

THE EXAMINER.

NO. 8. SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1808.

THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

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

No. 8.

ON THE NAVAL DOMINION OF GREAT BRITAIN.

It is certain, that in no age was there ever a greater necessity to maintain our national rights than in the present; and I think it is no less certain, that while we are possessed of our absolute rights, national and domestic, we need not fear the whole Continent of Europe. Our dominion of the sea, which France evidently acknowledges by her eagerness to wrest it from us, is of the highest advantage to us both nominally and essentially, and those who object to our possession of it, dispute not its benefit but its justice. I will not enter here into the principles of common policy, or, in other words, into the benefits of common honesty; but I am convinced, that real benefit, national as well as individual, cannot exist where there is positive injustice: I am aware of the trite objection, that men and nations have obtained glory and greatness, who have evidently paid no peculiar homage to justice. The truth is, that these men and these nations have not succeeded so far as the world imagines. What are called glory and greatness are not the object of a sound policy. The happiness of individuals is the object: the common comforts of common men are, after all, the great end of the greatest statesman. This may be a self-evident truth, but it is by no means represented, often enough or strongly enough, by the generality of political writers. These men talk of expeditions, and wars, and great actions, as if the great mass of mankind ought to be subservient to the ends of a few chiefs or a few statesmen. The spirit of national aggrandizement is the thirst of a dropsy. Bulk is hugeness, but it is not greatness; it is not strength; it is not happiness. Never let us long for the time, in which Great Britain will be the single powerful nation. Mere power is not superior contentment, any more than the hand, whose blow breaks through a table, feels more comfortably than other hands. Let us pray, like reasonable men and good patriots, for those times when labour will always have its adequate reward and every man feel a happy pride as he enters his own threshold. The glorious HENRY the Fourth, amidst all his brilliant exploits, made with a sigh this homely but this noble wish—"God send, that every peasant in France could have a fowl in his pot every Sunday!"

If it is necessary to maintain our title to the rulers of the sea, it should not be maintained for any vain glory, or for the love of rule, but simply as our just and necessary right. The question therefore may be resolved into two considerations, 1st, In what dominion of the sea consists; and 2d, Whether England, if she possesses, ought to maintain that dominion.

1. Some people treat the idea of naval dominion as absurd: they ask, "Where is your local authority, your power to punish or restrain all the different nations that wander upon the sea? What becomes of your dominion at the poles or upon the immediate coasts of your enemies?" All these disputes, like most others, are confused and rendered eternal by the mere want of definition. The phrase *dominion of the sea* must be taken in its relative and not in its actual sense. All dominion is relative; it never was universal: the Romans, at the very time they called themselves masters of the world, knew that there were lands they had never seen. The English pretend to no peculiar sway over the Arctic or Antarctic Seas, they pretend to no peculiar dominion in the Black Sea, the White Sea, or the Red Sea: they merely insist, and with acknowledged truth, that they are masters in those seas whenever, generally speaking, they are there present.—"True," says the objector, "but when the English are not present, the French, or the Russians, the Dutch, or the Danes, are masters: it is impossible therefore that you can claim a dominion when others are undoubtedly enjoying the domination."—I agree. Nothing can be more evident. But all this is merely saying, that the English cannot do what is impossible. I do not insist that they possess a dominion which from the very nature of the seas no nation can ever possess; but I do maintain, that as strongly and as universally as the seas can be ruled, the English do rule them. The master of a house is still the master, though his servants may rule during his absence. It would be better, no doubt, if his power were as strong in his absence as in his presence; but as this is not in the nature of things, his mastery can be no other than it is.

2. The French cannot but acknowledge this power, but they wish us to give up our title; they usurp the land and then tell us, we are usurpers of the sea; they bend the interests of the whole Continent to their own interest, and then tell us that we deprive mankind of their proper advantages. It is plain, that the French are not worthy of an answer. Inferior nations, however, who think themselves op-

pressed by the naval dominion of England, and such of our own countrymen, as dispute it's justice,— must be heard with every respect. I think they may be answered thus:—

In the first place, it is absolutely necessary not only for the strength of Great Britain but for the independence of nations yet unconquered by France, that we should preserve our naval superiority. The Emperor NAPOLEON compels his vassals to make an outcry against us, but if they could exclaim what they pleased, they would much rather cry out against his military despotism. There never will be any such thing as a naval equality among nations; and whom would Europe prefer as ruler of the sea, France who subjugates every nation about her, or England whose naval greatness naturally lessens her military, and who for that reason could never threaten the independence of the world as France would do were she the first naval as well as military power?

Secondly, as it is thus necessary to the balance of the world that Great Britain should have strong weight in the affairs of Europe, her importance at such a moment as the present cannot possibly arise from any thing but her naval superiority. Her insular situation deprives her of that probable military importance which Denmark, or Prussia, or Sweden, or any nation on the Continent might obtain, and at the same time it naturally breeds and invigorates a hardy race of sailors. Nature seems to have separated her from the Continent that she might raise her dominion upon the waves. Our useless subsidies and intrigues throughout the whole of the war must have convinced every body that our naval strength is the only wall between France and universal dominion. There is not a voice left in all Europe to remonstrate with France but our thunder upon the waters, and this is a great and terrible voice.

Thirdly, I do not wish to see any Englishman tenacious of that proud prerogative, by which he compels the other nations to lower their flag to his ships. If there is something royal in this prerogative, there is something pre-eminently royal in disdaining mere ceremony, in despising a hollow acknowledgment of power, when that power finds its truest acknowledgment in its effects. If the French wish to keep their hats on as we pass, let them be indulged. There is an Irish nobleman, Lord KISSALE, who on account of an exploit performed by one of his ancestors enjoys the hereditary honour of wearing his hat at the King's levee; but the King is not less the master of his lordship, because he permits his subject to enjoy this privilege. Our right of search however into merchant ships is more ceremony, and it should never be given but for the strict ends of justice, we use that others do not abuse theirs, and

thus we become the guardians as well as masters of the sea. If the French complain that we are not subject to the same inquiry, this freedom is the natural consequence of our superiority. Dominion is nothing unless it has its exclusive privileges, and they who acknowledge the one must reasonably acknowledge the other, when it does not infringe upon the just interests of individuals.

Fourthly and lastly, it appears to me that a nation may rule over water as well as land; there is no peculiar quality in liquids to prevent this subjection; and if we rule in North America, I cannot see why we should not rule in the South Seas. It is objected, that the other nations have not given up their right to the Atlantic Ocean, and why, therefore, should we claim it's dominion. But the truth is, that neither these nations nor ourselves have any *original* right to any sea at all. Sea does not become property in the manner of land; it has no fixed settlers like land, and therefore it must be acquired, as far as it is capable of acquirement, by fair industry. Now the English are the most industrious and the most numerous people upon the seas: they have a real naval population, and therefore, as far as the sea can be possessed, they are it's real possessors. A nation must have permission from France to trade with the inland Continent, so it must have permission from England to act upon the sea. France thinks it sufficient to have acquired the Continent by it's power: the English have acquired the sea by their industry strengthened by the natural situation and naval necessities of their island. Consummate art, in short, has made France the mistress of the Continent; but nature herself has conspired to render Great Britain the mistress of the ocean.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

GERMANY.

HANOVER, JAN. 28.—By order of the French Government, the Intendant Belleville gave notice, in the course of last month, that a forced loan is to be raised in the Hanoverian dominions to the amount of 9,000,000 francs, which, in case of non-payment, is to be levied by the most rigorous means of execution. *Stockholm Gazette, Jan. 16.*

PRUSSIA.

BRANDENBURGH, JAN. 25.—On the 16th inst. their Prussian Majesties returned to Königsberg from Memel, in perfect health, on which occasion that capital was illuminated in the evening.

RUSSIA.

PETERSBURGH, DEC. 19.—Prince Alexis Kurakin, brother of the Russian Ambassador at the Court of Vienna, and who, in the reign of the late-Emperor Paul, was Attorney-General, has been appointed Minister of the Home Department; and Count Kutschey, who held that place, has been dismissed.



DENMARK.

COPENHAGEN, JAN. 12.—An extraordinary levy of recruits is this year to take place in Norway, on the same principles which have been observed in the kingdom of Denmark and the duchies. It is not yet settled whether the Prince Royal returns from hence to Kiel.—General Buxhovden, after the battle of Friedland, took the command of the grand Russian and Prussian army, instead of General Benningsen, and after the peace received orders to collect and bring into order, both the army of Benningsen, and the reserve which had arrived, as also the militia, amounting to 100,000 men.—From Luthuania we learn that the army there, consists of 180 regiments perfectly well armed, accoutered, and disciplined. The Emperor himself made a journey to Vetroysk, where Gen. Buxhovden's head-quarters are, inspected every thing, and presented Gen. Buxhovden with the Order of St. Andrew, in token of his satisfaction.—They write from Moscow, of the date 30th November, that the negotiations with Persia are in a considerable state of forwardness, and that it is expected an expedition will be undertaken against the English settlements in the East Indies.

JAN. 23.—According to a notification published by the Regency of Norway, the late ordinances relative to foreign privateers are not to be in force when the prize is English. The principle laid down, that "free ships make free goods," is to be observed with respect to all neutral ships; and those of friendly Powers may put into the ports of Norway, and the cargo shall not be opened or broken into; but if an English cargo be found in a free ship, whether discharged or transhipped, or a ship so laden be stranded, it shall, with its cargo, be treated as enemy's property. West Indian and East Indian products continually rise in price, the number of consumers is much diminished, many abstaining from the use of these articles from patriotic motives; others, in whom habit has become a second nature, endeavour to find substitutes.

SWEDEN.

GOTTENBURGH, JAN. 15.—The English men of war the *Stately* and *Nassau*, of 64 guns each, which arrived here last week, have brought the sum of 100,000*l.* for the King of Sweden, which is now landing. These ships are to remain in these seas through the winter, if the weather will permit. It is said that one of their first operations will be to relieve the twelve sail of English merchant vessels now lying in Carlshamn, which cannot come out for fear of the Danish men of war, gun-boat, &c. which are in that quarter.

JAN. 29.—Yesterday arrived at Cladshoha, a harbour to the northward of this, his Britannic Majesty's ship *Vanguard*, of 74 guns. There is considerable demand here for colonial produce; a number of foreigners have arrived to purchase sugar and coffee, which articles have risen to 50 per cent. in Hamburgh, and in the Baltic: a large quantity is, it is said, in the present difficulty of navigation, going overland to Russia.

FEB. 1.—Accounts received this day from Stockholm, announce that a Russian army of 35,000 men is on the frontiers of Finland; there were at first 50,000, but it was found difficult to provision so many.

FEB. 12.—The Stockholm post of to-day has brought the important intelligence that Russia has declared war against Sweden; and some accounts state that the Russians have already entered Swedish Finland. Both M. Alopeus, the Russian Minister, and Count Meltke, the Danish Minister, are about to quit Stockholm. The Officers and Staff of the Swedish army in Finland, had received orders to join with all possible expedition.

STATE PAPERS.

DECLARATION OF PRUSSIA AGAINST ENGLAND.

