reader.

The business of Printing for the Houses of Parliament is distributed among three persons:—1. The Votes of the House of Commons, of which the expence is comparatively small, be-

ing from 2000*l.* to 3000*l.* per annum, are printed by Mr. Nichols, who has executed this work for many years. 2. The Journals and the miscellaneous Papers of the House of Commons, including Bills and Reports, are printed by Mr. Hansard. 3. The several papers ordered to be printed by the House of Lords, and Acts of Parliament, are printed by Messrs. Eyre and Strachan, Printers to his Majesty.

EXPENCE OF PRINTING IN ENGLAND, IN THE YEARS 1808 AND 1809.

	1808.			1809.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Audit Office	16	14	10	10	9	4½
Navy Office	1,726	11	3	1,871	5	6
Stamp Office	793	7	7	716	15	1
Transport Office, viz.						
Transport Service	414	5	6	483	19	0
Sick and Wounded.	1,479	16	6	3,358	9	0
Prisoners of War	303	17	6	1,195	2	0
Greenwich Hospital	202	19	0	396	11	8
Public Records, England	4,459	14	3	—	—	—
Forms of Prayer	997	15	10	1,309	6	8
Commander in Chief's Office	210	15	2½	191	4	2
Customs	1,083	0	1½	1,056	18	6
Chelsea Hospital	466	14	6	541	10	0
Victualling Office—about	—	—	—	4,300	0	0
Privy Council Chamber	1,488	12	6	1,266	6	1
General Post Office, through						
Stationary Office	693	8	10	927	0	7
Barrack Office	463	16	2	423	12	5
Admiralty	1,569	17	10	1,944	19	8
Excise (including rul'd Books)	11,194	19	10½	13,569	7	11
Tax Office (through Stationary Office)	4,276	15	0	1,890	4	0
Treasury	181	11	3	269	14	0
Secretaries of State:						
Home and Colonial, by Eyre and Strachan	2,177	5	2	659	11	4
Home—for Index to London Gazette	158	3	9	180	17	0
Colonial—more	55	1	0	66	10	0
Foreign	420	14	6	483	19	8
Archbishop of Canterbury	34	9	11	18	8	4
The 12 Judges and Court of King's Bench	128	8	3	137	1	1
Haaber and Crown Offices	251	4	7	177	15	9
Attorney and Solicitor-General	30	14	10	22	9	3
Acts of Parliament for the Magistrates, Clerks of the Peace, &c.	16,975	17	3	13,520	11	0
Local and Personal Acts	2,071	13	9	5,707	14	3
House of Lords	9,595	19	9	10,461	15	2
House of Commons	28,131	18	11	40,866	12	8
War Office	740	12	0	1,049	6	0
Ordnance	778	2	3	902	2	9
Commissariate	316	17	9	430	4	0
	£94,174	16	10½	110,347	14	3½

STATIONARY.

The total charge of the Stationary Office for articles delivered to the several Departments of Government in England, was,  
 In 1806—£109,458.  
 1807—113,466.  
 1808—134,287.

It appears that various "irregularities" have been permitted in this branch of the public service. Paper, purchased at 1*s.* per ream, has been charged to the public at 1*s.* 5*s.* nearly double the cost!—Mr. Thomas Parker being asked, "Do you usually buy the Statutes at the end of each Session, and any other books or stores not already mentioned?"—he replied, "yes; whenever they are to be disposed of; the Prayer-books &c. have been sold again for the table of the House?"—The English of all this is, that an unnecessary

quantity of articles are at first ordered, and these goods, which have already been paid for, are resold to the original vender, (at a reduced price of course) who again sells them to the public. So that the public in fact are buying the goods twice over! The names of the offenders ought to be published.

REVIVAL OF THE DISTURBANCES AT COVENT-GARDEN THEATRE.

(The following account of the renewal of the theatrical contest is taken principally from the *Alfred*, for it was not worth while to write a fresh one. The *Examiner* takes careful notice of new plays and of other objects of theatrical criticism, but as it is not intended to be a theatrical register, it does not trouble itself respecting the inferior parts of stage history. The present cause of disturbance at Covent-Garden is easily told and easily appreciated. Mr. KEMBLE pledged himself to the well-known Committee of last year to retain but three Private Boxes on each side of the house; and he is now endeavouring to retain seven, the whole of the number in the old Theatre. This he excuses by saying that he trusted to the candour or good nature of the public for a relaxation of the strict letter of the Contract; and this excuse he is clenching in a very strange way, by holding out another siege of vociferation. Whatever were Mr. KEMBLE's hopes, or however rigid the public may be on the occasion, it is manifest that they have right on their side, and that he is acting a very shuffling and degrading part.—*Exam.*)

MONDAY.

The Theatre opened this evening with the *Beggar's Opera*. The House was crowded.—On the appearance of the musicians, "God save the King," was called for by the whole House. To this succeeded "Rule Britannia." The applause with which these airs were greeted, was not unmix'd with occasional vociferations of "No Private Boxes," from which we were led to anticipate that disapprobation which was subsequently manifested—and which burst forth from the centre of the Pit, on the rising of the curtain. Of the performance, the dialogue and the music were alike inaudible. "No Private Boxes—John Kemble—Contract, Contract, Contract—Agreement—Crown and Anchor—Clifford's agreement—No shuffling"—the sounds of whistles—cat-calls—O. P., O. P.—and the imitative mewings of *Gitmakin* Performers, with an incessant hiss—rendered the first act of the *Beggar's Opera* wholly inaudible. The company in the Pit, to which the disapprobation during the play was principally confined, stood up and covered. Many were the disputes between those who expressed disapprobation and their opponents. "Silence—turn 'em out—order"—resounded from every part of the House. On the entrance of Mrs. Dickons, there was a momentary remission of discord by an unanimous salute of welcome to this lady—but it was immediately succeeded by a recurrence to the music of the Pit. At the conclusion of the first act, an attempt was made to set up the O. P. dance, which failed from the want of a sufficient number of performers.

The cry of "KEMBLE, KEMBLE!" increasing at the close of the first act, that gentleman at length came forward, amidst a divided hiss of disapprobation and applause. "Hear him, Hear him!—Perform your Contract!" with all the accompaniments of bravo, clapping, hooting, and hissing, rendered it for some moments impossible to obtain a hearing. At length, Mr. KEMBLE, though amidst considerable clamour, was heard:—

"LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.—When, at the close of the last season, I had the honour of addressing you, the propositions I then laid before you on the part of the Proprietors, respecting the intended alterations in the interior of this Theatre, appeared to be received with approbation"—[ "No, no—





Ticket Night," from several parts of the House, with the contending applause of others, constrained Mr. Kemble to stop. During this tumultuous noise, two notes were handed up to the stage, neither of which reached Mr. Kemble.—"Read, read: Contract, Crown and Anchor Treaty," were vociferated.—At length Mr. Kemble was again heard:—"Gentlemen,—Permit me to remark, that that Treaty has never been denied by the Proprietors."—[A voice from the Pit said, "Then why don't you perform it."—The tumult was renewed. Mr. Kemble at length proceeded:—]

"That treaty was thought binding—the Proprietors never thought of swerving from it—but feeling their situation from the powers conferred on a rival Theatre, they threw themselves upon the candour of the public, whose indulgence they intreated, and thought they had secured."—[Here there was a loud cry of "No, no; Ticket-night—Contract," &c. and the remainder of what Mr. Kemble said could only be heard by detached sentences.] The substance of what he said was, "that in consequence of this agreement with the public, the Proprietors had incurred an expence of several thousand pounds in various improvements and accommodations—(which he pointed out principally by gesticulation)—and that they had flattered themselves with having obtained that indulgence, from their candour and liberality, to which he had had the honour of appealing at the close of the last season."

