

THE EXAMINER.

No. 155. SUNDAY, DEC 16, 1810.

THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

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

No. 151.

KING'S ILLNESS.

THE two Houses of Parliament assembled again last Thursday, and from the state of the Bulletins, added to the late confident expressions of the Physicians, some more speeches were expected in favour of delicacy and another fortnight. But my LORD LIVERPOOL in the Upper House, and Mr. PERCEVAL in the Lower, having respectively declared that *they* saw no reason for a further suspension of the Executive, the two Houses, agreeably to the wishes of those Gentlemen, voted for Committees to examine the King's Physicians, and then adjourned till Monday. The composition of the two Committees embraces the principal party leaders; and in the usual language of political critics, which is by no means reckoned insulting to the purity of Parliament, is accounted "*impartial enough*." These Committees, who sat yesterday and the day before, are to make their report to-morrow; and by Wednesday Mr. PERCEVAL has hinted his intention of favouring the nation with his ideas of a proper Regency. It is to be hoped they will be more decent than his ideas of a proper Ministry.

It was but a fortnight ago that both Ministers and Physicians expressed a confident hope of his MAJESTY'S recovery; the latter were unanimous in this confidence; and the former, taking for granted what it was their peculiar interest to believe, could see nothing in the way of a sure and speedy amendment. The bulletins, it is true, issued by these very Physicians, wore a singular appearance when contrasted with such ardent anticipations. Delicacy, it is well known, does not consist in speaking short of what is favourable on these occasions: the bulletins therefore were naturally supposed to say all that the case would bear; and what was *the utmost* that they said and continue to say? Simply this,—that the melancholy disorder, which has seized his MAJESTY in blindness and old age, has had its *variation*—from better to worse, and from worse to better. Sometimes, we learn, he has had a little sleep and sometimes none,—sometimes that his nights have been disturbed and sometimes comparatively quiet; for it is to be observed, that when the bulletins have talked of a change, the change has only been such in reference to the past night or day; so that though his MAJESTY may, at such a time, have literally been *better than just before*, yet he may also, and most probably was, a good deal worse than at the commencement of the dis-

order. When people saw and attentively considered this feature in the medical reports, they found it impossible to enter into the confident and apparently contradictory expectations held out by the writers; and the flattering deductions of Ministers were little calculated to remove the difficulty. Add to these the industrious reports respecting interviews, and the unblushing forgeries of the Ministerial Papers; and it is not surprising that the Public should prefer the negative to the positive accounts of the royal malady, and draw their own conclusions from the obscurity of the Bulletins, and the non-appearance of the Executive Power.

Events fully justify the public hesitation. The Ministers already put on their faces of surprise, and confess themselves disappointed; but they have been so long in the habit of coming forward, first with their "confident expectations," and with their "every reason to hope," and then with their astonishment and confessions, that they have long had their hopes and disappointments to themselves. What the Physicians say as to the continued incapacity of the Royal Person, is yet to be heard; but from the ardour of those gentlemen, and the present look of the bulletins, it does not appear that their sentiments can have undergone any material change. The Ministers, by their talking as they do at present, have gained another week's delay; and if the voice of Parliament is still to be regulated by their views of the disorder and those of the Physicians, and not by the urgent necessity of a supply in the Executive, it is not easy to anticipate any immediate change of affairs for the better.

ET

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

PARIS, Dec. 1.—Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress went yesterday evening to the Great Opera. *Alceste* was performed, and in the second act of the Opera a Cantata was applauded, which was applicable to the happy pregnancy of her Majesty the Empress, whom the general wish is to see happily delivered.—At the entrance into the Opera every person had a bouquet of myrtle and other flowers in their hands. As the Emperor and Empress appeared in their box, the spectators in the Hall rose up and repeatedly cried out, *Vive l'Empereur! Vive l'Empereuse!* The same took place at the beginning of the Cantata. The feeling was universal, and their Majesties appeared to be highly gratified by the appearance of national gratitude. Their Majesties remained during the Ballet.

Dec. 2.—Yesterday evening at six o'clock the firing of cannon announced the eve of the anniversary of his Majesty's Coronation.—All the theatres were free.—To-day the city of Paris gives a portion of 1300 francs to 12 poor widows, who are to be given in marriage to 12 soldiers.—The Empress, accompanied by a Lady, rode out y-

terday in her riding-habit, and was received with acclamations, which her Majesty very graciously answered.

Dec. 2.—This day being the anniversary of his Majesty's Coronation, his Majesty having taken his seat on the throne, and being surrounded by the Princes, Grand Dignitaries, &c. his Excellency Count Garnier, President, presented to his Majesty the following Address:—

SIRE,—“The Senate has heard, with the liveliest emotion, your Imperial and Royal Majesty's letter. France beholds the accomplishment of the wishes she entertained, and in her unceasing admiration of the greatest of monarchs, she exults to see the brilliant star of Napoleon illuminating a cradle, surrounded by the laurels of glory and the palm of virtue. How often, Sire, have we presented to the first of heroes the homage and the admiration of the great nation! We offer today to the father of his country the wishes of that nation, which is happy in your happiness, happy in your hopes, happy in your expectations, happy in all those sentiments with which he is inspired by the august Princess, which it esteems both on her own account and on yours.”