"The King being obliged, by the 27th Article of the Treaty of Peace of Tilsit, concluded on the 9th of July, 1807, to shut, without exception, the Prussian Ports and States against the trade and navigation of England, as long as the present war lasted between England and France, his Majesty has not hesitated to take progressively the most appropriate measures to fulfil his engagements.

"In directing these measures, his Majesty did not dissemble the prejudice and loss which would result to the commerce of his dominions in general, and that of his subjects, who, by a long series of misfortunes, have acquired new rights to his paternal solicitude and benevolence; but his Majesty yielded to the consolatory hope, that the mediation offered by Russia to England, by accelerating the return of a definitive Peace between Great Britain and France, would soon bring about an order of things more congenial to the particular interests of each Power.

"The King has been deceived in his just expectation; the events that have taken place since, and which are too well known to render it necessary to recapitulate them, far from bringing the so much desired period of general peace nearer, have only placed it at a greater distance.

"All communication is broken off between Russia and England. The Declaration of his Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, published on the 26th of October, states that there is no longer any relation between those two Powers. His Prussian Majesty, intimately connected by all his relations with the cause and system of the Continental neighbouring and friendly Powers, has no other rule of conduct than his duties, founded upon the interest of his States, and the obligation contracted by a solemn Treaty.

"Conformably to these principles, his Majesty, setting aside those considerations which he had hitherto respected, in the vain hope of a speedy general pacification, and having refused, since the mission of Lord Hutchinson, to receive at his Court any English Diplomatic Agent, has ordered his Legation at London to quit England as soon as possible, and return to the Continent.

"His Majesty the King of Prussia, in making known the resolutions which his engagements and the interest of his Monarchy impose upon him as a duty, declares, by these presents, that, till the restoration of a definitive Peace between the two Belligerent Powers, there shall be no relation between Prussia and England.

"FREDERICK WILLIAM."

DENMARK.

Two Notes which passed between Lord Howick, and Mr. Rist, Danish *Charge d'Affaires*, relating to the Order in Council of the 7th Jan. 1807, have been laid before Parliament. This Order is warmly remonstrated against by the Danish Minister. It is defended by Lord Howick with much ability.—"His Majesty (said Lord Howick) would unquestionably have been justified in resorting to the fullest measures of retaliation, in consequence of this unparalleled aggression (the French Decree of the 21st of November, 1806), and other Powers would have no right to complain, if the King had immediately proceeded to declare all the countries occupied by the enemy in a state

of blockade, and to prohibit all trade in the produce of those countries; for, as the French Decree itself expresses it, the law of nature justifies the employing against an enemy the same arms which he makes use of. If the third parties suffer from these measures, their demand of reparation must be made to the country which first violates the established usages of war, and the rights of neutral States."

In the same dispatch Lord Howick proceeds to complain of the conduct of Denmark and other neutral States, and to allege "that it is notorious, that the trade thus carried on (the trade of neutrals as carriers from hostile port to hostile port, in order to relieve the enemy from his distress), is supported by the shameful misconduct of neutral merchants, who lend their names for a small per centage, not only to cover the goods, but in numberless instances to mask the ships of the enemy."—In the same strain Lord Howick concludes, by asserting, that "if unfortunately it shall appear that this neutrality (the neutrality of Denmark) consists in mere assertion, and displays itself only in remonstrances on her part, against such measures as his Majesty is justly authorised to adopt in support of the dignity of his Crown and the interests of his subjects, and on the other hand, in the most complete and unqualified acquiescence in every demand which the enemy may think proper to advance, the King would consider himself as wanting in the regard which he owes to his own honour, and the welfare of his dominions, were he to omit taking, on his part, such measures as may be necessary to secure both against the injury which must necessarily arise from a continuance of such conduct on the part of the Danish Government."

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

MONDAY, FEB. 15.

ORDERS IN COUNCIL.

Lord AUCKLAND called the attention of the House to the Orders in Council of the 11th of November. War did not give either of the belligerent parties a right to remedy the evils inflicted by the other, by violating the lawful commerce of the innocent neutral. The extravagant decree of Bonaparte had been explained away, so far as respected America. This was distinctly stated in the President's Message of February, 1807. The American Minister had immediately remonstrated, when the Decree first became known at Paris, and the consequence was a satisfactory explanation, by which the measure was reduced to an act of Navigation and internal Regulation, which America could not be required to resist. This left our Orders without any justifiable excuse. The exceptions in favour of Guernsey, Jersey, and the Isle of Man, were a stretch of the prerogative beyond any power vested in the Crown, while the permission to import the produce of the enemy's colonies from America was a branch of our Statute Laws. The Orders were equally objectionable in point of expediency and policy, in a general point of view, and at the particular season when they were adopted. The enemy's Decree would have remained almost a dead letter, had we not, by these Orders, come in aid of his intentions to destroy our own traffic. The vexations to which Neutrals must have been subject were such, that all trade must have been discontinued, even had not Bonaparte's revocation of his favourable construction of the Decree of Blockade with regard to America led to the embargo which rendered all our regulations nugatory; while the attempt to tax her commerce must produce a very great degree of irritation. Our exports and imports amounted, in the last year, to about 120 millions in real value. He trembled to think what might be their produce in the present. He could not conceive what Ministers had in view, unless, like "Macedonia's madman and the Swede," it was

"The one great purpose of their lives to find
"Or make an enemy of all mankind."

His Lordship then entered more minutely into the various hearings of the Orders, arguing for the propriety of adopting the motion with which he concluded, viz. "that they should be taken into consideration in a Committee of the whole House."

Lord BATHURST contended, that the Orders were not only legal but expedient and necessary. No neutral could justly give effect to novel regulations and devices, such as certificates of origin, &c. contrived for the avowed purpose of distressing one of the belligerents. Their acquiescence gave a right to retaliate, not merely to the same extent, or in the same mode, but in such manner and to such degree as should most effectually distress the enemy. The Order of January, 1807, was founded on this principle, for it extended very considerably the rule of 1756; but it was found that the coasting trade of the enemy was not interrupted by that decree, it only took the circuitous direction of this country, under circumstances favourable to the enemy. Thus a cargo which in a direct voyage, on board a neutral from Bourdeaux to Amsterdam, would not be insured for less than 30 per cent. might, by touching at an English port, and then clearing out for the latter place, be insured at 5 per cent. This led to the idea of imposing a tax here; but not such as to prevent the continuance of re-exportation. All the native produce of America, cotton excepted, was to be exempt from taxation. The cotton manufactures in France would seriously suffer in consequence. It was not thought proper to prevent the trade between America and the enemy's colonies for two reasons. 1. Because it would not only deprive her of such produce for home consumption, but would deprive her of her export trade to the amount of eight millions of dollars yearly; and 2dly, because our own colonies, after supplying the home demand, did not furnish above one-third of what was taken off by the other States of Europe, and therefore, if the surplus produce of the enemy's colonies was to find its way in American bottoms to Europe under a countervailing tax, and without certificates of origin, no injury could result to our own settlements. He had reason to believe that these regulations would be well received in America, as their principal fears were that their intercourse with the West Indies would be cut off.—The explanation of M. Decres was unauthorised, and was therefore unsatisfactory; and, by an explanation given by M. Regnier on the 19th of September, the original interpretation of the enemy's decree of blockade was revived. It was never denied by Ministers, that the Orders in Council would, for a time, affect our own trade; but this was a situation of difficulty incident to every commercial nation in a state of war. She could not exercise her belligerent rights, without more or less affecting her commercial interests. Her only course, therefore, was to modify and regulate her system, so as to annoy her enemy with as little injury as possible to herself; and, under all the circumstance of the case, his Lordship argued, that this principle could not be more effectually acted upon, than by the Orders in Council.

Lord ERSKINE said, that the Orders in Council were as illegal as absurd, as if the Chief Baron of the Exchequer should take upon to give effect, by a sentence of confiscation, to an Order for concentrating all the internal traffic of this kingdom in London, by making it come in by Westminster Bridge, and go out, on paying toll, by London Bridge. Bonaparte could no more destroy our trade by a general decree of blockade, than he could deprive us of the light of the Moon, by ordering that luminary into a state of blockade. But Ministers would, no doubt, retaliate, by consulting the Board of Longitude, and the Astronomer Royal, and issuing a similar decree with respect to the satellites of Jupiter.

The LORD CHANCELLOR argued, that the enemy's decree was evidently founded on the principle of a construc-

tive blockade, and we had a right to avail ourselves of that principle, in order to retort upon him all the calamities which he intended to inflict upon us.

The motion was supported by Lords King, Grenville, Lauderdale, and Sidmouth; and opposed by Lord Hawkesbury. A division took place, when the motion was negatived by 106 to 48, proxies included.—Adjourned.

TUESDAY, FEB. 16.

The Exchequer Bills Bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed on Thursday.—Adjourned.

THURSDAY, FEB. 18.

Lord LAUDERDALE, after expressing some surprise that none of the Noble Lords opposite had taken any interest in forwarding the Reversionary Grant Prohibition Bill, gave notice that he should, on Tuesday next, move its second reading.

Lord GRENVILLE observed, that the Order of the 11th of November professed to be immediately founded upon information received by Ministry, that the Decree of the French Emperor had recently been executed with increased rigour. As this averment was at variance with the communication from the American Minister on the 18th of October, and with all the accounts which he had been able to collect from any quarter, he conceived it necessary to the satisfaction of Parliament, and the justification of Ministers, that the substance and dates of such information as they received should be laid on the table.

Lord HAWKESBURY opposed the motion. It could scarcely be supposed that, in the present state of the Continent, Ministers had received information in an official shape; and it would be productive of the most serious injury, both to the public service and to individuals, were they to disclose the communications of secret agents or of commercial houses, who might occasionally communicate to Government facts of importance to the interests of their country.

After some debate, a division took place, and the motion was carried against Ministers by a majority of 47 to 38.

DANISH NAVY.

Lord SIDMOUTH addressed the House on the subject of the Danish Navy. From the Proclamations and Summons of our Commanders, their Declaration on leaving Zealand, the Declaration of War itself, and the admissions of his Majesty's Ministers, he argued, that the seizure of that navy was justified only on the grounds of inevitable necessity, arising out of the law of self-preservation, and that Denmark, the victim of this unfortunate urgency, was still regarded as a neutral and friendly power. In this view of the subject, every consideration of justice, and a due sense of the character and honour of the country, required that the injury inflicted should not extend beyond the limits of the necessity which occasioned it. This was the doctrine laid down by the celebrated Grotius, in the contemplation of such a case. The subsequent declaration of war on the part of Denmark did not destroy the justice of her original claim. It was the natural, the unavoidable result of our own act. The Crown Prince could not, either in honour or prudence, desist from hostilities. His Lordship concluded with proposing a Resolution for an Address to his Majesty, praying, that the ships taken at Copenhagen might be kept in such a state as not to preclude, or put to hazard, the possibility of their being eventually restored, on the conclusion of a general peace.

Lord BORINGDON said, that without meaning to disparage the general character of the Crown Prince, he must say, that towards us he had not so acted as to give him any additional claim to our consideration or esteem.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH contended, that, admitting the alleged necessity of the seizure, it was incumbent on this country to restore the Danish Fleet. He would not, however, coquette with Ministers, nor affect a disinge-

nuous candour. The necessity which they set forward, was only that kind of artificial necessity, or convenience, which, in the course of his functions, he had frequent occasion to reprobate and punish at the Old Bailey. It was a transaction which he regarded as having brought indelible disgrace on the country to which he belonged.