The mixture of disapprobation and applause, which prevailed on Mr. Kemble's retiring from the stage was great. The play then proceeded amidst the same interruption with which it had commenced, and the curtain dropped amidst contending applause and disapprobation.

At the commencement of the Farce—*Raising the Wind*—Mr. Jones was honoured with a burst of applause, but the piece was drowned by the noise of the opposition; which, however, was now shifted to the slip-boxes, and was kept up with great perseverance on the Prince's side of the House, strengthened, occasionally, by the opposite slip-boxes, and slightly by the Galleries. In the Pit, the company were all seated, and uncovered during the After-piece, although such of the opposition, as had not migrated to the Upper Boxes, continued to support their friends by hissing. The O. P. dance was attempted in the Upper Boxes, but failed. A violent contention arose between some persons in the Upper Boxes on the Prince's side, who called for "God save the King," and the galleries. From the Boxes was vociferated, "No hired blacksmiths!"—the Gallery returned the compliment, with "No barbers' clerks!"—"God save the King" was at length performed. The curtain dropped at a quarter past ten o'clock, amidst a horrid din of mingled disapprobation and applause. The house began to empty instantly—some groans were proposed and attempted to be performed, but went off very flat. By eleven o'clock the house was clear.

In the bills announcing the performances for Wednesday appeared the following address:—

#### TO THE PUBLIC.

"With the utmost concern the Proprietors feel themselves compelled to make this Address to the Justice of the Public.

"In an appeal to the Town at the close of last season, a full and distinct description was given of the Alterations proposed to be made in the new Theatre. This appeal was honoured with the general approbation of a very crowded audience; and the Proprietors, on the faith of this approbation, at a heavy additional expence (which they could but ill afford) have completed those alterations.

"The new Theatre (with much more space in the public Boxes, and general accommodation in every respect improved) is now restored to the same arrangement with that of the old Theatre before the Fire—and the public certainly will not desire, that the Proprietors, with all their additional heavy incumbrances, should be reduced to a more disadvantageous situation than they stood in before that afflicting calamity. There is not one more Annual Box now, than there was in the old Theatre, and to that number for many years there never was heard the slightest objection.

"The Proprietors throw themselves on the characteristic justice and liberality of Englishmen, and in return for the great anxiety, expence, and responsibility which they have cheerfully encountered, in order to contribute, on an extensive scale, to the Theatrical Entertainments of the Metropolis, they respectfully solicit the patronage and support of the Public."

"Whereas on Monday night last, at the conclusion of the performance at this Theatre, a Quart Bottle was thrown from one of the Galleries into the Pit. The Proprietors hereby offer a Reward of fifty guineas, upon the conviction of the Offender."

#### WEDNESDAY.

The appearance of Mr. Kemble, this evening, in *Perru-dock*, in the *Wheel of Fortune*, attracted a numerous audience. Until the curtain rose nothing occurred greatly to distinguish the evening, but the performers, on their entrance, were saluted from the pit, galleries, and some part of the boxes, with a concentrated and overwhelming roar of disapprobation.—The friends of the Proprietors were numerous, and extremely active in their endeavours to counteract, by clapping and other demonstrations of approbation, the noise created by the discontented—but the accumulated noise of both parties drowned the voices on the stage. At intervals detached sentences were heard, of which, in many instances, the opposition made applications to the subject in dispute. "Do you want *Roger Perru-dock*?" was answered from the pit—"Yes, if he will perform his contract"—and from the gallery, "No, no, he has broke his agreement"—but when Mr. Kemble's head appeared through the cottage casement, a general peal burst forth, fully equal in extent to any instance of vocal disapprobation during the O. R. contest. "Contract, Contract—Open the eight boxes—Fulfil the agreement—No shuffling—Off! off!—Hide your head—Kemble, come forward—No private boxes," were among the vociferations of the audience.—To this tremendous burst succeeded a slight intermission; but the elevation of a placard, with the inscription, "Contract, or, O. P." produced an universal shout from the opposition, which renewed the tumult with redoubled violence. The friends of the Proprietors in vain exerted themselves to render their applause predominant—their "bravos" and clappings were absorbed in the "contract," hootings, and hisses of the opposition. During this tumult Mr. Kemble went through the scene with calmness, and the act closed amidst the usual conflicting roar. Hitherto the greater part of the Pit had kept their seats; but a cry of "turn him out" from the upper boxes produced a general rise, and confusion prevailed more or less for the remainder of the evening. Placards again reared their heads, and two or three *snatches* produced as many scuffles—but of no great duration—nor with any serious fighting. During the second, third, and fourth acts, the opposition acquired strength—for although one gentleman in the lower boxes was turned out, cries of "the Contract," and "No Private Boxes," were heard from several boxes. The appearance of Mr. Kemble, or his brother, invariably produced an increase of the general vociferation. A placard now appeared, with "No P. B.—or Six Shillings." This was loudly applauded; and, "Give up the Private Boxes—Contract, Contract"—was the general cry.

In the fifth act Mr. Kemble intimated, by gestures, his intention of addressing the audience, who for some time thought he was only proceeding in his part. At length his intention being understood, silence was so far obtained, as to enable us to hear the following address:—

"LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—I do assure you I am under great and unaffected apprehensions that, in addressing you, I am intruding on your attention too often." [This exordium was interrupted with "No, no; hear him, hear him!"—Mr. Kemble proceeded.]—"Since I came into the Theatre, this evening, to prepare for the character in which I now appear, I have been told that great offence is taken at the exclusion of the public from those two boxes (pointing to the pigeon-hole boxes) which were open last season.—I can assure you, that the only reason for shutting those boxes is, to afford an oppor-

tunity of increasing the powers of ventilation of the house.—I am also told, it is insinuated that the Proprietors design to convert those boxes into private boxes”—[Here the tumult became violent, and it was some time before Mr. Kemble could proceed.]—“So far from having any such idea, the Proprietors of the Theatre are ready to open them directly.—[A cry of “Directly,” again interrupted Mr. Kemble.—It was clear that the greater part of the audience did not understand the allusion of Mr. Kemble to the pigeon-hole boxes, as appeared by the disapprobation subsequently expressed.—Mr. Kemble proceeded]—“I have also been informed, that the public are not perfectly satisfied that it is not the intention of the Proprietors at a future period to increase the number of private boxes beyond what it now is.”—[Here the tumult began to revive.]—But, Ladies and Gentlemen, I do most solemnly pledge my word, and that of the other Proprietors, that the present number of the private boxes shall never be increased, and that the public shall for ever remain in the possession of those that are open.”—The delivery of this address, so far from silencing the discontent of the audience, produced an increased degree of exasperation. “Contract, Contract—No shuffling—They want to bamboozle John Bull by giving him back one of his pigeon-holes;”—with many similar expressions of resentment, were vociferated; while Mr. Kemble went through his part with much less emotion than might have been anticipated.