After the audience, the Emperor received the Foreign Ambassadors.

The *Moniteur* of the 3d contains the following note on a paragraph in the *Morning Chronicle* of the 27th November:—

Morning Chronicle.—“We have reason to believe, from letters received by the last packet, that Drouet has actually joined Massena with 15,000 men, and that the siege of Abrantes has commenced.”

Moniteur.—On the 12th and even the 15th of November, none of the three divisions of General Drouet, nor the division of General Gardanne, had joined the Prince of Essling on the Tagus. It is without having received any reinforcements, then, that this Prince besieges Abrantes, and manœuvres on both banks of the Tagus. We can also affirm, that on the 16th the troops of the Duke of Treviso had not yet passed the Guadiana for the purpose of entering the Alemtejo.

By a Decree of the 29th of November, issued from the Palace of the Thuilleries, his Majesty has extended the period indeterminate in which the French language is to be used in writings in the departments of the Bouches-du-Rhin, and de l'Escaut.—By another Decree, his Majesty ordered that the German language, along with the French, may be used in the departments of Ems-Oriental, in Courts of Justice, Acts of Administration, &c.

SPAIN.

FRONTIERS OF SPAIN.—Since the middle of last month (October) several regiments of cavalry and some columns of infantry have passed by the great military road from Bourdeaux to Bayonne, and from thence to Spain. There can be no doubt but that the war in Spain will be concluded this winter. We have had many assurances that his Majesty the Emperor and the Prince of Neuchatel will take the command of the armies there in person. A part of the equipage of his Highness has reached Burgos, where it is to await him. The battalion of guards in Old Castile, at Vittoria, Burgos, and along the road to Madrid, have received marching orders. A part of these is destined for the reinforcement of the army in Portugal to free that kingdom from the English yoke. On the 23d of October the King of Spain left Madrid for Lerida, taking with him his whole Court and the Royal Guard. A strong garrison was left in the capital. The utmost tranquillity prevails. The head-quarters of the Army of Spain are continued at Seville, and from thence will be directed the siege of Cadiz, which is to be prosecuted immediately.

PRUSSIA.

DECREE RESPECTING THE GENERAL SUPPRESSION OF ECCLESIASTICAL ESTABLISHMENTS.

“We, Frederick William, &c. considering that the designs for which Ecclesiastical Institutions and Convents have hitherto been endowed are not consonant with the objects and necessities of the present times,—considering that these designs may in part be better accomplished by different means,—that all neighbouring States have adopted the same measures,—that the punctual discharge of the contribution to France can only be effected by this expedient;—and that, by these means, we may diminish the heavy claims upon the private property of our subjects—we do decree as follows:—

“Art. I. All convents, and other ecclesiastical institutions, whether of the Protestant or Catholic religion, shall from this day be considered as the property of the State.

“II. All convents, &c. shall, by degrees, be abolished; and care shall be taken of the compensation of all persons who now inhabit them, or have claims upon them.

“III. From the day of the date of the present Decree, no annuities shall be allowed, no novices shall be admitted, and no person instituted to any office belonging to them. Without our consent, no change of property shall be made, no capitals shall be collected, no debts contracted, and no inventories transferred. All contracts made in opposition to these directions are null and void.

“IV. We shall provide for the sufficient recompense of the Chief Ecclesiastical Officers, and with their advice for the liberal pensioning of the Priests of the Schools; and also for those Convents that are employed for the education of youth, and the care of the sick, which suffer in their revenue by the above measure, or which may appear to require new funds.

Berlin, Nov. 16.

“FREDERICK WILLIAM.”

UNITED STATES.

BALTIMORE, Oct. 12.—The American Minister at St. Petersburg, Mr. Adams, a strong partizan of France, has asked to be recalled; he has been both humbled and insulted in the Russian capital, as a Republican, by Bonaparte's Ambassadors and Pensioners. He complains bitterly of Bonaparte's influence in Russia, where Philosophers, Reformers, and Patriots, have become quite unfashionable. Siberia is daily peopled by them. Since Bonaparte has lost Cayenne, Alexander has permitted that country to be a receptacle also for Gallic Reformers. Within 15 months, according to letters from St. Petersburg, upwards of sixty Jacobin Regenerators have passed through Livonia on their way to Siberia.—Madame Jerome Bonaparte lives in great style in this vicinity; she received her pension of 40,000 dollars, upon condition of breaking her marriage with Mr. Oakley, and never marrying again. Her pension is paid her yearly, and before-hand, by Mr. Beaujour, the French Consul at Philadelphia, who has 2,000,000 dollars in his hands, remitted in 1808, by American smugglers, to this country from Mexico, before Bonaparte's outrages in Spain were known.

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES. A PROCLAMATION.