The LORD CHANCELLOR said, that if his Noble and Learned Friend really viewed the matter as he had just stated it, he was for justice only by halves. He ought to move for the instant restitution of the Danish Fleet. Being now in a state of war with Denmark, the restitution of her navy must be left to the discretion of his Majesty in treating for peace.

Lord HOLLAND supported the motion. He deprecated the low, virulent, and cowardly abuse in which some of the public journals indulged against crowned heads, during the state of hostilities.

Lord HARROWBY remarked, that the Noble and Learned Lord over the way had certainly shewn no disposition to *coquetry* in the progress of his speech, whatever his intention might have been in the outset. He reminded him of some lines, which concluded with saying—

“ Perhaps it was right to dissemble your love,
“ But why did you kick me down stairs ?”

His Lordship then justified the seizure of the Danish ships upon general grounds, and particularly on the precedent of 1756.

Lord ERSKINE said, the restitution of the Danish vessels was a matter of strict justice, upon the plea of the necessity urged for their seizure. Suppose he were to meet a man with a double-barreled gun, which he apprehended a third party meant to use against him; he would be justified in seizing it at the time. But what would be thought of him, if, in answer to a demand for returning it, he should say—“No! I have given it a new stock, and a new lock; and as it is now the first of September, I must go a shooting with it!”

Lord WESTMOBELAND, in opposing the motion, attributed the overthrow of the Continent to the late Ministers, whom he ironically denominated the Eighth Wonder of the World.

In the sequel of the debate, Lords Hawkesbury and Mulgrave opposed the motion, and Lord Grenville supported it; and Lord Sidmouth having spoken in reply, it was negatived, on a division, by a majority of 105 to 51. Adjourned.

FRIDAY, FEB. 19.

The Exchequer Bill Issue Regulation Bill, was read a third time and passed.

The American Intercourse Bill was brought up from the Committee, and read a first time. After a very short conversation between Lord BATHURST and Lord AUCKLAND, in which the latter expressed his approbation of the measure, the second reading was fixed for Tuesday next.

On the motion of Lord LAUDERDALE, the second reading of the Reversionary Grant Bill, was ordered to be postponed from Tuesday to Friday next.—Adjourned to Monday.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MONDAY, FEB. 15.

The Brazil Trade Import Bill was passed.

EXPEDITION TO THE DARDANELLES.

Mr. W. TAYLOR rose to bring forward a motion for an Inquiry into this Expedition, which was an attack on a nation at peace with Great Britain. The whole of the affair seemed wrapped in mystery, but he trusted some communications would be made, shewing why we went to war with Turkey, and what were the motives that led to that war, and what its ultimate object? He had been but a short time in that country, but he had made sufficient ob-

servations on the means of defence Constantinople possessed. He wished to know what was the object of the Expedition, why it went, and why it went away. He then detailed the circumstances of Sir T. Duckworth's passage of the Dardanelles on the 29th of January, 1807. These facts are fresh in the memories of our readers. The Hon. Gentleman concluded by moving an Address to his Majesty, for a Copy of the Treaty of Alliance concluded between Turkey and Great Britain, on the 5th of Jan. 1799; for a Copy of Lord Elgin's Dispatches, connected with the Turkish Treaty with Russia; for a Copy of a Treaty concluded by Sir Sidney Smith and Mr. Spencer Smith, &c. &c.

Mr. CANNING said, that in regard to the first motion, the Treaty with Turkey, it was a matter of public notoriety, and could not be withheld. Whether it contained any secret articles, he did not know, but he imagined it did not, as none could be found in the office. These papers, therefore, would be most readily accorded, as they would materially help the contemplated investigation of the failure of that memorable expedition. With respect to the orders given by Lord Collingwood he did not think any public ground had been stated for their production. With regard to his own feelings on the subject, he would advise the House not to persist in the inquiry.

Mr. T. GRENVILLE stated the difficulties under which the late Ministry stood, and the disadvantage under which they must inevitably labour in the discussion. It was impossible for them to know the result of the Expedition before they were deprived of office. Had the enterprize been completed before that period, they would in that case have had more full and ample information. Sir T. Louis's Report, he conceived highly necessary to be laid before Parliament, though the present Board of Admiralty, in a late communication he had with them, considered it of no signification, as the object of that Report had been concluded. His orders to Lord Collingwood were, that no hostility should be resorted to till his Majesty's Ambassador had declared all amicable adjustment at an end.

Mr. WINDHAM insisted that the House should dispassionately entertain the investigation, and he ardently hoped they would be furnished with those Papers which were necessary to throw light on the purity of the transactions of the late Ministers.

Lord CASTLEREAGH had no inclination to bring forward any charge against the late Ministers, nor would he stand between them and their justification; he did not see the utility of bringing forward papers which were not sought for in that House, and unconnected with the public service.

Mr. TIERNEY said, the charge against the late Ministers was a serious one, which was, an unjustifiable attack on Alexandria, at the time of peace, with an insufficient force; but on this head he was bound to say the instructions were full and explicit, and he hoped the day was not far distant when they would prove the fact he now proudly asserted.

Mr. JOHNSTONE persisted that the House could not maintain any consistency on such a question as the present.

After a few words from Mr. Johnstone and Mr. Wilberforce, the Resolutions were put and carried.—Adjourned.

TUESDAY, FEB. 16.

On the third reading of the Malt, Pensions and Officers' Duties Bill, a debate ensued of little interest. The Gentlemen who spoke were, Mr. Horner, Sir J. Newport, Mr. Huskisson, Mr. Windham, Mr. Perceval, and Lord H. Petty. The object of Mr. Horner was to do away the shilling and sixpenny deductions made in the payment of small pensions; and Sir J. Newport's object was to allow the pensions payable to the widows of military officers to be paid free of all deductions, as the pensions to widows

of naval officers. That amendment was agreed to, but that of Mr. Horner was rejected. The Bill was then read a third time and passed.

RUSSIAN MEDIATION, &c.

After some preliminary business, Mr. WHITBREAD rose to move for certain Papers intimately connected with the discussion of which he had given notice for next Monday week. It was one of the most essential points in the Constitution, that the House of Commons had a right to call for the production of information of all and every kind of which Ministers may be in possession. Ministers had given various extracts from dispatches of some importance upon the various enterprizes they had set on foot. It however consisted with his knowledge that they were in possession of information of a nature peculiarly important, he meant upon the intended mediation of Austria. He also intended to move for a copy of a Conversation that took place between the Emperor of Russia and Lord Hutchinson, on the subject of that Sovereign mediating for Great Britain. The Secretary of State had roundly asserted that no such conversation ought to be given; he had also said that, were it produced, it would afford an instance of a violation of faith such as never had been heard of before. The Right Hon. Secretary set himself up as the champion of all the Sovereigns in Europe. The French Ministers, by the influence and authority of their Master, waited upon Monarchs in their closets, while our Ministers were waiting in their anti-chambers, and saw the French Ministers pass. They naturally did not relish this indignity; and at Petersburg they wished to be put on the same footing. This was a fact, and he wished to learn from the Right Hon. Secretary, whether, since he received the seals of office, any other Envoy had asked the same thing? He therefore should move for the Dispatch of Lord Hutchinson, a man of valour, sound sense, and one of the Heroes of Europe, who, as a private individual, had had the honour of being confided in by the Emperor of Russia, in a conversation that had taken place on the 23d of August last.—That conversation was no secret, on the contrary, it was a matter of notoriety, as it had been conveyed to Ministers in a Dispatch from Lord G. Levison Gower. Why therefore should not the House have that information which all the world had, and which Lord Hutchinson had been proud to avow. He understood the Emperor to have asked his Lordship, whether or not he thought he (the Emperor) could have done more. His Lordship replied, that he thought he could not, unless his Majesty was to bring about a peace. The Emperor expressed his readiness to endeavour to accomplish so great an end; and afterwards told Lord Hutchinson that England might obtain peace with France on honourable terms. Mr. Whitbread demanded of the Ministers whether this was important information or not? But they said it was improper to divulge it. He recollected other things, after the demise of Mr. Pitt, that ought not to have been developed; these were Bonaparte's conversations with Lord Whitworth, when Chief Consul, at the Thuilleries, where the very manner and tone of the Chief Consul, and his language, were all accurately and minutely detailed. But there was one Prince in Europe who deigned to converse with Mr. Jackson, he meant the Prince Royal of Denmark, whom Mr. Jackson accused of speaking with asperity: "Well may I speak with asperity," replied the Prince, "when I read the terms of the capitulation offered me. What will you give me in exchange for the honour of Denmark?" He had been told he might go and ransack the Foreign Office, but he would do no such thing. He wanted only to extract from Ministers information of a most essential nature. Does the dispatch of Lord Hutchinson exist? does it describe the royal conversation alluded to? If it does not, then there was an end of the business, and he should say no more. After alluding to Budderg's Note to Lord G. L. Gower, laying such blame

on the country for not affording a military assistance, he concluded by moving for a variety of documents.

Lord G. L. GOWER stated, that he had received the Note alluded to from General Budberg; the contents, he understood, were known to his Imperial Majesty, and he knew that his Majesty's Ministers at home were in possession of ample means to state, in reply to that Note. At the moment he received that Note it was imagined that peace would soon take place between Russia and France. He soon received the Secretary of State's able answer to that Note, and he called the attention of the Russian Minister to it. He could add nothing to that answer from himself. He received a communication from Lord Hutchinson, on the subject of the conversation his Lordship had had with the Emperor of Russia. Lord Hutchinson had access to the Emperor, from his known military character, but in no other way. His Lordship communicated to him confidentially the conversation, and he received it in a confidential way, and conveyed it to Mr. Secretary Canning in a private letter, not wishing so delicate a matter to be a subject for observation in a public office.

Mr. CANNING said, that from what had been stated by the Noble Lord, he trusted the Hon. Gentleman would be convinced of the impropriety of such motions, and he hoped the conversations of foreign Sovereigns with unaccredited agents would no longer be attempted to be called for. The Hon. Gentleman was under a mistake in supposing Lord Hutchinson to have been an accredited agent. His Lordship was no such person; he had visited Petersburg merely from motives of curiosity. It was now stated that a communication in a private letter was a thing proper to be laid before the House. He should be much surprised to see the private letter he had received from the Noble Lord entered on the Journals, and classed among the archives and records of the House. The neglect of the late Ministry, in not answering the Note of General Budberg, was a sufficient answer to the Hon. Gentleman. That note had been answered by him (Mr. Canning) with all the ability he possessed. Some of the papers moved for could not be presented for a very simple reason. Mr. Alopeus stated to the late Ministers several places where it was important a diversion by British troops might be made, in order to distract the enemy's attention. All these suggestions were neglected, and it was now impossible to give the names of these places pointed out, as bad consequences might result. When the Hon. Gentleman speaks about the assurances of co-operation held out to Russia by the late Administration, he forgets the precise facts. When the present Ministers came into office, they found the expectations of Russia to be high; but it was impossible for them to realize them. The late Ministers wished, after the war broke out between Prussia and France, to make a diversion on the Continent in favour of Prussia, and dispatches were sent to Russia, and to the Court of Stockholm, for troops in aid of the Prussians. A confederacy, however, of that kind could not have been expected to flourish, unless Great Britain took her share. After a long interval no assistance whatever was given to the Russians or the Swedes, either by an army, or in a pecuniary manner. The then Ministers had been applied to by Russia for a loan of six millions, which might have had a peculiar effect upon her exertions; but then it would have been a burthen which would inevitably have fallen on this country. He should have had no objection to have indulged the fancy of Russia in that way, but not to such an extent; but there was no trace in the office of any idea or intention of the kind on the part of the late Administration, though there was actually a real want of money in the Russian Treasury, which induced Lord Hutchinson to advance the miserable sum of 30,000*l.* to rescue a part of the Russian army from great embarrassment. To the honour of Russia, it was but justice to state, that this sum had since been refunded. The Right Hon. Gentleman then went farther into a detail of the conduct of the late

Administration, in respect to their interfering for the safety of Prussia. All their attempts were abortive; to what cause that was owing he did not pretend to know. After stating that the expedition against Constantinople had been undertaken by the late Ministry, as an object purely Russian, he said, that to some of the papers he had objections, but none to the general purport of the motion.