The after-piece of “*The Escapes*” was performed amidst a tumult, of which the remission was at no time such as to permit us to hear even the Chorus Singers. “*God Save the King*” was sung by the Pit and Galleries between the acts. For the O. P. Dance, a new *dissyllabic* was introduced—in the same step and measure, called the *Con-tract* Dance—on the successive syllables of which, a *sostenuto*, accompanied by alternate beatings of the feet, bore some resemblance to the *Hesrah* of the *Otaheiteans*. This was performed repeatedly. Several placards were exhibited. The spirit of the several inscriptions was, “*Contract, Contract, Contract.*” The curtain dropped finally soon after ten o’clock.—A few groans and cheers followed; but the Pit was clear in a few minutes—no tumult ensued; nor was there any noise in the avenues.

## FRIDAY:

This was the third night of the performances, as the Company at present play only every other evening. The play was *Love in a Village*. Before the curtain drew up, “*God save the King*” was called for, as usual, and played. The performance commenced; and the first act was tolerably well heard, though the opposition at times was very considerable. Some person found a carpenter’s rule, which he held up, and called for the owner. This was the signal for a disturbance: A scuffle ensued. A person vociferated that Kemble would rule the pit at all events. A second and a third scuffle followed, and the pit was in a most agitated state. After some time, tranquillity was in part restored, and some passages of the opera were caught by the audience, and repeated amid peals of laughter. At half price, however, the “*Contract*” partizans, in very large bodies, reinforced their brethren in the pit, and from this period the clamour reached a height never surpassed during the sixty days war of last season. The oppositionists had recourse to all their old means of annoyance. They whistled, mewed, crowed, grunted, coughed, barked, brayed, and bellowed with matchless power and perseverance. Three tremendous rattles joined the chorus, several placards were exhibited, rings were formed, the “*Con-tract*” Dance was repeatedly performed, and the *Dæmon* of Discord appeared to have fixed his head-quarters in the centre of the pit, to which part of the house the opposition seemed chiefly confined, for neither the galleries nor the boxes took any considerable part in the disturbance, though a few friends to both sides occasionally exhibited themselves there.

Among the placards, the following were the most conspicuous, and the most applauded:—

“My bond,—I’ll have my bond.”—*SHYLOCK.*

“Contract—and No P. H.”

“Dec. 20, 1809.

“*Crown and Anchor Tavern;*

“*We promise and Contract*

“*To deliver up 20 private boxes to the Public;*

“*for favours conferred upon*

“*John Kemble and Co.*”

This last placard was elevated by means of two poles, and shewn in all directions: it produced a *fit* of approbation, which lasted many minutes. Several fights in the pit took place, whether real or sham, could not be discovered, but some persons were hurt, and the females, who had certainly no business there, were much alarmed. The opera was now finished, and the after-piece, the *Child of Nature*, commenced, but not one word of it could be heard in the boxes; or perhaps any where else. The “*Contract*” partizans succeeded to their utmost wish: they enjoyed their triumph, and mounting the letter C: in their hats, instead of the O. P. initials of last season, they announced their victory at the falling of the curtain, by giving three groans for Kemble; three shouts for “the honest *Collusellor*,” and three huzzas for themselves. They then pledged themselves to appear in full strength on Monday evening; and quietly left the house. The performances were concluded before ten; and in about half an hour after, Silence assumed her awful reign, in a place where Discord for several hours had reigned despotic Sovereign.

## THEATRICAL CORRESPONDENCE.

Mt. EXAMINER,—As one of the persons who contributed their mite to the laudable subscription for the protection of those sufferers who were ingloriously captured in the O. P. Contest of last season, I take the liberty of troubling you with this; and requesting, through the medium of your paper, to communicate to the public my remarks upon that subject: I observed a letter some two or three weeks since from a Correspondent, addressed to you, expressing a desire, or hinting, that the persons in whose hands the subscriptions were lodged should give some account as to the amount and application:—since which, Sir, no answer whatever hath been given, or the least notice taken; so as to intimate what is their intention. I think it my duty, as an enemy to fraud and peculation, not to let the matter rest thus, and unless some account is given in the course of the ensuing week; I pledge myself to call a General Meeting of the Subscribers and others, to propose some legal or equitable method for bringing such persons to a fair and accurate account. The object is more desirable at the present moment than at any other; in consequence of the violation of the *Crown and Anchor Treaty*. It is not to be expected the Public will be treated with more lenity or respect than they were last season—of course we shall hear of persons being held to bail, and others committed for want of sureties; it is then that the means of defending them will become necessary, and it will be a great satisfaction to know how far we possess those means; which can only be done by the Treasurer and parties concerned, shewing to the Public what balance is in their hands. If these remarks are attended to, I shall have no occasion to trouble you further; otherwise I shall carry my promise into execution. Yours, &c. PUBLICOLA.

*Carey-street, Sept. 13, 1810.*

P. S. Whatever balance may appear to be unapplied, if not wanting agreeably to its original institution, I submit would be well disposed of, by being added to the Theatrical Fund for aged and infirm actors.

## FINE ARTS.

## BRITISH INSTITUTION.

HOWEVER the conduct of the late Professor BARRY may have been influenced by a temper naturally acrimonious, and by a weak belief that there existed a cabal against him raised by the jealousy of his superior talents as a painter, there is much truth in many of his complaints against the Royal Academy. Such, for instance, was

that in which he justly inveighed against the appropriation of the funds of the Academy to charitable purposes, instead of applying them to those for which the Academy was established, such as gradually forming a Collection of Paintings by the Old Masters, for the use of the Students. This evil did then and does now exist, so as to render the Academy a school for drawing only, instead of an Academy of painting, as it assumes to be called. One of the greatest advantages resulting from the British Institution is, that it supplies to the Students this defect of the Royal Academy. During the time in which the Gallery is unoccupied by the works of British Artists for exhibition and sale, its walls are hung by a number of paintings from the valuable collections of the old masters in the possession of the Governors of the Institution. Thus the Students, after learning to draw the human figure from the life, and from fine plaster models from the antique, are enabled to facilitate and complete their studies in the admirable lessons of composition, light and shade, and colour, contained in the best works of the old Masters. The only circumstance now to be regretted is, that there is no permanent establishment of this kind all the year round, such as exists at Paris in the Louvre, to which the student might at all times refer for instruction, and where, without any expense, the public might derive that taste for and knowledge of the principles of Art, that are so requisite for its extensive encouragement. The votaries of art, and the public, are, and must continue to be grateful to the Governors of the Institution for their generous encouragement of genius; but there is one thing more which they have the power of performing for the benefit of art, which would obtain them an immense increase of never-dying gratitude from their country. The circumstance I mean is, for each of them to spare out of their noble collections one or two paintings, to form a perpetual Public Gallery, for the public to visit gratuitously, and for the Students to improve from. Such an appeal to the patriotism of any other men beside those who have so voluntarily and disinterestedly come forth to advance the intellectual glory and advantage of their country, would be deemed as unreasonable as it would be unavailing; but to men of an enlarged generosity and public spirit, such an appeal will, I trust, not be made in vain. The absence of one or two fine pictures from their collections would be infinitely compensated to them by the gratitude of their country,—by the high estimation they would attain as patriotic amateurs,—and by the consideration of the great and everlasting good they were conferring on those arts which are the objects of their solicitude and attachment.