“Whereas, by the 4th Section of the Act of Congress, passed on the 1st May, 1810, it is provided, that in case either Great Britain or France shall, before the 3d of March next, so revoke or modify her edicts, as that they shall cease to violate the neutral commerce of the United States; which fact the President of the United States shall declare by Proclamation; and if the other nation shall not, within three months thereafter, so revoke or modify her edict in like manner, then the 3d, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, and 18th Sections of the Act entitled An Act to Interdict the Commercial Intercourse between Great Britain and France, and their de-

pencies, and for other purposes—shall, from and after the expiration of three months from the date of the Proclamation aforesaid, be revived, and have full force and effect, so far as relates to the dominions, colonies, and dependencies, and to the articles, the growth, produce, or manufacture of the dominions, colonies, or dependencies of the nation thus refusing or neglecting to revoke or modify her edicts in the manner aforesaid; and the restrictions imposed by this act shall, from the date of such Proclamation, cease and be discontinued, in relation to the nation revoking or modifying her decrees in the manner aforesaid.

“And whereas it has been officially made known to this Government, that the edicts of France violating the neutral commerce of the United States have been so revoked as to cease to have effect on the first of the present month, now, therefore, I James Madison, President of the United States, do hereby proclaim, that the said Edicts of France have been so revoked, as that they ceased on the first day of the present month to violate the neutral commerce of the United States, and that from the date of these presents, all the restrictions imposed by the aforesaid act shall cease and be discontinued in relation to France and her dependencies.

“In testimony whereof, I have caused the seal of the United States to be hereunto affixed, and signed the same with my hand, at the City of Washington, the 2d day of November, in the year of our Lord, 1810, and of the Independence of the United States, 35.

JAMES MADISON.

“By the President, R. SMITH,
Secretary of State.”

CIRCULAR.

“Treasury Department, Nov. 2, 1810.

“SIR,—You will herewith receive a copy of the Proclamation of the President of the United States, announcing the revocation of the Edicts of France which violated the neutral commerce of the United States, and the restrictions imposed by the act of May the 1st last, accordingly cease from this day, in relation to France,—French armed vessels may therefore be admitted into the harbours and waters of the United States, any thing in that law to the contrary notwithstanding.

“It also follows, that if Great Britain shall not, on the second day of February next, have revoked, or modified, in like manner, her edicts violating the neutral commerce of the United States, the 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 18 sections of the act to interdict the commercial intercourse between the United States and Great Britain and France and their dependencies, and for other purposes, shall, in conformity with the acts first above mentioned, be revived and have full force and effect, so far as relates to Great Britain and her dependencies, from and after the said 2d day of February next. Unless, therefore, you shall before that day be officially notified by this department of such revocation or modification, you will from and after the said day carry into effect the above-mentioned sections, which prohibit both the entrance of British vessels of every description into the harbours and waters of the United States, and the importation into the United States of any articles, the growth, produce, or manufacture of the dominions, colonies, and dependencies of Great Britain, and of any articles whatever brought from the said dominions, colonies, and dependencies.—I am, respectfully, Sir, your obedient servant,
ALBERT GALLATIN.

“To the Collector of the Customs of the District.”

Previous to the departure of General Armstrong for the United States, he received a communication from the Duke of Cadore, two days before he left Paris. The following is the substance:

1. The Decree rendered at Rambouillet is revoked. Every American vessel will be admitted.

2. The confiscated property will be restored as soon as Congress shall have revoked the law on the subject of duties incurred for the contravention of the Non-Intercourse Bill.

3. The Americans can introduce freely into our ports the produce of their own soil, and export a contra value in the productions of the French soil.

SPANISH AMERICA.

The *Diario Político* of Santa Fe de Bogota contains a history of the revolution in the province of New Granada. It seems to have broken out on the 20th of July, and the details of the occurrences which took place from day to day are published in these Gazettes; but they are of too trifling an interest to require that they should be given at any length.—It is worth while, however, to avert to the short introduction to this history, as shewing that the causes of these revolutionary proceedings are by no means of recent origin. The following is what the author says on this subject:—

“The jealousy which has existed from time immemorial, in America, between the European Spaniards and the natives of that vast Continent,—the jealousy, almost incredible, between the Spaniard and his own descendants, rose to a great height in 1794. At that unfortunate period the Capital and the Kingdom saw the most valuable of its youth in dungeons: they beheld one of our brethren groaning under the rack of torture. * The wife saw her husband, the father his son, marched in chains for the Peninsula; our soil was moistened with the tears of all the Americans. In vain did the Court of Madrid afterwards declare the innocence of the victims; in vain they restored some to their country, and promote others in Europe: the wound was deep and the remedy insufficient. The American hated the Spanish Government in his heart, and only submitted because he was forced to submit by the bayonet. This secret but concentrated hatred at first disclosed itself by the events at Quito, on the 10th of August, 1809; it was inflamed by preceding circumstances; and the movements of the Caraccas, of Carthagena, and Socorro, animated all hearts to such a degree, that a single word was sufficient to break our silence and the bonds of our oppression.”

* D. Josef Maria Duran was the illustrious victim sacrificed by despotism at that period of oppression. The groans of that innocent and virtuous youth still resound in our ears! The instrument of torture still remains in our prisons, why is it not reduced to ashes? We trust that the humanity of our Supreme Government will for ever remove it from the public eye, will abolish the torture, and tear from our Judicial Code that barbarous and cruel law, which disgraces humanity.

BUENOS AYRES.