Mr. WHITBREAD wished to remove the objection to the first paper moved for, and would content himself with copies or extracts of the purport of Lord Hutchinson's conversation with the Emperor of Russia, on the 23d of August, 1807.

Mr. CANNING still objected to the production of papers altogether of a private nature. If the Gentlemen on the other side of the House insisted on it, he would go every length, and try the question, and therefore would not produce papers of a private nature, unless compelled by the vote of that House. Indeed the information of Lord Hutchinson was merely the effusion of a traveller, and not of that authentic nature as if it came from an accredited agent.

Mr. G. PONSORBY vindicated the veracity of Lord Hutchinson, who was equally entitled to respect as a qualified agent.

Dr. LAWRENCE said Lord Hutchinson's character and veracity were conspicuously above being called in question, and though the Hon. Secretary thought lightly of character, it was time for the House to interfere and check such dangerous doctrine.

After a few words from Lord G. L. GOWER, respecting the inconsistency of the Emperor of Russia, the first paper moved for was negatived without a division; all the rest were agreed to be produced, excepting the second.—Adjourned till Thursday.

THURSDAY, FEB. 18.

COLD BATH FIELDS PRISON.

Mr. SHERIDAN stated, that he held in his hand a Petition, which demanded the most serious attention of the House, and particularly that of Ministers. The subject to which this Petition referred had been brought before the House in 1800, by an Hon. Baronet (Sir P. Burdett) and he (Mr. Sheridan) had taken a large share in the discussion, which was upon the management and conduct of Cold Bath Fields Prison. The late Mr. Pitt was so convinced of the existence of gross abuses in that prison, and of the necessity for their being fully investigated, that a Committee of the House was appointed by a Special Commission under the Privy Seal, to enquire into them. That Committee made a fair and candid report, and did not exaggerate any of the abuses. These abuses, however, had not been done away or remedied, but they had been rather encouraged and increased. The Petition was signed by Mr. Stephens, Foreman of the Grand Jury of Middlesex, and twelve others of the Grand Jury, and a great part of the statement was confirmed by Mr. Sheriff Phillips. The Petition was not presented by him (Mr. Sheridan) for any party purposes whatever. He should move that it do lie on the table for a reasonable time, and if Ministers did not, within the interval, take up the matter, he would.

Mr. PERCEVAL said, he believed the matter of the Petition had been privately communicated to the Secretary of State for the Home Department. No measure could be adopted on such a communication, but a different course of proceeding might be resorted to.

Mr. SHERIDAN replied, that nothing had been done in consequence of the Report of 1800. That report suggested a more essential remedy, namely, the dismissal of Governor Aris, but that did not take place; on the contrary, that gaoler got more protection, and his authority strengthened and confirmed.

The Petition was then brought up and read. It stated, in substance, that nine of the Petitioners, being Members of the Grand Jury of Middlesex, had visited the House of

Correction, in Coldbath-fields, on Tuesday, Nov. 3; had discovered that all the loaves, which ought to contain 16 ounces, and were to be distributed to the prisoners, were greatly deficient in quantity, and that the prison weight also was found deficient, when compared with the standard weight of Guildhall. The Petition also contained a Copy of a Letter from Mr. Sheriff Phillips to Wm. Mainwaring, Esq. stating, that he had witnessed the examination of the pound weight used at Coldbath-fields House of Correction, which was seven-eighths of an ounce too light; that several of the loaves were also deficient, and one or two of them were from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 ounces too light. The Petition also contained another Letter from the Grand Jurors, complaining of the accommodation afforded to several of the persons confined in the prison, and that a female prisoner had been debauched by the son of the Jailor, and brought forth a child, which was chargeable to the parish. As such proceedings were calculated to bring odium on his Majesty's Government and our excellent Constitution, the Petitioners therefore prayed such relief as that Hon. House should in its wisdom deem meet.

Mr. SHERIDAN then moved, that the Petition do lie on the table, and stated many more facts that had since come to the knowledge of the Petitioners, which, however, he should on that occasion abstain from detailing to the House.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER recommended to the Right Hon. Gentleman to withdraw the Petition for the present, in order to have one prepared to present to-morrow, with the proper designation of the parties, in which case he should himself be ready to second the motion, that the Petition should lie on the table.

After a few words from Mr. SHERIDAN, who thought that the House ought not to be too critical as to the wording of petitions, the Petition was allowed to be withdrawn, in order that it might be prepared to be presented to-morrow in a more correct form.

Sir J. LUNNOK presented a Petition from the Merchants trading to the Levant, praying aid. Being recommended on the part of the Crown, it was referred to a Committee.

Mr. DENT moved for a Copy of the Memorial of Sir Home Popham to his Majesty in 1802, praying restoration of his property condemned in the Etrusco.—Ordered, with several other papers on the same subject.

On the motion for the second reading of the Orders in Council Bills, a debate ensued, and a division took place, for the second reading, 214—against it, 94.—Adjourned.

FRIDAY, FEB. 19.

Mr. SHERIDAN presented once more the Petition he withdrew yesterday, from the Foreman and twelve of the Grand Jury of Middlesex, stating certain abuses to exist in Cold Bath-fields Prison. He stated that the Jury had been dissolved on the 3d of November, but that they had afterwards obtained an order from the Court of Quarter Session for inspecting the Prison. The Petition was read, and after a few words from Mr. PERCEVAL, was ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. BANKES moved for an Account of the amount of the Exemptions granted under the Property Act, on Property of Foreigners in the Funds; and for an Account of the Amount of Bank Notes, including Bank Post Bills in circulation, during the last year.—Ordered.

The House then went into a Committee of Ways and Means. Mr. PERCEVAL proposed a Duty of 9d. additional on every pound of Cotton Wool exported from Great Britain to the Continent of Europe. He next proposed, on the exportation of every bushel of Salt to the Continent, an Excise Duty of 9d. Some conversation ensued; and the Resolutions were agreed to, and the Report ordered to be received on Monday.

Mr. PERCEVAL moved the Order of the Day for the House to resolve into a Committee on the Bill for carrying into effect the Orders in Council. He stated, that he

wished the Committee to be gone into, *pro forma*, as he had various new clauses and amendments to offer, which would, in a great measure, do away the objections of Gentlemen to the Bill.

Mr. PONSONBY observed, that since this morning at three o'clock a change had taken place in the Right Hon. Gentleman's sentiments. With regard to himself he objected to its principle entirely, as it was repugnant to every idea of candour and honour; indeed it struck him as the most poor and contemptible project he had ever heard of.

Mr. Brand, Mr. Davies Giddy, and Mr. H. Martin, were determined to divide the House, on which the Gallery was cleared. For the motion, 118—Against it, 32—Majority, 86. The Report was committed *pro forma*, when it was ordered to be received on Monday.—The House adjourned till then.

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

An inquisition was taken at the Load of Hay, on the road to Stevenage, on Tuesday, on the body of Miss Amelia Mary Piggot, who met her death on the preceding day. It appeared in evidence from a Mr. Smith, that he was accompanying the young lady in question from the house of a friend at Merdon, to her home at Croker's End, Middlesex, on Monday, and from the heavy fall of snow, the road being imperceptible, the horse went out of his track, and the chaise in which they were in was hurried down a precipice of nine feet from the road, and turned completely over with a violent crash. Miss Piggot, a promising girl of eighteen years old, was killed on the spot, but Mr. Smith, by holding fast to the vehicle, escaped unhurt. The horse was so much hurt, as rendered him useless, and was shot.—Accidental death.

On Monday se'night, an inquest was held on view of the body of Richard Andrews, a prisoner in the House of Correction, at Peterborough. It appeared that he, about ten months since, enlisted into the Royal Marines, and was sent on board a ship at Chatham, whence he shortly afterwards made his escape, and returned to the neighbourhood of Whittlesey, where he was enlisted: having reason, however, to imagine he was suspected of being a deserter, he wandered about nearly three weeks, sometimes passing the nights in barns, and sometimes behind hay-stacks, until at last he was apprehended. The corporal who took him, perceiving that his legs and feet were in a very bad state, from having been exposed to the cold, did not convey him to prison, but hand-cuffed him and placed a centinel over him. Andrews, however, found means to elude the vigilance of his guard during the night, and crept out of the house into a neighbouring yard, where he lay concealed three days and three nights in the late inclement weather. On the fourth day, when found and taken, he was almost starved to death, having several of his toes nearly frozen off. On being taken to prison at Peterborough, medical assistance was procured for him, but in vain. Verdict—Died from a mortification brought on by intense cold.

A few evenings ago, a decently dressed woman, having an infant child in her arms, accosted two little girls, who were sitting on the steps of a gentleman's house in Clayton square, Liverpool, and requested them to take hold of the child for a moment, while she went into a neighbouring house, from which she promised to return instantly. The girls complied with her request, and took hold of the infant; but having waited an hour, and seeing nothing of the supposed mother, they began to weep bitterly. The attention of the ladies of the house being at length attracted, they inquired into the matter, and ordered the children to be brought into the house. They found a very fine male child, about three or four week old, but having no marks about it, which could ascertain its parents, except a paper pinned to its breast, with this inscription:—"I am not baptized." The child has been sent to the workhouse, and

baptized by the name "William Clayton," in consideration of the place where he was found.

A few days since Quarter-Master Macdonald, of the 2d Regiment of Dragoons, in a fit of insanity, cut his throat, and stabbed himself in various parts of the body, in Chichester barracks. Surgical aid was immediately procured, and hopes were entertained of his recovery, but he languished till Tuesday, and then expired.

TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

John Wilkins and Thomas Lacey, Basinghall-street, factors.

BANKRUPTS.

John Rickards, Colchester, draper, to surrender March 3, 4, 29, at eleven, at the Griffin Inn, Colchester. Attorney, Mr. Sarjeant, Colchester.

John Harvey, Springfield, Essex, bricklayer, Feb. 23, March 5, 29, at ten, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Bigg, Hatton-garden.

Alexander and Nathan Davis, Little Carter-lane, Doctors' Commons, warehousemen, Feb. 20, 27, March 29, at ten, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Sudlow, Monument-yard.