The following works have been sent this year to the Students by the under-mentioned Noblemen and Gentlemen:—

St. Francis, Guido; Earl of Dartmouth, President,  
A Holy Family, L. Caracci; Marquis Lansdowne.  
Woman in Adultery, Eckhout; Mr. R. P. Knight.  
A Holy Family, Murillo; Mr. H. Hope.  
Portrait, Giorgione; Ditto.  
Portrait, Corregio; Mr. T. Hope.  
A Landscape, G. Poussin; Mr. Angerstein.  
Portraits, Vandyke; Lady Lucas.  
Hymn, Guido; Mr. T. Hope.  
Christ's Sermon on the Mount, C. Lorraine; Earl Grosvenor.  
Judas betraying Christ, Vandyke; Mr. W. Smith.  
Woman in Adultery, P. Veronese; Ditto.  
Christ and St. Peter, A. Caracci; Mr. Agar.

Richard Earl of Warwick, Vandyke; Earl of Hardwicke.  
Holy Family, A. Carracci; Rev. H. Carr.  
St. John, L. Caracci; Sir A. Hume, Bart.  
Portrait, Sir J. Reynolds; Lord Crewe.  
Calisto, N. Poussin; Earl Grosvenor.  
Pylades and Orestes, B. West; Sir G. Beaumont.

In admitting the last-mentioned work among such illustrious companions, and where it sustains its proper rank, the Members of the Institution Committee of Taste have conferred a well-deserved compliment on the President of the Royal Academy.

R. H.

### GOVERNOR ARIS.

The friends of this gentleman are anxious to have it understood that he is not "dismissed" from his office, but only "suspended," till the escape of the prisoners shall be legally investigated. They have not the smallest doubt but that he will be reinstated, and that it will clearly appear that in the late proceedings he has been most unhand-somely treated. They ground their belief of his reinstatement principally on his well known respectability of character: they say, that during his whole life he has been warmly attached to our excellent Sovereign; that his admiration of the British Constitution has been equally warm;—that nothing can surpass his attachment to the established religion;—that he is a sincere friend to the present Administration;—that he always thought the wars against France were perfectly just and necessary;—that he entirely condemned the Inquiry into the conduct of the late Commander in Chief;—that he believed in the honour of a Prince, and disbelieved, in the first instance, the evidence of Mrs Clarke, though latterly he is disposed to think she has become a very respectable lady;—that he is an enemy to the Abolition of the Slave Trade;—that he disapproves of Catholic Emancipation;—that he approves of Reversions and Sinecures and Pensions and Admiralty Droits;—that he don't much like the conduct of the Whigs;—that he hates every thing connected with Reform;—that he reads all Mr. Hatchard's publications, and the first series of Cobbett's Register;—that he never perused a single number of the Examiner;—that he dislikes Sir Samuel Romilly and Mr. Whitbread;—and that finally, he more than loaths and detests Sir Francis Burdett.

These things, it must be allowed, are all strongly in favour of Mr. Aris; but the arguments of his friends do not even stop here: they say that he took Mr. Pitt's system of Administration as a model for his little Government, which is, indeed, the true cause of his present misfortune;—that Mr. Windham's "vigour beyond the law," was ever a favourite maxim with him;—that since the deaths of those ever-to-be-lamented Statesmen, he has endeavoured to tread in the steps of their worthy successors;—that he thinks Mr. Yorke, Mr. Ryder, and my Lord Liverpool, very great politicians;—that he has no common respect for Mr. Perceval;—that in imitation of that able Minister, he put all his own family into office, and made a situation of 23s. a week for one of his boys, who had never attended his duty for two years. This latter circumstance, his friends lay particular stress upon, as entitling the Governor to the peculiar protection of the Prime Minister, and his brother, Lord Arden.

How this matter may terminate, it is certainly not in

our power to determine. That Mr. Aris has strong claims upon the protection of Government, cannot for a moment be denied; yet such is the unhappy temper of the present times, it is not at all unlikely, that, like his Royal Highness the Duke of York, the Governor may be compelled to resign the situation he has so long and so ably held. The event would certainly be truly lamentable; but when the peace of his country is at stake, Mr. Aris, whose loyalty is undoubted, will see the necessity of imitating the glorious example of the late illustrious and ever-to-be-regretted Commander in Chief:

“When vice prevails, and impious men bear sway,  
“The post of honour is a private station.”

SOME ACCOUNT OF THE RISE, PROGRESS, AND COMPLETION OF  
*THE CHELSEA JOB.*

THE Public will doubtless recollect, that so long ago as April 1809, Sir Francis Burdett called the attention of the House of Commons to the strange manner in which the public property had been disposed of to a private individual. Sir Francis had understood that a portion of the ground belonging to Chelsea Hospital, lying along the bank of the River Thames; and particularly calculated for the air and exercise of the Pensioners; had lately been consigned over to the use and possession of Colonel Gordon; and he therefore very properly called for information on the subject.—Lord Castlereagh knew nothing whatever, he said, of the circumstance; but Mr. Huskisson confessed the fact, asserting however that the interests of the Institution had been carefully attended to.—As there was then no motion before the House, the matter dropped; but on the following day Sir Francis introduced his motion for various Papers, by stating that the ground upon which Col. Gordon was about to build a villa was originally Crown land; that a long lease had been granted to Sir R. Walpole; that this lease had become the property of my Lord Yarborough; that Government had thought proper to purchase the unexpired term of his Lordship for the benefit, avowedly, of the Hospital; but the way in which they had disposed of it, and the purposes for which it was about to be used, as it would tend to spoil a magnificent Establishment, and would deprive the Hospital of twenty times more benefit than it could confer upon the individual for whose favour it was meant,—proved that it was altogether A SCANDALOUS JOB. It was a just subject of complaint; continued the worthy Baronet, that for the accommodation of a single individual an attempt should be made to take away from the comfort, in old age, of a meritorious body of men, who had spent the greater part of their life in a hard service; for the villa about to be erected would deprive the Infirmary for the Sick Soldiery of the free air so essential for their recovery.—Mr. Long, one of the Commissioners for superintending the concerns of the Hospital, here rose, and with the coolness of a thoroughbred Courtier, affirmed that all the ground that had been deemed necessary by the Architect or the Medical Men, had been set apart for a new Infirmary, which was much wanted, it being inconvenient to have the sick placed at the top of the Hospital. If all the ground, he said, had been required, it would have been granted; but that not being the case, Col. Gordon had applied for a lease of the remainder, which was granted him. It was open for any person to bid for this land; and he