A Spanish Officer in the service of the new Government at Buenos Ayres has reached London, after having been detained at Monte Video as a prisoner, under suspicion of being employed by the Junta of the former to procure arms from this country. He says, that Buenos Ayres had raised a force of 4000 men, who had lately been fitted for actual service; and this number was considered sufficient for all the purposes of external defence and interior tranquillity. Trade was continued, and every one was enabled to follow his occupation under the new Government without impediment from disorganization, or other sources of disquietude. The Junta was composed of wise and temperate men, who had acquired the confidence of the people. At Monte Video there had been an attempt to throw off the Supremacy of the Regency and the Spanish Agents.—The military force, consisting of 1000 men, had raised the standard of insurrection, and were proceeding to depose the public authorities, when the navy interfered and suppressed the commotion, although not half so numerous as their opponents. Soris, the Governor, is a man of feeble talent, and is wholly controlled by three or four others, who preserve obedience to Old Spain: but, excepting in the lower orders, there appears to be no ready disposition to obey the mandates of the new Junta of the capital (Buenos Ayres).

The following is a *private* letter from South America, and like all such communications, must be received with caution:—

“ Buenos Ayres, Sept. 27, 1810.

“ General Liniers, with Conches, his son, and two others, have been shot, by a Deputation sent by the Junta of this place for that purpose. They met Gen. Liniers about thirty leagues on this side Cordova, where the fatal business took place. They were allowed only three hours for confession.— This affair is looked upon by the citizens of Buenos Ayres with horror, as Gen. Liniers is much regretted by the inhabitants, by whom he was greatly beloved. Many are of opinion, that this affair will tend to injure the cause of the present Government. We are at this moment experiencing great difficulties in consequence of disputes between the Governor of Monte Video and the Junta of this place. The people of Monte Video having all the Spanish naval force in this quarter at their disposal, have declared the town of Buenos Ayres in a state of blockade, and for this purpose they have moored their armed flotilla just without gun-shot in front of the town, so that no vessel can pass without their permission. All ships under the British flag are placed under the direction of Capt. Elliot, in the Porcupine frigate. He sends them to Mondonago, until he shall receive instructions from Admiral De Courcy, at Rio.—I have just learnt that a large ship with a rich cargo from London, called the Invention, is lost at the mouth of the river Plata, and all, except the Captain and 13 men, perished.”

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

Thursday se'night Mr. Fletcher, a respectable soap-boiler of Derby, in a moment of despondency, put a period to his existence by throwing himself into a copper of boiling liquid, which was preparing for making soap; he survived the dreadful act, in the most excruciating agony, for the space of three hours. He had recently buried his wife, and has left a family of small children to lament their loss.

A dreadful accident happened at Axminster on the 2d inst. A fine boy, son of Mr. D. Hoare, was burned so dreadfully by his cloaths taking fire, on occasion his death the following morning; and what is very singular, the mother of the deceased was gone to assist a neighbour to dress a child that met with a similar accident the week before, and who is expected to recover.

On Wednesday se'night, as a woman and her two daughters, one fourteen and the other eleven years of age, were working in a chalk pit belonging to Mr. Nicholson, at Chatham, a large mass, exceeding two waggon loads of the superincumbent chalk, fell down and buried the two girls beneath it. The mother was unhurt, but had to endure the misery of seeing both her children killed upon the spot.

On Tuesday morning, about four o'clock, a fire broke out at Mark-hall, Essex, the seat of Montagu Burgoyne, Esq. owing to the back of a fire place not being properly secured. The family was happily awakened by the smoke, in time to save themselves from the flames, which destroyed two rooms, and would soon have reduced the house to ashes, if the inhabitants of the adjoining town of Harlow had not brought the fire engine in a short time after the smoke was discovered.

Friday se'night Mr. Henderson, M. P. arrived at the Old Ship Tavern, Brighton, accompanied by two young ladies, his nieces, where they remained until Monday, and then removed to private lodgings on the New Steyne. Mr. H. did not appear in very good health. On Friday this gentleman and his nieces left the New Steyne to return to London: his illness increased upon the road; he died during the first stage, and was taken from the chaise, at Cuckfield, a corpse.

ARISTOTLE was once asked why every person was so fond of beauty? To which the Philosopher replied, it was a *blind man's* question.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Thursday, Dec. 13.

THE KING'S ILLNESS.

About five the Earl of LIVERPOOL rose, and adverting to what he had said when he moved the former Adjournment, observed that he had stated, that if on this day there should not be reason to hope for his Majesty's speedy recovery, he should feel it his duty to propose some measure to the House. There was then, and there still existed, a confident expectation of his Majesty's recovery; but there was not, unfortunately, that advance in his Majesty's recovery which could warrant him in proposing another adjournment. He, therefore, felt it his duty, in conformity with the precedent of 1788, to move,— “ That a Select Committee be appointed to examine the Physicians who have attended his Majesty during his illness, respecting the state of his Majesty's health, and to report such examination to the House.”—This motion was agreed to.

It was then moved, that the Committee consist of 21 Lords, and that each Lord should deliver in, before the sitting of the House to-morrow, a list of 21, for the forming of such Committee. Also, that Dr. H. R. Reynolds, Dr. Sir H. Hallford, Bart. Dr. W. Heberden, Dr. R. D. Willis, and Dr. M. Baillie, should attend to-morrow.”

The motions were severally agreed to.—Adjourned till to-morrow.

Friday, Dec. 14.