Richard Horley, Epsom, pork-butcher, Feb. 23, at eleven, March 2, at twelve, 29, at one, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Mr. Guy, Epsom.

Peter Jarman and Thomas Jarman, Llanfihangel Brympauban, Brecon, wool-dealers, March 8, 9, 29, at ten, at the Swan Inn, Brecon. Attorney, Mr. Evan Evans, Rhayader, Radnor.

Joshua Banks Lay, Manchester, cotton-manufacturer, Feb. 23, March 1, 29, at eleven, at the Bridgewater Arms, Manchester. Attornies, Messrs. R. R. and C. Jackson, Manchester.

George Simpson, Cophall Chambers, merchant, Feb. 20, 27, March, 29, at ten, at Guildhall. Attornies, Messrs. Holmes and Lewis, Mark-lane.

William Ainsworth, Stockport, cotton-spinner, Feb. 20, 29, at eleven, March 29, at four, at the Bridgewater Arms, Manchester. Attorney, Mr. Dieas, Stockport.

John Merresfield, Grantham, money-scrivener, March 15, 16, 29, at eleven, at the George Inn, Grantham. Attorney, Mr. White, Grantham.

John Martin, Louth, Lincolnshire, ship-carpenter, March 2, 3, 29, at eleven, at the George Inn, Kingston-upon-Hull. Attorney, Mr. Calland, Kingston-upon-Hull.

Dinah Heaton, widow, Michael Heaton, John Heaton, and William Heaton, Springhead, York, cotton-twist-spinners, March 2, 3, 29, at eleven, at the Devonshire Arms, Kighley, Yorkshire. Attorney, Mr. Belafare, Kighley.

DIVIDENDS.

March 21. W. N. Dawson, Tabernacle-square, Finsbury, draper.—March 12. B. B. Levin, Great Alic-street, merchant.—March 19. E. Lowcock, Skipton, York, innkeeper.—March 15. R. Sharp, Stratford, Essex, builder.—March 14. J. Osment, Yoevil, Somersetshire, victualler.—April 2. G. Grimes, Great Warner-street, Coldbath-fields, linen-draper.—March 16. R. Thomas, Cowbridge, Glamorganshire, shopkeeper.—March 8. A. Mackean, Winchester-street, merchant.—March 12. J. L. Pasteur, Stoney Stratford, grocer.—March 8. R. Langston and M. Gafney, Manchester and London, cotton-merchants.—March 12. W. List, Cateaton-street, warehouseman.

CERTIFICATES—MARCH 8.

J. and W. Wilson, Dean's-court, St. Martin's-le-Grand, warehousemen.—J. Alfrey, jun. Carshalton, Surrey, carpenter.—R. Eades and Guy Knowles, Birmingham, silver-platers.

SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTS.

Jonathan Jones, Eccles, Lancashire, ale-house-keeper, to surrender Feb. 23, 25, at four, April 2, at eleven, at the Star Inn, Deansgate, Manchester. Attornies, Messrs. Serjeant and Milne, Manchester.

Samuel Lomax, Tonge, Lancashire, victualler, March 9, at three, 10, at eleven, April 2, at twelve, at the Hare and Hounds, Bury, Lancashire. Attorney, Mr. Woodcock, Bury.

Melling Woolley, Stayley-bridge, Lancashire, cotton-spinner, March 1, 2, April 2, at two, at the Dog Tavern, Deansgate, Manchester. Attornies, Messrs. Halstead and Ainsworth, Manchester.

William Williams, Swineshead, Lincolnshire, grocer, Feb. 29, March 1, April 2, at eleven, at the George Inn, Kingston-upon-Hull. Attorney, Mr. Dickenson, Hull.

John Ellis, Horbling, Lincolnshire, grocer, March 17, 18, April 2, at eleven, at the Greyhound Inn, Falkingham, Lincolnshire. Attorney, Mr. Worth, Horbling.

John Stroud, Walton-upon-Thames, Surrey, brick-maker, Feb. 27, March 5, April 2, at twelve, at Guildhall, London. Attornies, Messrs. Clark and Grazebrook, Chertsey, Surrey.

Edward Guest, Birmingham, Warwickshire, grocer, March 8, 9, April 2, at ten, at the Union Tavern, Birmingham. Attorney, Mr. Lowe, New-street, Birmingham.

William Morris, Manchester, leather-seller, March 2, 3, April 2, at three, at the Royal Oak Inn, Manchester. Attornies, Messrs. Kearsley and Cardwell, Manchester.

John Burge, Castle Cary, Somersetshire, stocking-maker, Feb. 29, March 1, April 2, at eleven, at the Ansford Inn, Ansford, Somersetshire. Attorney, Mr. Dyne, Bruton, Somerset.

Charlton Potts, Longbenton, Northumberland, chandler, March 8, 9, April 2, at eleven, at the Three Indian Kings, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Attornies, Messrs. Clayton, Brumell, and Brown, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

William Leach, Horton, Yorkshire, woolstapler, March 17, at seven, 18, April 2, at eleven, at the Talbot Inn, Bradford. Attornies, Messrs. Hailstone and Bentley, Bradford, Yorkshire.

James English and George English, Preston, Lancashire, drapers, March 31, April 1, 2, at one, at the Globe Tavern, Liverpool. Attorney, Mr. Blackstock, Liverpool.

Peirce Odell, Sloane-square, Chelsea, bricklayer, Feb. 27, March 5, April 2, at eleven, at Guildhall, London. Attorney, Mr. Nelson, King's-road, Chelsea. Edward Rimington, Liverpool, timber merchant, March 14, 15, April 2, at eleven, at the Globe Tavern, Liverpool. Attornies, Messrs. Bardswell and Stevenson, Liverpool.

William Rhodes, Friday-street, warehouseman, Feb. 27, March 5, April 2, at eleven, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Whittaker, Broad-court, Long Acre.

James Barclay, Old Broad-street, merchant, Feb. 23, at eleven, March 1, April 2, at ten, at Guildhall. Attornies, Messrs. Lodington and Hall, Secondaries Office, King's Bench Walks, Temple.

William Marshall, Newark-upon-Trent, Nottinghamshire, draper, Feb. 23, at eleven, March 1, April 2, at ten, at Guildhall, London. Attorney, Mr. Mason, St. Michael's-alley, Cornhill.

Robert Williams, Oxford-street, straw-hat-manufacturer, Feb. 24, at twelve, March 2, April 2, at ten, at Guildhall. Attornies, Messrs. S. Denton and Barker, Field-court, Gray's-inn.

James Cheetham, Failsworth, Lancaster, manufacturer, Feb. 26, April 1, 2, at three, at the Bull's Head Inn,

in the Market-place, Manchester. Attorney, Mr. Nabb, Manchester.

Charles Dawes, Huntingdon, saddler, March 2, 3, April 2, at eleven, at the Crown Inn, Huntingdon. Attorney, Mr. Wells, Huntingdon.

Benjamin Hill, Little St. Martin's-lane, man's-mercier, Feb. 27, March 5, April 2, at ten, at Guildhall. Attornies, Messrs. Cockane and Taylor, Fore-street, Cripplegate.

Harold Stanley, Newark-upon-Trent, Nottinghamshire, tanner, March 10, 11, April 2, at ten, at the Kingston Arms Inn, Newark-upon-Trent. Attornies, Messrs. Godfrey and Tallents, Newark-upon-Trent.

Robert Robins, Birmingham, plumber, March 8, 9, at twelve, at the Crown Inn, Stone, April 2, at eleven, at the Vine Inn, Stafford. Attorney, Mr. Dent, Hanley, Staffordshire.

Oliver Hargreave and John Goodwin, Manchester, merchants, Feb. 27, March 12, April 2, at two, at the Bridgewater Arms, Manchester. Attornies, Messrs. Chesyre and Walker, Manchester.

DIVIDENDS.

March 29. C. Greengrass, Purleigh, Essex, shopkeeper.—March 26. J. Grayson, Eastcheap, London, insurance-broker.—March 17. C. Purvis, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, broker.—March 19. J. Carr, Pontefract, York, grocer.—March 15. T. Watkins, Brewer-street, Golden-square, auctioneer.—March 15. J. Davies, Cardiff, Glamorganshire, builder.—March 21. J. Pinfold, Rodborough, Gloucestershire, clothier.—March 12. J. Bingley, Upper John-street, St. Pancras, mason.—March 19. A. Braid, Frith-street, Soho, baker.

CERTIFICATES—MARCH 12.

J. Bottomley, Leeds, timber-merchant.—T. Mitchell, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, linen-draper.—E. Roberts, Bush-lane, Cannon-street, merchant.—W. Mason, Huntingdon, grocer.—J. Varley, Manchester, drysalter.

PRICE OF STOCKS YESTERDAY.

3 per Ct. Cons. for money 63½.—Ditto for Feb. 63½.
3 per Cent. Red: 64½.—Omnium —prem.

THE EXAMINER.

LONDON:

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21.

Russia has at length declared war against Sweden. New seas of blood are thus open for the mere pleasure of NAPOLEON, who gains two objects by this fresh specimen of his savage artifice, he punishes Sweden for her independence, and weakens his powerful ally the Emperor of Russia. The King of Sweden presents a very interesting object in the singleness of his independence, and if he had not shewn himself on a former occasion rather too fond of boasting, he would awaken a sympathy still stronger. The money which our Government have sent him to enable him to pursue the war, would have been much better bestowed upon our own expences. What can Sweden do against France? We literally pay a man to blow out his own brains.

Captain Nourse arrived on Wednesday evening at the Admiralty, with intelligence of the Centaur's (Sir

SAMUEL HOOD's ship) arrival at Plymouth. Information of the Rochefort squadron has been received by the Centaur. It appears that the Comus frigate, Capt. Percy, attached to Sir SAMUEL HOOD's squadron, had been chased by the enemy, to the south-west of Madeira, in lat. 33. 50. long. 21. This vessel was at one time very near the hostile fleet, and it was observed that a man of war and a frigate were likely to be left behind. The next day the Comus bore up for Sir JOHN DUCKWORTH, then with Sir SAMUEL HOOD off Madeira; and on the 27th ult. that officer made sail in pursuit, but being three days behind, it was supposed that he could not overtake the enemy before they reached the West Indies, their evident destination; but, at all events, he must be there a very short time after the enemy. The rest of Sir SAMUEL HOOD's squadron have proceeded to reinforce Admiral COCHRANE.

That part of Admiral SINIAVIN's fleet which remained in the Mediterranean has found an asylum in the port of Trieste. The Russian squadrons have been extremely fortunate. It was not until the 10th of last month that these vessels entered Trieste, almost six weeks after the intelligence of a rupture with the Court of St. Petersburg. It is unfortunate that no instructions were transmitted to Lord COLLINGWOOD in time to enable him to secure this squadron.

The French Commandant of Lisbon has prohibited the carrying of fire-arms in Portugal, without special leave, as assassinations are daily committed, he says, under the pretext of hunting or shooting.