really believed, that if the ground had been put up at public auction, better terms could not have been obtained for it. The reader will be good enough to bear in mind all these assertions of Mr. Long, as the writer of this article engages to prove, that not one of them was well founded;—but, on the contrary, that the Architect and Medical Men had not a choice left them as to the ground,—that it was not open for any person to bid for the land,—that much better terms could have been obtained; had a fair competition been allowed,—and that, in fine, the whole transaction, in the words of the Hon. Baronet, was truly a scandalous job,—much more scandalous, indeed, than Sir Francis himself seemed to have been aware of.—After these barefaced assertions, Mr. Huskisson was encouraged to follow on the same ground: he assured the House, that the Governors, Physicians; and Surveyor, had transmitted to the Treasury the plan of the Infirmary, and had fixed on the spot as the best situation; that Sir David Dundas perhaps; or some other Officer of the Hospital, had informed Col. Gordon that the land in question was to be let for building on; that he had offered terms; and that if the Hon. Baronet had offered more; he might have had it. Moreover, that the Treasury had been cautious that no house should be built so as to annoy the Hospital, and that a particular instruction had been given on that head to the Surveyor-General:—To conclude this mockery, Mr. Perceval now popped up; and with all the petulance and peevishness natural to little minds, accused Sir Francis Burdett of the crime of being constantly jealous of persons in office;—of looking at every thing which proceeded from Administration with a jaundiced eye; and of wishing to inflame the public mind. The Minister then repeated all the assertions made by his Colleagues; and maintained that the Papers to be produced would refute the aspersions of the Hon. Baronet.—Sir F. Burdett, in reply; argued that it was impossible the Physicians could think that an Infirmary would not be injured by having a wall eight feet high built so as to interrupt the free air; and he generously offered to pay the proposed rent of the ground (52*l.* a-year) out of his own pocket, rather than such a grievance should exist, if it were only to prevent a magnificent public building from being deformed, much less to preserve the comforts of a meritorious body of veterans:

Persons not accustomed to the obliquities of men in office, might naturally have supposed, after all these assertions of Ministers, that Sir Francis Burdett must have really had nothing less in view than groundlessly to inflame the public mind,—or that at least he must have been completely misinformed; they must have supposed that Government had been actuated by the purest of motives, and that every thing had been made subservient to the interests of the Hospital. But see what follows: On the 20th of April, only six days after Sir Francis had been so bespattered and blackened, Mr. Huskisson himself, who had so strenuously maintained that the “best situation” possible had been fixed upon by the Governors, Physicians, and Surveyor, and that the Treasury had been particularly “cautious” that no house should be erected so as to annoy the Hospital,—now got up, and without blushing,—for blushing is not an official habit,—informed the House, that from the statement made by the Hon. Baronet on a former evening, “there was some reason to apprehend that the building about to be erected by Col. Gordon would interfere with the comfort and convenience of the Hospital; he

had thought it his duty therefore to survey the place. The result of this visit was, that Col. Gordon's house being about to be erected upon a scite *very inconvenient* for the Infirmary, he felt dissatisfied; and so far he agreed with the Hon. Baronet."—Mr. Huskisson also informed the House, that upon this "discovery," a consultation was held with the Governors, Physicians, and Surveyor-General, the result was, the *removal* of the scite of Col. Gordon's house; he yet most strangely maintained, "that this removal did not take place on account of any change of opinion on the part of the Treasury with regard to the grounds originally laid before them."—At the conversation of this evening, Sir Francis Burdett was not present; he was ill; but the Ministerialists were evidently much chagrined; and Mr. Perceval, in a very subdued tone, confessed that "there might have been some *irregularity* in the inferior agent employed;" but he disapproved of the time of the House being occupied day after day upon "a case of this description."—The Papers moved for were then ordered, and no further notice has since been taken of the subject either by the House or the public.

Now, however lightly Mr. Perceval may consider "a case of this description,"—that is, a case in which the comforts and even lives of a large body of worn-out and wounded British soldiers are so materially implicated,—it does appear to many persons that it is one of great public importance; and as the Papers ordered have been printed, Col. Gordon's house erected, a new Infirmary nearly raised, and, in short, the "scandalous job" brought to its completion, it is quite necessary that the public should be fully informed of all the circumstances connected with the transaction.

Three sets of Papers have been laid before the House, containing various engraved plans, letters, reports, minutes, &c. &c. altogether extensive enough to form a moderately sized volume. It appears most clearly from these Papers, that till the whole job was settled between Col. Gordon, Sir David Dundas, (the Governor of the Hospital) and the Treasury, it was not known, out of their own circles, that any such ground was to be let, so that there was in fact no competition whatever.—Instead of the ground being wholly left at the disposal of the Hospital, as also asserted by Mr. Huskisson, Mr. Soane, the Clerk of the Works, directly avers,\* that he was never asked the question, whether the buildings and ground proposed were proper for the new Infirmary? He considered that he had only to follow the *directions* of the Board contained in Sir David Dundas's letter. Mr. Soane met the Physician and Surgeon (Dr. Moseley and Mr. Keate) on the 28th of February, at Albany, when talking of the extension of the premises towards the river, Dr. Moseley said, "No more could be asked for; *the whole was SETTLED.*" In a conversation Mr. Soane had with Sir David on the 12th of March, Mr. Soane expressed his fears that Mr. Leverton (the Crown Surveyor) would prevail on Col. Gordon to have the house in the situation described in his traced plan, which would entirely destroy the Infirmary. Mr. S. said, "Sir, can you do any thing more?" The Governor said, "No; IT IS ALL SETTLED."

It should be observed, that the Chelsea Board consisted generally of the Right Hon. C. Long, John King, Esq. Gen. Hulse, and Sir David Dundas, the Governor. So

\* See Papers ordered to be printed by the House of Commons, May 10, 1809, p. 5.

early indeed as the 2d of February, the whole job seems to have been definitively settled, even before the "regular Treasury approbation" had arrived; for Sir David, apparently anxious to secure the ground for his friend, wrote a note of that date to Mr. Soane, desiring he would call upon him as early as possible to view the premises. "The *intention*," Sir David says, "I will shew you," &c. "This I have settled with Mr. Long."—Yet after all this, the Governor affects surprise that Mr. Soane should have thought himself precluded from giving any opinion or making any remonstrance on the subject! In a Paper he presented to the Board on the 1st of May, Sir David says,

"On the 3d of February, Mr. Soane went with the Governor over the premises, and states a detailed conversation then held, which he interprets as precluding him from any opinion or remonstrance whatever on the subject. The Governor certainly has not so minute a recollection as Mr. Soane appears to have of what there passed; he did not mean to utter, and he does not think that he could then have uttered, any such words as tended to prevent or forbid Mr. Soane from making to the Board whatever representation he thought for the advantage of the Hospital, and in fulfilment of the Letter he had written to Mr. Soane, and which letter, Mr. S. says, he considered as containing the *directions* of the Board; and the Governor is the more confirmed in this opinion, because at that time the Treasury had actually decided nothing upon the subject, nor did a *formal* approbation come to the Board till the 13th of March; and therefore it is not very probable that the Governor would then act in the peremptory manner imputed to him."