The Earl of LIVERPOOL moved to refer the Lists delivered in by each Lord, of 21, to form the Select Committee directed to be appointed yesterday, to a Select Committee, to determine who had been chosen on the said Committee, and to report to the House. This Motion was agreed to, and a Select Committee appointed accordingly, who retired to a Committee Room. After a short interval the Committee returned, and Earl Camden reported the following list of Lords as chosen on the Select Committee, for examining the Physicians touching the state of his Majesty's health:—

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| The Archbishop of Canterbury | Earl Spencer |
| The Lord Chancellor | The Earl of Liverpool |
| The Archbishop of York | The Earl of Rowley |
| The Lord President (Earl of Camden) | The Earl of Loudoun |
| The Lord Privy Seal (Earl of Westmorland) | Lord Viscount Sidmouth |
| The Duke of Norfolk | Lord Hastings (E. of Moira) |
| The Marquis of Lansdowne | Lord Grenville |
| The Marquis of Abercorn | Lord Wellesley (Marquis Wellesley) |
| Earl Graham (Duke of Montrose) | Lord Redesdale |
| The Earl of Buckinghamshire | Lord Ellenborough |
| | Lord Erskine |

It was ordered, that the above 21 Lords be the Committee for the purpose mentioned; that they meet to-morrow; that the said Committee, or any eight of them, have power to adjourn as they shall think fit; and that no Lords be present at the said Committee, except those nominated in the Committee.

The Deputy Usher of the Black Rod announced at the Bar, that in obedience to the Order of the House, Drs. Henry Revell Reynolds, William Heberden, and Matthew Baillie, were then in attendance.

Drs. Reynolds, Heberden and Baillie then came to the Bar and were sworn to give evidence before the Committee, touching the state of his Majesty's health.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Thursday, Dec. 13.

NEW WRIT FOR LIMERICK.

Sir J. NEWPORT moved, that the Speaker do issue his Warrant for a New Writ for a Member to serve in Parliament for the county of Limerick, in the room of W. Odell, Esq. who

since his election had been appointed one of the Lords of the Treasury in Ireland.

Mr. BIDDULPH expressed a doubt, whether it was competent to the House to agree to such a motion. The Writ moved for was a King's Writ. The present Session had never been opened by any speech from the King, and he thought it would be rather an anomalous proceeding for that House to order a King's Writ to be issued, without any recognition of them on the part of the King.

The SPEAKER said, it might be proper to inform the Hon. Gentleman, that on a former occasion the exercise of the right now called in question had been considered a paramount and primary duty by that House, and that, in pursuance of this principle, the House had felt it to be their duty to fill up all the seats which had become vacant in their Assembly. It was also to be remarked, that this was no application to the Crown, and if the House had any right of their own authority to issue one warrant to this effect, they were entitled to fill every vacancy.

The question being again put,

Sir FRANCIS BURDETT said, he could not call the meeting now assembled a House of Commons or a House of Parliament, neither could he reconcile the issuing of such a warrant as that now moved for, which must ultimately effect a Writ issuable by the Crown, to the notions he entertained on this subject. So anomalous a proceeding he was unwilling to entertain, and the impropriety of agreeing to the present motion struck him most forcibly.

Mr. PERCEVAL could not agree to the statement of the Hon. Baronet, that they were not a House of Commons. Nothing was more important than that the public should understand that they were a House of Commons, legally and duly constituted, and that being so, they were now about to take those steps for the benefit of the country, which it was incumbent on them to take without any further delay. The argument of the Hon. Baronet, if at all to be listened to, would go much farther than he himself intended, and would go even to this—that no Writ, even in a Court of Law, could be good; so that all legal proceedings, of every kind, must be stayed. Nothing could be more mischievous in its effects than the promulgation of such a doctrine. It was consistent with the pure and genuine principles of the Constitution that the functions of every department in the State were now entire, and must go on to be exercised by those who had derived their authority from the Legal Head, unimpaired by any accidental circumstance of the King's illness. The doubts which had gone abroad, and which seemed to receive the sanction of the Hon. Baronet, were all founded on mistake or misrepresentation. He, (Mr. Perceval) however, desired above all, that no doubt should be entertained of the existence of the House of Commons. They were here the Representatives of the People, as much as if the King were in perfect health, and as such they must observe the regular mode of proceeding for filling up any vacancy which might take place in their own body.

The motion was then put and carried, there seeming to be no more than one or two dissentient voices.

KING'S ILLNESS.