The Dutch Official Gazette contains a very strong article upon the conduct which the Dutch commerce ought to pursue at present. The following are the most striking passages:—

“ Abandon common speculation; do not suffer yourselves to be excluded with impunity from the empire of the seas—Fit out privateers to wrest the prey from the enemy, to procure provisions, become almost of the first necessity; it is in the enemy's ships that you ought to seek for your colonies; it is at their expence you ought to furnish your correspondents with the merchandize they want—Recollect the courage of your ancestors; recollect you are fellow-countrymen of RUYTER and TRUMP. Must the Danes be, of the least populous nations, the only one who dare attack the English in open sea? Must history say that the Danes were in the 19th century what the Dutch were in the 17th? Arm, Dutchmen! let all your ports be filled with armed vessels, ready to fall upon the enemy.”

The ports of Holland are for the future to be shut against all ships, unless ships of war bringing in prizes, or vessels in distress; which latter are to be put under guard till they put to sea again.

According to the last return made by the Russian Ministry, the Russian Navy consists at present of 43 sail of the line, 34 frigates, 59 cutters, brigs, &c. and 226 smaller vessels. Of this force 20 ships of the line and four frigates were in the Black Sea, and, besides them, 11 line-of-battle ships in other seas.

Letters from Madrid state, that, according to reports current in that city, the King of SPAIN is to cede Navarre and Catalonia to France, for a part of Portugal, and that the Queen of ETRURIA is to have the remainder of the latter kingdom.

The French inshore squadron in Brest harbour, were reconnoitred on Wednesday se'night, by the Warrior, 74 guns, Capelin schooner, and King George cutter, when they discovered seven sail of the line, one frigate, and a brig; being one frigate and a brig less in number than when seen before. They appeared quite ready for sea.

The order which was issued for changing the names of the Danish ships has since been rescinded: they are now to bear their original Danish names on the list of the navy, and are to be prepared for service.

A Proclamation has been issued by the Inquisitor-General of Portugal to all the *faithful* people, in which he recommends a peaceable submission to the powers that be; and denominates BONAPARTE "*God's chosen.*"

Mr. CANNING waited on the KING on Wednesday, and had an audience of his MAJESTY; a circumstance which has given rise to some very ingenious surmises and curious reports.

We see with regret, every day, gentlemen of character, and persons in most respectable situations, accept places and appointments which ought not to exist at all. It is frequently in favour of such persons that grants of reversions are made, that jobs are encouraged, that expensive establishments are formed, all which collectively press severely on the country, and threaten its future safety. We do not deem every man an object of *severe* reproach who accepts such appointments, but we hold it our duty, as far as we have a voice, to urge again and again the necessity of a strict examination of the expences in every department of the public service, under every Administration.

An application is said to have been made by Ministers to the Court of Directors of the East India Company, to furnish annually 20,000 tons of hemp for the use of the Navy. A large quantity of hemp is grown in India; but it is supposed to be of rather an inferior quality from its being cultivated on the poorest soil.

Our accounts from Yorkshire and Lancashire are full of dreadful complaints on the state of trade; the woollen and cotton manufactures are said to be nearly at a stand; several respectable houses in Yorkshire have had letters from their friends in America, desiring them not to purchase any more wool on any account, and many, both woollen and cotton manufacturers, have been under the necessity of discharging their work people, and of shutting up their manufactories till the return of trade.

It is said that brandies are to pay an additional duty of 8d. on import, and 16d. on export; 10l. per ton is to be added on all wines exported; and salt is to pay 2s. 6d. per bushel on being exported.

On Tuesday the LORD MAYOR ordered the price of bread to be reduced half an assize:—the quartern loaf wheaten sells for eleven-pence farthing; household nine-pence three farthings.

The celebrated *Pamela*, formerly Lady EDWARD FITZGERALD, now Mrs. PITCAIRN, was a passenger for France on board the same vessel with Prince ESTERHAZY, and others. The influence of this elegant and interesting lady in the diplomatic circle has been recently the subject of much conversation. She narrowly escaped an arrest for debt at Dover, and went on board in boy's cloaths.

The reports respecting the intention of the FRENCH EMPEROR to separate from the EMPRESS, in order to marry some Continental Princess, we are told, are not very likely to prove true. JOSEPHINE is believed at Paris to possess great influence with her husband, who is said to treat her always with the most refined attention; and, if we are rightly informed, whatever may have been her conduct previous to her becoming the wife of BONAPARTE, she bears her greatness with a propriety and grace which could alone result from a well-cultivated mind.

Spain totters, and no wonder. What a wretched picture of vice and weakness does its Court present! An imbecile Monarch, a degraded Queen, a Son plotting the fall of his Father, and an abandoned Upstart ruling all! Who can regret the downfall of such a Government? Were it not that an implacable foe will be exalted by its ruin, not one honest man would desire its existence a day.

In the Court of Common Pleas, yesterday, an action came on in which JOHN FROST was plaintiff, and Sir FRANCIS BURDETT, Bart. was defendant. The sum sued for was 2100l. for the plaintiff's services at the several contested elections for Middlesex. There were a multiplicity of items, which our limits will not admit of our entering into. He charged three guineas a day for his attendance on the hustings, five guineas per day as a Committee man, and the other sums were for various disbursements. At a late hour, Sir JAMES MANSFIELD adjourned the Court until Monday, the trial not being likely to be concluded.

Notwithstanding the late interference of the Legislature in affixing badges and numbers on the Drovers, it is hardly possible to pass through the streets on a market day, without witnessing the barbarous conduct of those wretches. It is not possible for a single individual to check such practices: but the Society for the Suppression of Vice, by stationing some of their sturdy informers in the markets, and carrying such offenders before the Magistrates, might thus be the means of doing some good. A dozen examples would correct the evil.

ELOPEMENT.—On Monday night Miss ELIZABETH D——, daughter of an opulent merchant, contrived to elope from the residence of her father, near Bedford-square, with the second son of a country Squire. Since the flight of the lady, her aged parents have been almost distracted.

It appears that frequently the most notorious pests of society escape justice by some trifling error in the indictment, an *and*, an *if*, or a *to*. Is it worth no person's while to read these papers before they are produced in Court, or are none to be found who would think it their *duty* to be accurate?

PROLIFIC FAMILY.—There is now living in the village of Lightburn, in the neighbourhood of Glasgow, a married couple, who have had eight children, 76 grand-children, and 35 great-grand-children, all legitimate, making in the whole 119 persons, the produce of this matrimonial connection. Ninety-five of the above are now alive; and what is singular, none of them were ever twice married. The old couple have always maintained a most respectable character, and lived in the same house for upwards of 50 years.

The inhabitants of Birmingham, it will be seen by the following paragraph, set a noble example to the country of their love of the *fine arts*:—"The *Game Chicken*, and *Horton*, the celebrated Bristol pugilists, have been for the last fortnight exhibiting their professional skill at the Birmingham Theatre, to crowded audiences. Their performances consist in giving imitations of the first-rate pugilists of the day, their manner of *setting-to*, stopping, shifting, &c. and this is done between the several acts of the play and farce, for which the pugilists receive a very good salary."

SHAM SALES.—There is no end to the folly and credulity of the world. It is not long since the town swarmed with mock auctions in every direction, where the lovers of bargains were daily fleeced. The rage for public companies has hardly subsided, by which poor John Bull was finely gulled, and now we have mock sales of linen drapery goods, bankrupt's effects, and dissolutions of partnership, in almost every street, to which poor John's wife, under the same fatal delusion, is running to purchase bargains. At many of these shops, like the mock auctions, there is no knowing who are the real proprietors, and when the deluded people are eagerly buying the bankrupt's effects, fresh supplies are brought in by cart loads in the night, to afford a fresh supply for the ensuing day; if the goods prove rotten, the shops are shut up, and there is no remedy.

It is a curious fact that the Twopenny Post could not deliver all the letters on Monday, in consequence of the number of *Valentines*. The war does not appear to have laid any *embargo* on the correspondence of *Love*.

THEATRICAL EXAMINER.

No. 8.

[The daily repetition of the new dramas at both the Theatres has given the Editor leisure to offer a few remarks on a subject worthy of strong notice.]

ON THE REVIVAL OF THE INDECENCIES OF OUR CELEBRATED DRAMATISTS.

I have often expressed my regret, that in the revival of old plays the managers should preserve all the indecencies of the old writers. This practice deserves a reprehension more vehement than even the faults of Messrs. *DIBDIN* and *REYNOLDS*, and other modern dramatists, who in general are merely foolish. A general ignorance, indeed, among the dramatists destroys the effect of the drama; but obscenity gives it an effect much worse than none at all. The moral of the story, if there be any, is not only contradicted by the manners of its successful characters, the players themselves are not only encouraged into an habitual idleness of thinking, but as there is unluckily no difference between the laugh raised at true humour, and the laugh raised at mere wantonness, the young and the unsuspecting part of the audience, who are told of the excellence of the play, learn to confound the proper effect of its humour, with the effect of its gay indecencies. No modest woman, in fact, ought to visit the theatre

to see such revivals. It is a strange inconsistency, that parents who would snatch the works of *CONGREVE* from the hands of their daughters, should suffer them to be present at the representation of his plays, when every coarse jest is explained to their imagination by the universal roar of the house. A man of any rational thought must feel a personal shame and misery when he sits by the side of a virtuous female at such a season. A dialogue on the stage is in some measure echoed to each other by the audience, for the great pleasure in seeing a play with one's friends arises from the mutual consciousness that we catch all the turns and peculiar meaning of the conversation. What a reciprocal feeling for mothers and sons, or for brothers and sisters! Some persons, I allow, imagine that a married woman is licensed to hear any thing, not to mention that some married women think they may say any thing. But the wife or the mother who can hear or talk of indecent conversation with a smile, or betray her sensations to others, even by expressing her contempt of the indecency, does not act as becomes her. She ought not to share her thoughts with others upon such a subject. A mother may warn her children against vice; but amongst men, and in any mixed society, a calm and chaste silence, both in word and look, is the only refuge of a modest woman from the contagion of wanton discourse.

If the Managers of the Theatres have no fear of exposing women to this contagion, if they forget that they themselves are sons and brothers, and husbands, surely they will not be so void of moral feeling, as to have no pity for the errors of the illustrious dead. It has often struck me, in the solemnity of conjecture respecting another world, that if the souls of the departed know any thing of the transactions of mankind, there cannot be a more melancholy punishment to the souls of vicious writers, than to see the miserable effects of their writings. This is a mere fancy, like all such meditations, but it has made me regard these effects in a much stronger light than many other persons: and if we set this fancy entirely aside, yet we ought to feel a sufficient impulse, I am sure it would be an honourable one, to abstain from promoting or receiving any bad effect from the wanton writings of celebrated men *merely because one might not be able to charge any of our errors or misfortunes to the memory of the dead*. It has been said that no ill should be spoken of the departed, but how monstrous is his inhumanity who, by more than devilish art, compels the very dead to speak ill of themselves, to prolong their own vices, and to mislead mankind like an invisible and cursed spirit? What! Will the Managers of an English theatre render the vices of the great eternal? Will they assist in scattering a pestilence from the graves of departed genius? Alas! the hands that lie there cannot now lift a pen to recant, the lips that are closed there cannot now utter a sigh of remonstrance. The dead are left at our mercy, and shall we be guilty of an irreverence more savage than the mutilation of a corpse?

The *Two Gentlemen of Verona* is in preparation for revival at Covent Garden Theatre.

FINE ARTS.