This will never do, Sir David; for though you had not received the "formal" approbation of the Treasury, yet you had informed Mr. Soane, under your own hand, that you would shew him the *intention*, which had been settled with Mr. Long. Besides, you had even told him, on a former occasion, when he had represented that the proposed situation would destroy the Infirmary, and had asked whether you could do any thing more,—that *all was settled*. Nothing, in fact, could be more peremptory and decisive; and Mr. Soane could not but be well convinced that Mr. Long and yourself had "finally" settled the job.—Sir David continues:—

"On the 10th of February Mr. Soane received a letter from Mr. Keate, which he understood Mr. Keate had read to the Governor, in which he entered very fully into all the necessary details. On this letter, Mr. Soane says, "All this the Board knew; that is, the Governor." This appears a very extraordinary remark; as if the Governor, from the hearing a letter read, was to be the necessary verbal and only reporter to the Board of a business which three Officers of the House had been desired to consult upon."

Sir David seems here not willing to understand Mr. Soane in the desired manner. It rather appears to us, that Mr. Soane supposes the Board and the Governor to be one and the same thing;—and as Mr. Soane resides upon the spot, he doubtless has tolerable grounds for his belief.

It appears from Mr. Soane's Report of the 24th of April, that Dr. Moseley acquiesced in Mr. Keate's opinion, and wished the airing-ground could be extended to the river; adding, "but it is now too late, the business is entirely settled, and we must make the best of what GOVERNMENT has allotted for the Hospital."—When Mr. Soane objected to the situation of Col. Gordon's villa, stating that the plan for the Infirmary was intolerable,—that he could not recommend any of the public money to be laid out on it,—and that they had better have the whole,—the Crown-Surveyor very coolly replied, "the situation cannot be altered; it has been approved of by the Surveyor-General, the Treasury, and your own people."—While viewing the ground,

Col. Gordon came up with Sir David Dundas. The Colonel agreed to remove the situation of the house, but contended for the wall being eight feet high, which Mr. S. wished to keep as low as possible. A considerable addition was thus obtained, but much less than what Mr. Soane thought was absolutely necessary for the purposes of the Infirmary.

So much then for the assertion of Mr. Long and his Colleagues, that all the ground might have been used for the purposes of the Hospital, had it been deemed necessary. It is true, "Sir David Dundas, that is, the Board," approved entirely of the arrangements, for it is evident that he had long before "settled" that his friend the Colonel was to have the ground; but neither Dr. Moseley, nor Mr. Keate, nor Mr. Soane, the Architect and Clerk of the Works, approved of it. Had not Sir Francis Burdett made his motion,—notwithstanding the great "caution" of the Treasury, the villa would have been built in a situation peculiarly detrimental to the health of the sick Pensioners, and this too not only with the knowledge, but with the approbation, nay, even the connivance, of the Governor himself.

Sir Walter Farquhar and Mr. Knight were also requested to state their opinion "of the comparative advantages of the Plan for converting certain Buildings (late in possession of Lord Yarborough) to the purpose of an Infirmary, with another for erecting an entire new building on some other part of the ground." They state, that "there is great capability in the house and offices for the accommodation in view, even to the extent of 80 or 100 patients;" that the ground is damp, and must be completely drained; but that with regard to the erection of an entire new Building, "it does not appear that such will be at all necessary: even if it should be thought of, it ought to be erected where the house now is (or near to it) as being the driest part of the soil, and at the greater distance from the false and swampy ground near the river, the approach to which, for many months of the year, would be very improper for the convalescents of the Infirmary."—Sir Walter and Mr. Knight appear to have well understood for what they were wanted;—but to those persons who have inspected the ground, this opinion of the once fashionable Physician and the dismissed Surgeon, will only excite derision. There is not a disinterested man in the whole Establishment who has not laughed at this watery bugbear. After a rainy season, the writer of this article inspected the premises, and is ready to maintain against any or every M. D. in the land, that the soil is uncommonly dry; the ground is a fine gravel, and is considerably elevated from the river. It is a likely thing, truly, that Sir David should have taken so much care to procure the grant for his friend, and that Col. Gordon should have spent his time and his money in surveys and memorials, for the sole purpose of building a villa on "the false and swampy ground near the river."—No, no; however attached Col. Gordon may be to his Medical Friends, it is not to be believed that he would be eager to fix himself and family in a swamp, even though the profound skill of those gentlemen might conduct him in safety through all the colds, coughs, asthmas, and consumptive complaints, by which he must expect to be visited. But even the Board treated this watery opinion with contempt, as the building of a new Infirmary, which did not appear to Sir Walter and Mr. Knight at all necessary, has been some time commenced under the direction of Mr. Soane, though its situation un-

fortunately is not on the spot recommended, that being occupied by the villa and gardens of Col. Gordon.

Respecting the terms procured, which the Jobbers have ventured to call advantageous, it is only necessary to state a fact or two, to show that this part of the transaction is equally gross with the rest.—In the first place, there could be no competition, for the Papers printed shew that the whole affair was privately managed between Colonel Gordon, Sir D. Dundas, and the Treasury.—Secondly, the ground, which cost Government 4700*l.*, consists of about four acres and a half, of which four acres are let to Col. Gordon on a lease of 80 years, at a rent of only 52*l.* 14*s.* per annum, so that about one-ninth part of the ground is left for the Infirmary, airing-ground, &c. &c. Sir Francis Burdett declared in the House, that he knew many gentlemen who would gladly have given 10,000*l.* for Col. Gordon's portion of the ground; and when its beautiful situation is considered, that it (even according to the Report of the Crown Surveyor, who ventured to make such a valuation) possesses "a commanding view of the River, opposite banks, and the Surrey hills,"—that it "consists of a considerable plot already laid out as pleasure-ground,"—and "that it cannot be better disposed of than for that purpose," (building a villa upon), it is not to be doubted that at least six times the rent obtained from the Colonel might have been procured, had public notice been given of the leasing.—It would be a waste of words further to comment on this part of the job: nothing can be clearer than that the public interest was utterly sacrificed for the benefit of a favoured individual; for if four acres were only worth 52*l.*, the half acre left for the Infirmary (not so well situated) could not have been valued at an eighth of that sum, and yet nearly 5000*l.* were given for the whole!