Mr. PERCEVAL then addressed the House. When he last had the honour of meeting them he had occasion to refer to the communication made from the House from the Privy Council, and from reference to that Report, feeling himself justified in the proposal of delay for one fortnight more, he had submitted such a proposition to the House, in the hope that in the mean time such a progress would have been made in his Majesty's recovery as would have held out to them the prospect, on their re-assembling to day, of a speedy reassumption by his Majesty of his Royal functions. At that time he entertained a confident expectation that such would be the result, and he therefore expressed a confident expectation that there would be no occasion for any further adjournment of Parliament on that account. He was now painfully placed in the situation of stating, that his expectations in that respect had been disappointed. He had on the former meeting stated, that the interests of the

country and a regard to its vital concerns would require, on its again meeting this day, that the House should proceed to supply the deficiency; and to provide for the discharge of the Kingly functions; and that he should not feel himself entitled to propose any farther delay, unless the amendment was such as to hold out hopes of a speedy recovery.—He still remained of that opinion.—This being the case, nothing remained for the House; but to say in what manner he should proceed to provide for the calamity which had taken place. He was happy to declare, that he still entertained the most sanguine hopes of the ultimate and complete recovery of his Majesty, but still he could not recommend farther delay should take place. On the contrary, he was of opinion that it was now come to this point, that the House ought to appoint a Committee of their own, to examine the Physicians attending on his Majesty, and to put on the records of their proceedings the fact of his Majesty's indisposition. As sufficient notice had already been given of the proceedings likely to be adopted in the event of no favourable symptoms occurring, he did not see that there was any occasion to adjourn to another day the naming of the Committee, but that the Committee might now be appointed. He should, therefore, propose that a Committee be appointed to examine the Physicians who had attended his Majesty during his illness, touching the state of his Majesty's health, and to report the examination to the House. He should propose that this Committee should consist of 21 Members, and should then propose the names; but that the House might be the better prepared to judge of the fitness of the Committee, he should at once read all the names of the Members whom he proposed should constitute it. He then read the names of

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Mr. Secretary Ryder | S. Whitbread, Esq. |
| The Master of the Rolls | Right Hon. G. Ponsonby |
| W. Adam, Esq. | W. Wilberforce, Esq. |
| Hon. H. Labouchere | Right Hon. R. B. Sheridan |
| Right Hon. R. Dundas | Right Hon. G. Tierney |
| Lord Castlereagh | Right Hon. W. W. Pole |
| Lord Milton | Right Hon. Sir J. Newport |
| Lord G. Cavendish | Right Hon. Sir W. Scott |
| Attorney-General | Right Hon. C. Bathurst |
| Right Hon. G. Canning | T. S. Gooch, Esq. |

He then concluded by proposing the appointment of a Committee.

Mr. WHITBREAD rose only to remark, that the Right Hon. Gentleman (Perceval) had now felt himself compelled to resort to that measure, which, in the opinion of some Members of that House, should have been adopted one month before. He again begged publicly to accuse the Right Hon. Gentleman of not having given intimation of the unlooked for assembling of Parliament to all the Members without distinction, as had been observed, on a similar melancholy occasion, by his predecessor. He had also further to accuse him, that having it in his contemplation to propose certain measures of importance, he did not acquaint the whole Members of the House, without distinction, of the nature of the proposition to be submitted by him, but confined the knowledge of it to those individuals whom he knew to be attached to his own party. He knew it had been common for Gentlemen on both sides of the House to remind their friends of the necessity of their attending on particular occasions: but, situated as the country now was, and when so important and at the same time so generally interesting a question was to be discussed, he presumed to think that the intimation ought to have been made to every Member without distinction.—He only begged to bring back the recollection of the House to what was their actual situation—that this was the third time on which they were thus assembled, without having yet taken any steps to supply the deficiency which was known to have existed at least for the last six weeks. That he (Mr. Whitbread) was proposed as one of the Committee, he unquestionably esteemed an honor. If appointed, he should endeavour to discharge the duty entrusted to him conscientiously; or if a more proper man should be proposed in his room, he should submit with all deference to the opinion of the House.

The motions for the appointment of a Committee, and that

it should consist of twenty-one Members, were then put and agreed to.

Mr. PERCEVAL, previously to proposing the names in the list he had prepared, stated, that he understood Mr. Bathurst was not in town; he should therefore propose, in place of his name, that of the Right Hon. H. Addington.

The names, with the addition of Mr. Perceval himself, to make up the number 21, and with the name of Mr. Hiley Addington, in place of Mr. Bathurst, were put and agreed to, as the Members of the Select Committee. It was ordered that they should have power to send for the Physicians, to adjourn from time to time, and from place, to place as they should see proper, and to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House; that no Member of the House should be present at their sittings, but the Members of the Committee alone; that they should meet immediately in the Speaker's Chamber, and that five should be a quorum.

Mr. PERCEVAL proposed, that for the purpose of ensuring as full an attendance as possible, a call of the House should be ordered. To give to this call the fullest possible effect, he should move that it do take place on Wednesday. He had proposed the Adjournment only till Monday, as it was reasonable to hope that the Report of the Select Committee would be ready to be presented on that day. It would be necessary that the Report should be printed, and he proposed Wednesday for taking it into consideration. It would be proper, previous to this important discussion, that the House should be called over, and he accordingly now moved, that the House be called over on Wednesday next.

It was then ordered that the House be called over on Wednesday next.—Adjourned till Monday.

TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

J. Mitchell, Fleet-street, brickmaker.

BANKRUPTS.