The pleasures of Taste gradually raise the Mind above the attachments of Sense, and prepare it for the enjoyments of Virtue.
BLAIR.

BRITISH INSTITUTION.

Thy pages, Hist'ry, bright of Britain shine;
Thy patriot sages, bards, a race divine;
New pages now of pictur'd charms are found,
And the fam'd work with tasteful Art is crown'd.

Mr. B. BARKER's pencil pours the purest truth of nature, harmony of colour, and most powerful and judicious light and shadow. It possesses a very uncommon, because a very difficult accomplishment of his delightful art,—solidity of effect united with lightness and facility of handling. This was a peculiar excellence of the famous GAINSBOROUGH, but his loose, scratchy manner, wanted the precision of Mr. BARKER, who equals the finest Flemish and Dutch geniuses in his admirable nature, his spirit and delicacy of handling. Hobbins has not more delicacy of touch, Ruysdael more spirit. We challenge the bigotted, exclusive admirers of old and foreign artists to shew the superiority of their landscapes to our nature-reflecting Englishman's.

Where nature's chastest hues her vot'ries charm,
The glittering brook, the copse, the thatch-crown'd farm;
The grove's religious awe, the sunny green,
And all the beauties of the sylvan scene.

With the exquisite miniatures of SHELLY, BONE, and ROBERTSON, it would shew deficiency in judgment not to recommend to the observation of visitors the *Turk's Head*, by Mrs. GREEN, No. 173, for its rich colouring, tasteful display of folds, freedom, yet exquisite delicacy of handling, and squareness of drawing.

The numerous pictures are arranged with uncommon propriety by an artist of taste and talent, the much esteemed Keeper.

The *Examiner*, agreeably to his Prospectus, will give his tasteful Readers an account of every valuable new production of Art. He regrets he has not more room to-day to particularize the many excellencies of No. I. of the *Landscape Scenery of Scotland*, engraved by Mr. LANDSEER, an artist who has materially assisted to confer on our country the highest character in Europe for Landscape Engraving. With elegant typographical descriptions, it contains three exquisite prints of sublime and magic scenery. Prophetic glooms, deep winding visionary vales, streams and expansive lakes, embosomed in "cloud-capt" mountains, "exalt the soul to solemn thought." Bold fore grounds graduate with nicest discrimination to the most distant and aerial objects. Scarcely any Engraver equals Mr. LANDSEER in gradation, and characteristic aerial hues of night and day, the seasons, and the silver-toned clearness of water. In the richness of Gothic architecture he is unrivalled. He is the graphic THOMSON.

The prints are, Inverary Castle, Glen-Coe, and Dunstaffnage Castle, which last, the best judges affirm, wants only colour to class it with the best of REMBRANDT's effects. They confer honour not only on Mr. LANDSEER, but on England.

R. H.

GREAT BRITAIN AND AMERICA.

[FROM THE MORNING CHRONICLE.]

The following is submitted to the serious consideration of Parliament, and the Merchants and Manufacturers of Great Britain:—

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

From authentic documents it appears, that in a period of twenty years the population has increased nearly three millions! The dwelling-houses have increased in the same period from 640,000 to 1,225,000! The number of horses has increased from 600,000 to 1,200,000; the horned cattle from 1,200,000 to 2,950,000; the merchant vessels have increased from 250,000 to 1,207,000 tons! The imports have risen from 11 to 20 millions dollars. The exports of domestic production have increased from 9 to 42 millions of dollars; and the exports of foreign goods from one to 36 millions. The national revenue has increased, in a period of twelve years, from 8 to nearly 17 millions of dollars; while the expenditure, making an allowance for the extinguishment of the public debt, has been nearly stationary. The specie in circulation has increased, in the period of twenty years, from 10 to 17 millions. In the State of Massachusetts alone there are seamen employed in their fisheries, foreign and coasting trade, at least 30,000, and in case of a war, these men are ready for national or private armed ships; and in the various other ports on the coast to Georgia, there are an equal number.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The Newfoundland fishery at an end, for want of a market. The West India planters in a state of ruin. The Mediterranean, Italian, and Turkey trades nearly annihilated. The Dutch, German, Spanish and Baltic trades are prohibited by the Decrees of the enemy. The East India warehouses choaked up with goods, and the Company forced to borrow 2,000,000*l.* lately, to pay their dividends. The manufacturers in various parts discharging their workmen. The mercantile shipping in a great measure out of employ. The cost of the army, navy, ordnance, &c. &c. exceeds 40,000,000*l.* per annum. The interest of the national debt is nearly 30,000,000*l.* per annum; and other expences for 1807 are full 10,000,000*l.* more—in all 80,000,000*l.* at least; and in 15 years our taxation has advanced from 17 to 67,000,000*l.* per annum. In this state of things, and with such a contrast, we are forcing the United States of America to war, by our Orders of Council, and thereby shutting up the only channel of trade that remains. A MERCHANT.

The Editor inserts the following Letter to Lord FOLKESTONE from a friend of Mr. PAULL, merely because he is willing to admit any temperate observations from any party.

TO THE RIGHT HON. LORD FOLKESTONE.

MY LORD—The purport of this letter is two-fold: First, to enable you and such other Members of Parliament as may see it, to correct the mis-statements of those friends of the Marquis Wellesley who wish to hurry the decision on the Oude Charge; and, secondly, to point out to you the wide difference between the opinions entertained by you in 1806, and your present opinion:—and that the mode of proceeding adopted by you towards Lord Wellesley is wholly inadequate to the end proposed.

During the debate which took place on your motion relative to Oude, it was said by Sir A. Wellesley, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and others, that the House ought to come to a decision on the conduct of

the Marquis Wellesley, as the charges against him had been *four years* before the House, during which time the "Noble Marquis" had been kept in a dreadful state of suspense. This is not true; the facts are as follow:—

On the 25th of June, 1805, Mr. Paull first moved for papers tending to criminate Lord Wellesley: Parliament was prorogued in July following, and the papers were not produced. The Parliament met in January, 1806, and Lord Castlereagh withheld the papers on some shuffling pretence till the formation of the new Ministry. They were produced by Lord Minto on the 5th of March, and printed on the 20th of April: on the 22d of April Mr. Paull produced the first article of impeachment, and on 6th of May he produced the Oude article of impeachment—and shortly after the other charges. Evidence was heard at the bar of the House in June, and printed on the 30th. The whole of the documents were not yet before the House, but those already produced were so voluminous, as to require at least six months study to become at all acquainted with their contents; yet notwithstanding on the 6th of July, Lord Temple moved the House to come to a decision on the Oude question.*

Look at the industry of Mr. Paull. He obtains Papers in the month of March, 1806, and, in spite of every opposition, lays his charges on the table in May following. Compare this with the affair of Hastings! with all the advantages men could have, and possessing talents that defied competition, Messrs. Burke, Fox, Windham, and others, produced articles of impeachment after SEVEN YEARS investigation. In October 1806, the Parliament was dissolved, the people were unsuccessful in their attempt to re-seat Mr. Paull in the House of Commons, and it was feared the conduct of the Marquis Wellesley would not receive further investigation. At this moment your Lordship stepped forward and pledged yourself to examine into Indian delinquency. The desponding people were delighted with this pledge; they knew you possessed a clear head and a sound heart, a knowledge of things, and a love of justice rarely to be met with in men of your Lordship's rank. Your declaration, that "the whole conduct of Lord Wellesley should be decided on at the same time," was fresh in their recollection; and they expected all that reasonable men could expect from one who, to solid talent, joined exalted virtue.

Late in last Session your Lordship moved for papers relative to Oude, and when the people found you intended to confine yourself to that single charge, they were grievously disappointed. They referred to your speech of the 6th of July 1806, and they found these words: "The Oude charge is connected with others, and will derive support and illustration from the evidence in support of them. On this account the whole discussion should be entered into at once, and all the questions respecting Lord Wellesley's conduct be decided at the same time." They remained in amazement!!! Why, my Lord, this change? Have circumstances changed? No! Why then this

change in opinion? it is wholly inexplicable. I waited, however, till this Session, still hoping you would move for the remaining papers. I attended the debate on your motion, and this last hope forsook me. I found you were about to move certain resolutions *solely* relative to Oude. I was convinced this measure was improper, because it is impossible the Members of Parliament can be acquainted with the transactions of Oude, unless each Member has devoted half a year to the perusal of the papers, as those papers alone compose a large folio volume. Mr. Creevey, however, suggested a most excellent method to obviate this difficulty, namely, a Committee to examine the papers, and make a report, from which each Member could form an opinion. Thinking you would adopt this suggestion, I was anxious for your reply, the first sentence of which gave me (as I thought) a clue to the second. "My situation," said you, "is very peculiar; for all those who agree with me as to the *merits* of the case, differ with me as to the *manner* of proceeding; and all who differ with me as to the *merits*, agree with me as to the *manner*." I expected the following sentence would run thus, "which carries conviction to my mind the method is a bad one, and I therefore relinquish it." But no: you determined to proceed, and though this lesson failed to convince you, I have no doubt the result will change your opinion of the "manner," whatever you may continue to think of the "merits."

A few words more concerning deciding on the Oude charge singly, and I have done. You were convinced that each charge would derive support from the other, and you know Mr. Paull considered the Oude charge as the most inconsiderable; besides you had experience to teach you that if you took the whole of the charges, though you might fail in one, you might succeed in another. Mr. Burke, on the charge of exterminating the Rohillah nation and other enormities, was left (as I fear your Lordship will be on Monday) in a deplorable minority. On the comparatively trifling charge, the extortion of 300,000*l.* from the Rajah of Benares, he had an immense majority. This might have been your fate, if you had taken the whole. I know the Oude charge alleges the seizing the moiety of a country containing three millions of inhabitants, with a revenue of two million per annum, besides the extortion of 470,000*l.* in a single sum; but there are other charges equally strong, and why you did not take them up also, is to me a matter of astonishment.

I do not accuse your Lordship of forfeiting any pledge: I know you are incapable of it: but as the successor of Mr. Paull, you have disappointed the people. You did not positively pledge yourself to more than you have performed, but you are a man peculiarly fitted to have undertaken the whole; for though not possessed of the grace and dignity of elocution, yet you possess a mind clear and comprehensive: you are known to be unconnected with either faction, and have so high a reputation for integrity, that your very *name* would have effected what the *talents* of some men would have sunk under. I am, my Lord,

Your very humble fellow Citizen and Subject,
February 19.

A HEWLETT.

* A statement similar to this was published yesterday, in a Letter from Mr. Paull to Mr. Whitbread.

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

GENERAL WHITELOCKE'S TRIAL.

SEVENTEENTH DAY, FEB. 18.

The Court having met at the usual hour, a letter was read from Lord Lake, stating, that his Lordship was so much indisposed as to be unable to attend. The Court was then ordered to be cleared of all except the Members, and upon our re-admission, General Meadows, the President, informed the Court, that in consequence of the indisposition of that distinguished Member, Lord Lake, their proceedings were adjourned until Monday.

LAW.

COURT OF KING'S BENCH.

Monday, Feb. 17.