But this is not the principal ground of complaint; the main charge brought against the actors in this job is, that the comfort and health of the veterans of the Hospital have been sacrificed in order that an individual might be gratified; and though the scite of the villa, owing to Sir Francis Burdett's timely interference, has been changed, yet the evil is only remedied in part; for the new Infirmary ought to have been built on the spot in front of the river, according to the plan given in by Mr. Soane;† and the grounds now possessed by Col. Gordon for purposes of pleasure, ought to have been devoted to the Infirmary, for the healthful exercise of the convalescents. How Mr. Long, one of the Board, could have asserted that all the ground deemed necessary by the Architect and Medical men had been granted for the Infirmary, is indeed astonishing. Mr. Soane, the Architect, expressly declared that the whole of the ground was wanted; and Mr. Keate stated, that "in order to compensate as much as possible for this defect" (want of free air) "the walking ground ought to extend as far towards the river as possible: and it would be very desirable that a part of the terrace at the water side should be inclosed within the airing-ground." By this plan the patients would have the best

† Throughout the whole of this unworthy affair, Mr. Soane exhibited an independency of spirit and of action truly laudable. He felt for the wants of a body of meritorious men, and earnestly exerted himself to alleviate that sickness and sorrow to which they were reduced by old age and infirmity. Yet he was no soldier; he had never shared with those humble veterans in the hardships of the field or the perils of the fight.

means of exercise in free air."—Instead of this, however, the whole of the ground down to the river's edge forms the garden of Col. Gordon, a brick wall is erecting between the river and the Infirmary now building, and the Infirmary itself is cooped up, on one side by the Hospital, on the other by Gough-house, the back by Paradise-row, and the front by the before-mentioned wall.—These are facts; and so much for Ministerial assertions,

The Infirmary now erecting will cost the public between 20 and 30,000*l.* Perhaps this is a necessary expense, as Dr. Moseley is of opinion, that when the Hospital was founded, a proper Infirmary and rooms for attendants, &c. were not thought of. The old Infirmary he describes as "an unavoidable nuisance to the West square, and represents, from blankets and bedding exposed, a very offensive spectacle to people who that way approach the building." "The impropriety of the New Infirmary," adds the Doctor, "being at the top of the house, ninety steps high, from whence it is impossible for the lame and infirm ever to descend for air and exercise, besides the shocking consideration of the situation of the patients in case of fire, must strike every person."—This is indeed a melancholy picture; and it may be asked, why these unhappy patients were so removed? Was it merely because the exposed blankets and bedding were "a very offensive spectacle" to people who that way approach the building? The visitors of the Major, the Deputy-Governor, and the Governor, who has a magnificent house in the Hospital, must have chiefly been the "people" alluded to, and rather than their delicate organs should be molested by this "unavoidable nuisance," the poor fellows who had passed their best years and shed their best blood in their country's service were thrust at "the top of the house, ninety steps high, from whence it is impossible for the lame and infirm ever to descend for air and exercise!!"—But another cause has also been assigned why the sick were removed from the original Infirmary to the top of this house,—a cause still less plausible than the "unavoidable nuisance" complained of. One of the principal Officers of the Hospital discovered that he was deficient in kitchen room: casting his eye on the Infirmary, he found that it was convenient for culinary purposes, and a considerable portion of this building was actually converted into a kitchen!—and a kitchen it yet remains. The words, "the Infirmary," still appearing over the door, an instructive hint of the catastrophe usually attending the pleasures of the table.

What "Sir David Dundas, that is, the Board," thought of these things, does not exactly appear: he probably was counting the profits of his green grocery business †, or perhaps was bowing at Court previously to his becoming Commander in Chief. Sir David is a man of discretion, "a species of lower prudence," says Swift, "by the assistance of which people of the meanest intellectuals, without

† Sir David is a man of economy. Having a small domestic establishment, and a large garden, which produced great quantities of vegetables, he thought it prudent to augment his small income by the sale of his cabbages and potatoes. Vegetables are not allowed to the Pensioners; they are therefore under the necessity of purchasing such luxuries, and, in common with the inhabitants of Chelsea, they resorted to the Governor's garden to supply their wants. It is but justice, however, to Sir David to record, that though the dealers in the village were rather displeas'd at this green-grocery rivalry, they have always acknowledged that he never attempted to undersell the trade.

any other qualifications, pass through the world with great tranquillity, and with universal good treatment. Courts are seldom unprovided of persons under this character, on whom most employments, even the greatest, naturally fall, when competitors will not agree; and in such promotions nobody rejoices or grieves. This sort of discretion," continues the Dean, "is usually attended with a strong desire of money, and few scruples about the way of obtaining it,—with servile flattery and submission, with a want of all public spirit or principle, with a perpetual wrong judgment, when the owners come into power and high place, how to dispose of favour and preferment, having no measure for merit and virtue in others but those very steps by which themselves ascended, nor the least intention of doing good or hurt to the public, further than either one or t'other is likely to be subservient to their own security or interest. Thus being void of all friendship or enmity, they never complain or find fault with the times, and indeed never have reason to do so."

It is time however to close this long article. The writer thinks he has shewn that the epithet "scandalous," bestowed on this job by Sir F. Burdett, was by far too mild a term, and that he might have termed it "infamous" with great propriety and justice. Col. Gordon may enjoy his pavilions, his grounds, his villa, and his "commanding view of the River, the opposite banks, and the Surrey Hills;" we covet neither his feelings nor his prospects, and have little doubt that he will one day or other regret that he has exchanged the respect and esteem of his countrymen for velvet lawns and varied prospects.

#### THE SAMPFORD GHOST.

[FROM THE TAUNTON COURIER.]

Previously to entering upon the final statement, which, pursuant to our pledge, we are about to give on this affair, we think it right to divest the public mind of any opinion it may have formed, that the subject was originated in *this Paper*; an event so extremely absurd and so utterly repugnant to common sense would not have polluted our pages, had not the *Morning Chronicle*, by a conduct quite at variance with the discriminating excellence of that publication, echoed with a silly solemnity the country gossip on the occasion.

Superstition is at length to receive on this topic a discouraging blow. The facts we are about to detail are of the most irresistible nature, and we feel no slight degree of pleasure that from the humble efforts which have been devoted to the subject, we are enabled to give as clear an exposition of concerted knavery, as ever sanctioned the transcripts of a Newgate Calendar.

The premises occupied by Chave, the huckster, of Sampford Reverell, near Tiverton, formerly belonged to a Mrs. Bellamy, a successful dealer in almost every article of food and raiment, from a penny-worth of cheese to a rich brocade. It is not a little singular that the *Examiner Weekly Paper*, in a kind of auxiliary suggestion to us upon this subject, should have supplied the very fact, which has in a considerable degree facilitated the delusive scheme so successfully practised at Sampford. The premises were formerly used as a receptacle for smuggled commodities, and the Mrs. Bellamy above mentioned, from a capital originally very small, and by efforts of the utmost economy, succeeded in realizing a very large property by trading for a small profit in contraband goods.