H. R. Attree, Brighton, undertaker.
 T. Bird, Manchester, cotton-merchant.
 W. Balobrigde, W. Fletcher, and J. Barber, Barnes, Surrey, soap-manufacturers.
 J. and J. Brown, Carlisle, manufacturers.
 J. Cope, Newcastle-under-Lyne, mercer.
 J. Clemmons and C. Price, Strand, cheesemongers.
 E. Collins, St. Mary Axe, London, boot-maker.
 J. Clay, Kingston-upon-Hull, merchant.
 R. Chetham, Stockport, check-manufacturer.
 T. Danks, jun. Oldbury, Shropshire, victualler.
 J. and M. Davy, Bread-street, merchants.
 J. Foden, Chester, linen-draper.
 T. Hill, Brighton, cabinet-maker.
 R. Hoskin, Croydon, linen-draper.
 R. Johnson, Lane-end, Staffordshire, manufacturer.
 W. Kirk and W. Broughton, Leeds, merchants.
 C. Lee, Dowgate-hill, merchant.
 J. Littlewood, Mortimer-street, butcher.
 W. Miller, Bath, grocer.
 P. M'Camley, Liverpool, merchant.
 W. Miller, jun. Liverpool, tailor.
 J. Moore, Tottenall, Staffordshire, dealer.
 M. Nathan, Whitechapel, tailor.
 W. C. Pearce, Newton Abbot, Devonshire, linen-draper.
 A. Roberts, Nantwich, Cheshire, innkeeper.
 W. Spencer, Whetstone, Leicestershire, hosier.
 T. Taylor, Dover-court, Essex, miller.
 J. Walmouth, Liverpool, ironmonger.

SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

Admiralty-Office, December 15, 1810.

Copy of a Letter from Wm. Shield, Esq. Commissioner of his Majesty's Navy at the Cape of Good Hope, to J. W. Croker, Esq. dated at the Cape, September 24.

SIR,—It is with the deepest regret I acquaint you, for the information of the Right Hon. the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, with the loss of a part of his Majesty's squadron on this station.

The account I have now the honour to present to you, came to my knowledge by his Excellency Lord Caledon having had the goodness to send, for my perusal, dispatches he received last night by the late Master of the Sirius from the Governor of Bourbon. I have transcribed and inclosed such part thereof as may lead their Lordships' judgment to the extent of this disastrous event.

The Isle de la Passe had fallen by assault from a party landed by two of the frigates; subsequent to which, the Bellona, Minerva, and Victor, arrived and ran into Port South East, with their prize the Hon. East India Company's ship Ceylon, taken in company with the Windham, after a gallant resistance, on their way from the Cape to Madras, with a part of the 24th Regiment on board.

The Windham was turned from port S. E. and recaptured by the Sirius, but the troops had been removed to the Bellona.

Captain Pym appears to have immediately determined on attacking these ships, and to his not being aware of the difficulties of the navigation within the port is to be attributed his failure and the loss of the King's ships. The Sirius and Magicienne were burnt by their crews, after doing every thing that was possible to extricate the ships from the situation they had fallen into. The Nereide, after every officer and man on board were either killed or wounded, fell on shore a mere wreck, and was taken possession of by the enemy.

I am sorry to add to this list of misfortunes, that the Ranger-transport, laden with provisions for the squadron, and having some stores on board, has also fallen into the hands of the enemy.

The transports having the troops on board, and which were to have sailed yesterday from hence without convoy, will be prevented putting to sea by the arrival of this lamented intelligence.

If it should prove that I have not been exactly correct in the information I have now given, I hope for their Lordships' indulgence, and that they will impute it to my anxiety to give them the most early intimation of so important an event. I have the honour to be, &c.

W. SHIELD.

P. S. Capt. Willoughby has lost an eye, and is otherwise wounded, and is in the hands of the enemy.

Then follows a Letter from Capt. Pym, of the Sirius, addressed to Capt. Rowley, of the Bonicea, from which it appears, that on the 23d Aug. his Majesty's ships Sirius, Nereide, Magicienne, and Iphigenia, stood into the harbour Sud Est, in the Isle of France, with a view to attack an enemy's squadron of two frigates, a corvette, and an armed Indianen lying at anchor there. In pushing for their stations along-side the enemy, the Sirius, Magicienne, and Nereide grounded, and it was found impossible to get them off, though the utmost gallantry was displayed.—After two days unavailing exertion, under the fire of the heavy batteries, Captain Pym abandoned all hope of being able to get off the Sirius and Magicienne, and they were burnt.—The situation in which the Nereide grounded, enabled the enemy to turn the whole fire of their ships on her, but even in this unequal contest, Captain Willoughby continued to fight her to the last extremity, till every officer and man on board were either killed or wounded. All the enemy's ships were driven on shore, but one of the frigates was afterwards got off, and being joined by three others from Port Louis, they blockaded the Iphigenia at her anchorage under Isle of Passe, on which Island (it having been previously garrisoned by us) the crews of the Sirius and Magicienne were landed.—“I trust, Sir,” concludes Capt. Pym, “although my enterprise has been truly unfortunate, that no possible blame can be attached to any one; and never did Captains, officers, and men, go into action with a greater certainty of victory; and I do aver, that if I could have got alongside the Bellona, all the enemy's ships would have been in our possession in less than half an hour.”

This Gazette contains also accounts of the following captures:—Le Renard French privateer, of 6 guns and 24 men, by the Quebec, Capt. Hawtayne:—La Caroline French privateer, of 1 gun and 42 men, by the Saracen sloop, Capt. Bluett:—and Le Mamelouck French lugger privateer, of 16 guns and 45 men, by the Rosario sloop, Capt. Harvey.—The Rosario had to contend with another French lugger at the same time, which got off. The British had seven men wounded.