MOHARTY v. WANNAN.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL stated, that the defendant was Captain of the Bedford Guineaman, on a slaving voyage; of which the plaintiff was carpenter's mate.—Soon after sailing the mate ordered the plaintiff to make a board to have the ship's articles posted on, telling him he need not stand nice about it, as any thing would do. When finished it was taken to the Captain, who came immediately upon deck, and struck the plaintiff with the sharp point of it across the nose, which broke the bridge. He afterwards beat him with his fist, and a rope's-end, about the head and shoulders, so as to disable him from doing his duty for a fortnight. This was proved to the full extent by Mr. W. Franks, the armourer, and John Connac, one of the seamen. The Jury found for the plaintiff, damages 60l. with costs.

Tuesday, Feb. 16.

FLEWSTER v. ROYLE.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL opened the case, and stated that the defendant, Mrs. Royle, who is a pastry cook, in High-street, in the Borough, had caused the plaintiff to be taken and forcibly impressed, and carried on board a tender. The plaintiff was a tallow chandler, living with a Mr. Mainwaring, and had never been at sea, nor was liable to the impress service; yet the defendant, for what cause did not appear, sent a letter to a regulating Captain to have the plaintiff impressed, and he was accordingly pressed in July last; but upon being found not to be a seafaring man, was discharged. In October she went a second time in person to a house of rendezvous, and stated, that there was a troublesome young man, who had been the parting of more than one family, and she wished to have him impressed. She offered seven shillings as a reward to the man who was to go to take him. He was accordingly pressed, and she was at the house when the gang came. Upon being examined by the Captain, who was the same before whom he had been taken the first time, he immediately recognized him, and ordered him to be discharged.—The case was fully proved.

Mr. GARROW, for the defendant, said, that she did it from a belief, that he had been a seafaring man, and that he had admitted that before July (some years ago) he had been impressed, and she might fairly conclude that he was liable to be impressed.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH, C. J. was of opinion, that she did not act from pure motives, for she did not leave the Captain to form his own judgment, but said she wished him to be impressed, and offered money for it.

The Jury found a verdict for the plaintiff, damages 190l.

THE KING v. D'EGVILLE.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL opened this prosecution.

Mr. Waters, the executor of Mr. Goold, having employed workmen in the Opera House, went to superintend them, and Mr. D'Egville, who was Deputy Manager under Mr. Taylor, having also another set of workmen there, some difference arose between them, about the use of a bench, which one set of carpenters wanted to get from the other. In this dispute, Mr. Waters interfered, and Mr. D'Egville said, if any man interrupted him in his duty, he would knock him down, when Mr. Waters replied, then you must knock me down, and was going round the bench between it and Mr. D'Egville to prevent some wood from being taken from it, when as he passed close by D'Egville, the latter said, what do you strike me? and gave him a severe blow in the left breast, and then went out, saying, he would soon settle him, and went to Bow-street for a warrant. In the mean time Mr. Waters went to Marlborough-street, and Mr. READ bound over both parties to appear at the Sessions.

The defence was, that in passing Mr. Waters pushed D'Egville, which he took for an assault, therefore aimed a blow.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH summed up the evidence, and said, that from the expression used by the defendant, when he struck Waters, which was likely to be true, he might probably have conceived, that Waters, by coming up to him, and even accidentally pushing him, did mean to assault him.

The Jury found the defendant guilty.

Friday, Feb. 19.

ITALIAN SINGERS.—ROSSELLI v. LA CAINEA.

This was an action brought by Signor Rosselli, late Soprano singer at the Opera-house, to recover of the defendant the sum of 30 guineas, he having engaged him to sing three nights at the Marchioness of Hertford's Concerts.

Mr. GARROW said, that the Chevalier La Cainea, who had engaged the plaintiff to sing at the Marchioness of Hertford's Concerts, did not mean to dispute his liability, but only objected to the sum charged, namely ten guineas a night. He had accordingly paid at the rate of five guineas a night into Court, and the only question for the Jury to decide was, whether the plaintiff, who had been a first-rate singer at the Opera-house, was entitled to the larger or smaller sum. In estimating that, the Jury would recollect that the plaintiff had a very particular voice, and was the only man of his description in the country. It might therefore be matter of curiosity, as well as pleasure, to have such a performer. It was also said, that the plaintiff was only employed in taking a part in a trio, or a quartetto, and that he had no solo songs given to him. He should reply, that his pretensions were not lessened by that means; and if the Chevalier chose to sing all the solos himself, the plaintiff was not to have his fair demand cut down for what was no fault of his.

Sir Wm. Parsons, and Signors Naldi and Righi were called into the box, who all agreed that the plaintiff, from his eminence as a singer, was entitled to ten guineas a night. Signor Naldi, on being asked whether chorus singers were not well paid at five guineas a night, replied—"that if an angel was to come down from heaven to sing in a chorus, he would not be worth that sum."

Mr. Cole, belonging to the Prince of Wales's household, said, his Royal Highness had paid the plaintiff ten guineas a night; and Mrs. Swardie, a Lady who described herself as the pupil of Signor Rosselli, spoke in very handsome terms of his perfect knowledge of music.—It was contended in defence, that the plaintiff was not engaged as a first-rate singer, and that he was well paid for what he had done if he received five guineas a night. In support of this, Signor Siboni and many other musical people were called, who thought five guineas a night quite sufficient for any assistance the plaintiff could afford. Some of these went so far as to say, that they

would rather give five guineas to keep him away, than to purchase his exertions.

The Judge left the Jury to decide this important question, who found a verdict for the plaintiff to the full amount of his demand, namely, thirty guineas.

FIELD V. HARRIS, ESQ.

The plaintiff in this action recovered 20l. in damages, the defendant's coachman having carelessly driven against him in Coal-harbour-lane, in the vicinity of the metropolis, overturned his chaise, and severely bruised and injured him. The negligence was apparent, and the Jury had no hesitation in finding their verdict.

OLD BAILEY.

Wednesday, February 17.

William Walker, a soldier in the West Middlesex Militia, was indicted for assaulting *Thomas Oldfield* on the King's highway, and taking from his person a sixpence and a penny. The circumstances of this case having been already detailed, it is unnecessary to repeat them. The prisoner was found Guilty—Death.

Friday, February 19.

John Cheesely was indicted for having intermarried with *Sarah Martin*, on the 22d of December last, at Stoke Newington, while his former wife was living at Tottenham. Both marriages being proved, the Jury found the defendant—Guilty.

Saturday, Feb. 20.

A soldier in the Guards, of the name of *Aymes*, was convicted of a robbery in the house of one of the sufferers at the late fire in Princes-street, Westminster. The prisoner was discovered in the house carrying off a bedstead, and on being questioned, he said he had been employed to remove the goods, some of which he offered for sale.

MIDDLESEX SESSIONS.

Saturday, Feb. 20.

CHANGE OF PERJURY.—THE KING V. JOE. HILLS.

The defendant was indicted for making a false affidavit in the Court of Chancery, in stating, that 1900l. paid to the prosecutor *Mr. Emden*, of great celebrity, was advanced in part of payment of 8000l. for timber sold, and which stated in the allegation, to have been paid *bona fide* for the services rendered to the defendant by the prosecutor.

Mr. Emden stated, that in consequence of having advanced sums of money to *Mr. George Wetherdenn*, a gentleman of fortune in Kent, and he being in want of other loans, it was agreed that *Mr. Emden* should find a purchaser for some timber on *Mr. Wetherdenn's* estate, and for this purpose he applied to the present defendant, an opulent timber merchant in Kent, who agreed to give 8000l. for a certain quantity, and *Mr. Emden* received 100l. from *Mr. Wetherdenn* for his services. Witness stated that the defendant had agreed to allow him 5l. 10s. per load for the timber as a share of the profits of a good bargain, and he received from him, in bills of exchange, 1900l. He was afterwards applied to for this money by *Mr. Wetherdenn*, and he was taken to Bow-street on a charge of fraud, but the Magistrates dismissed the business.

It was contended in defence, that the 1900l. paid by the defendant to the prosecutor, was not a doctour, but that it was given in part of payment of the 8000l. due to *Mr. Wetherdenn* for the timber, and that the present prosecutor had suffered a verdict to go against him at the suit of *Mr. W.* for the 1900l. The prosecutor had also insured the life of *Mr. W.* who wanted 14 months of being of age, for 1900l. and he had charged *Mr. Wetherdenn* with the

expences attending that insurance. The trial took up the whole day, and the defendant was acquitted.

ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

Sir Home Popham slipped upon the ice in Dover-street, on Monday morning last, and, in his fall, unfortunately broke the small bone of his leg.

A gentleman, accompanied by an elderly lady, took a coach on Tuesday evening in Oxford-street, near Rathbone-place, when the lady left him, and the gentleman desired to be driven to a coffee-house, in Piccadilly. On the arrival of the coach at the end of Bond-street, the coachman was alarmed by the breaking of one of the coach windows, and on alighting and opening the door, he found his passenger weltering in blood, he having, with a pen-knife, cut his throat in the most shocking manner. Inquiry was made at the coffee-house, whither the coachman was ordered to drive, but the unfortunate man was a stranger there. A porter's ticket, which was brought with game to a house in Cleveland-street, and which was found in the pocket of the deceased, led to a trace of his abode. He proved to be a cotton manufacturer from Somersetshire, who had only been four days in London, but was supposed to have met with embarrassments, which led him to commit suicide.

MARRIAGES.

On Saturday se'night, at Blockley Church, Worcester, *Charles Cockerell, Esq.* to the Hon. *Harriet Rushout*, daughter of the late and sister to the present Lord Northwick.

On the 11th inst. at Raveningham, Norfolk, *Captain Hodge*, of the 7th Regiment of Light Dragoons, to *Miss Maria Bacon*, youngest daughter of *Sir E. Bacon*, Premier Baronet of England.

DEATHS.

A few days since, *Mr. Charles Stubbing*, one of the principal Assistants in the House of Messrs. Trotter, of Soho-square. The immediate cause of his decease was an operation for the stone, a disorder which he bore with a fortitude the more glorious as it could have but few admirers, for the truest heroism is the patience of private suffering. He was a man made to be beloved, his life shed a continual pleasure on the faces of his friends, and his death has snatched the domestic sunshine from their firesides.

Mrs. Jones, of Rider-street, St. James's, dropped down dead, on Saturday se'night, while sitting by her fire-side. She had returned from market in good health only a few minutes before.

On Saturday se'night, at Gordon's Hotel, of a violent attack upon his lungs, *Colonel Wm. Fullarton*.

In St. Dunstan's, Canterbury, aged 85, *T. Coffee*:—he is supposed to be one of the last, if not the only survivor of the crew of the Centurion.

At Pentonville, *Mr. John Jennings*, brewer, Pulteney-street.

On Friday se'night, the Right Hon. *George Evelyn Boscawen*, Viscount Falmouth, in the 50th year of his age. His Lordship was Captain of the Band of Gentlemen Pensioners, Recorder of Penzance and Truro, and Colonel of the Cornwall Fencible Light Dragoons.

On Monday, at his house, in Harley-street, in the 82d year of his age, *Thomas Edwards Freeman, Esq.* of Battersford, in Gloucestershire.

Last week, after a few hours illness, *Mrs. Catterson*, of Silsden Moor, near Skipton, relict of *Silvester Catterson*, of Addingham, Gent. at the advanced age of 102 years; she enjoyed her intellectual faculties to the very last.