On the death of Mrs. Bellamy, her property devolved to her daughter, who died, leaving two female children; one of whom married a Mr. Jennings, now resident in London, and the other died a short time ago, having previously married a Mr. Talley, a farmer, who resides half a mile from the town of Tiverton.

Upon the death of their mother, the respective husbands of Mrs. Talley and Mrs. Jennings became each of them entitled to a moiety, in right of their wives, of the premises nocturnally molested, as described in our preceding Numbers.

The premises remained unoccupied some time, and until Mr. Chave agreed to take them at a rent of 20*l.* per annum, on condition of their being put into repair. Those repairs were ordered by Mr. Talley, and consisted of a variety of carpenters' and masons' work; the expence of which, on behalf of himself and Mr. Jennings, he engaged to pay.

When the workmens' bills were sent in to Mr. Talley, he found one for painters' work amounting to 9*l.* and upwards, which not being comprised within his instructions for repairing the premises, he expressed his disinclination to pay without Mr. Jennings's consent to subscribe his moiety thereto. Mr. Jennings was accordingly applied to, and at once refused his subscription to the discharge of the bill, on the ground of the expence having been unnecessarily incurred. It was during the delay occasioned by this correspondence, and not before, that the strange visitations at Sampford, which have severed the brains of the country people, first transpired.

Finding that Chave, by whose order the painter was employed, persisted in contending that the owners of the property ought to discharge it, Mr. Talley, to avoid litigation on so trivial an account, signified to Chave that he would pay the bill, observing at the same time, that they (meaning himself and Mr. Jennings) "must right themselves another way." Chave replied, "I suppose you mean I must turn out." That, says the other, "depends on Mr. Jennings, to whom I shall write, acquainting him with what has taken place."

After this, the violence and frequency of the Ghostly visitings became considerably aggravated. The servants were night after night slapped, pinched, and buffeted; the bed was more than once stuck full of pins; loud and repeated knockings were heard in all the upper rooms; the house shook; the windows rattled in their casements, and all the horrors of the bloodiest romance were accumulated in this devoted habitation. The vassals of witchcraft awoke from their slumbers—the Prince of Darkness held his Court at Sampford—thousands assembled to pay him homage, and the tail of his Satanic Majesty became dignified with a tassel of very imposing effect, in the affidavit of the Rev. C. Colton.

While this melo-drama was in full representation, it so happened that Mr. Talley, having some dwelling houses and a piece of land to sell at Sampford, went thither accompanied by his Solicitor, a gentleman of equal private worth and professional eminence, residing at Uxculm; who after the business of the sale was concluded, advised his client to dissipate the idle rumours in agitation, respecting Chave's house, by remaining in the premises one night. This was willingly consented to, and intimation of such intention was given to Chave accordingly.

No person could be better qualified for appeasing the troubled spirit than Mr. Talley. It is true he was not provided with a Greek Testament like Mr. Colton. Perhaps he never saw a word of Greek in his life, and has heard much less of Theocritus than of Arthur Young. But he possesses that which, in the present instance, proved more useful than all the Greek that the late Professor Porson himself could have devoted to the subject. He took with him a reasonable degree of scepticism, and a considerable share of common sense, and we shall presently see how these vulgar spells were found to operate.

Mr. Talley himself lived in the premises, occupied by Mr. Chave, more than two years, and consequently knew every concealed passage and secret recess in the dwelling.

[It is with great reluctance we are obliged to break off in our narrative of this knavish affair. Just as we were going to press, and which from our number we are obliged to do at a very early hour, several advertisements of very inconvenient length were sent us by special messengers from professional gentlemen, which, from their nature, (being notices of applications to Parliament,) cannot be deferred. Nothing shall, however, prevent a conclusion of it next week.]

### ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

An advertisement has been published offering a reward of two hundred guineas for the apprehension of Dr. Robertson, the Accoucheur. The Charge against him amounts to the suspicion of wilful murder of an infant under circumstances the most shocking. But he made a professional defence, which induced two most honourable men to enter into high bail for his appearance. From that bail he has flown.

A few days since, a Captain Hants was wounded in a duel on Moulsey Hurst, with Mr. Coleshall. The above gentleman died of his wound on Sunday, having previously been removed to London. There was no evidence before the Jury as to Mr. Coleshall; but it was merely stated that four gentlemen alighted from chaises on the heath, accompanied by another on horseback, and that two fires were exchanged, when the deceased fell, and he was put into a chaise and driven off. The Jury delivered a verdict of *Wilful Murder against some person or persons unknown.*

A melancholy circumstance occurred on Monday morning, on board the Fox packet, on her passage from London to Ramsgate. Off Broadstairs, by some means, Mr. Campbell, Surgeon and Apothecary, of Coventry-street, fell overboard, and the tide running strong, he immediately drove from the vessel, though still floating on the surface of the water; a boat was instantly put off, and he was taken on board; but notwithstanding he had not been overboard more than six or seven minutes, every endeavour used by his friends to restore him unfortunately proved ineffectual.

A child about two years of age, belonging to Mrs. Brown, of Webber-row, who was standing in a chair by the window, happened to slip, and falling backwards a few days since, was so much frightened that it went into a fit, and died in about ten minutes after the fall.

A Coroner's inquest sat on Friday at the Spread Eagle, Milbank, on the body of an unfortunate female, who was found drowned in the Thames, at Milbank. The deceased was a very fine woman, about 26 years of age. The Jury, for want of evidence, have returned a verdict of—*Found drowned.*

Last Thursday evening Mr. Evelyn, a shoemaker, residing in the London-road, was returning home from the Borough, about 11 o'clock; three villains, apparently in soldiers' cloaths, came up to him, and forcing him into one of the dilapidated houses in the Borough-road, two of them held him with a handkerchief to his mouth, whilst the third rifled his pockets of his watch and money, with which they got clear off before he could give the alarm.

### MARRIAGES.

On Monday, at St. George's, Hanover-square, Mr. J. Pratt, of Chelsea, eldest son of Mr. J. Pratt, of Birmingham, to Miss M. Heely, of Southampton-street, Strand, formerly of Croydon.

On Tuesday last, William Dickinson, Esq. of the Custom House, to Miss Easey, of Abbott's Langley, Herts.

On Thursday, at St. George's, Hanover-square, Sir Denzil Cope, Bart. of Brammill Park, Hants, to Miss Francis, of Park Place, St. James's-street.

Mr. N. S. Hodson, of the Department for Military Accounts in the War-Office, to Miss Caroline Robinson, Pavilion, Buttersen.

### DEATHS.

On Tuesday, Sir Francis Baring, Bart. aged 74. He was physically exhausted, but his mind remained unshaken to the last breath. His bed was surrounded by nine out of ten, the number of his sons and daughters; all of whom he has lived to see established in splendid independence. Three of his sons carry on the great commercial House, and the other two sons are returned from India with fortunes. His five daughters are all most happily married, and in addition to all this, it is supposed he has left freehold estates to the amount of half a million.

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