BANKRUPTCIES SUPERSEDED.

T. S. Williams, of Liverpool, merchant.
P. Phillips and H. Moncalai, of Whitechapel, hardwaremen.

BANKRUPTS.

J. Bramley, Essex-wharf, Strand, coal-merchant.
F. Epps, Seven Oaks, Kent, ironmonger.
J. Shipp, Walcot, Somersetshire, carpenter.
J. Robinson, Dalston, Cumberland, cotton-spinner.
R. Hawkshhead, Manchester, cotton-manufacturer.
W. Hooper, Ringwood, Hants, scrivener.
J. Papps, Beckington, Somersetshire, dyer.
R. Parkes, Birmingham, currier.
J. Jones, Hastings, Sussex, linen-draper.
W. Strong, Bath, saddler.
A. and J. Flint, of Stramshall, Staffordshire, cotton-spinners.
E. Acton, of Manchester, corn-factor.
D. Tyson, of Liverpool, merchant.
J. How, of Worthing, Sussex, plumber and glazier.
A. Bazley, of Okehampton, Devon, grocer.
R. Ashton, of Bideford, Devon, linen-draper.
J. Hume, of Bath, Somerset, bookseller.
W. A. Spurrier, of Bristol, mercer.
G. Chatfield, of Westbourne, Sussex, fellmonger.
S. Gowland, of the Commercial-road, Middlesex, shoemaker.
M. Rowed of Mitcham, Surrey, coal-merchant.
J. G. Weddell, Fen-court, Fenchurch-street, corn-factor.
J. Orrell, of Manchester, cotton-manufacturer.
T. Richardson, Southbersted, Sussex, brewer.
J. Edwards, Liverpool, merchant.
B. Hill, of Enfield, Middlesex, linen-draper.
E. M. Carey, Liverpool, merchant.
W. Maddock, Liverpool, soapboiler.
J. Waterhouse, Union-street, Mary-le-bone, upholsterer.
J. Lemaire, Mary-le-bone-street, Piccadilly, victualler.
Z. Fry, Canterbury, woolstapler.
H. H. F. Williams and M. Wilson, Liverpool, merchants.
R. Cowell, Smithfield Bars, salesman.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The Editor begs leave to decline the offer of Dr. K.
J. H. in reply to Capt. MASON'S Defender, next week.
VIATOR has been received, and shall appear as soon as possible. Many other Communications are still delayed for want of room.
Notices to other Correspondents next week.

PRICE OF STOCKS ON SATURDAY.

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

THE EXAMINER.

LONDON, DECEMBER 16.

The most important intelligence of the past week is a full confirmation of the reported increase of revolutionary feeling in Spanish America. The example of the Caracas has roused the whole province of New Granada, which has already elected its own temporary governors, and lifts up a determined voice against oppression without bursting into republican fanaticism. The *Times* newspaper wishes to attribute "this revolutionary fervour" to some disparaging expressions uttered by one JOSE LOPEZ, a Span-

niard; and would persuade us that as it is a matter "between Spaniard and Spaniard," Englishmen have nothing to do with it. The *Times*, while it warmly advocates the cause of Spanish independence against France, has long displayed a singular irritability on the score of any revolt from Spanish tyranny; as if liberty and despotism varied according to their possessors, or an oppressed inhabitant of America had not as great a claim to freedom as his oppressor! It is the business of an Englishman to wish every body free, and to do all that lies in his power to make him so. The dispute with our American provinces, which terminated in their just separation from us, might have been said to be between Englishman and Englishman; but was a foreign lover of freedom not to interfere with it on that account? With what face the Spaniards of the Old World can demand their freedom, while they refuse it to those of the New, would be difficult to discover, were it not common for the selfish or shortsighted of all nations to be guilty of the same inconsistencies. The cities of Monte Video and Buenos Ayres, we are told, are unhappily at variance, and the revolutionists are lighting up a horrible civil war: but how shameless is it to attribute the miseries of revolution to the oppressed instead of the oppressor! Whatever the civil war may be, it will be owing entirely to Old Spain, or rather to a few corrupt Spaniards in office, who would shed torrents of blood rather than lose their respective little despotisms. Such is the interference, and such only, that ought to be deprecated; and the reader, who wishes to see it nipped if possible in the bud, will be gratified to hear that General MIRANDA left England some weeks ago, and has by this time perhaps made his appearance among his countrymen. May this excellent patriot, whose conduct, in forsaking the French when they forsook freedom for conquest, proved his love of rational freedom, see the flame, which he has helped to keep alive, spread all over Spanish America—not to destroy, but to vivify; not to burn up knowledge and humanity as the Spaniards have done, but to cherish and enlighten them—

And on the sightless eyeball pour the day.

Dispatches were yesterday morning received from Lord WELLINGTON, dated Cartaxo, the 1st inst. There had been no change in the positions of either army since the last dispatch from his Lordship. His Lordship, it is asserted, expresses much confidence and satisfaction in the state of his army.

Intelligence from Lisbon was received in town on Wednesday. MASSENA maintains his position at Santarem, and Lord WELLINGTON that at Cartaxo, where his head-quarters were fixed at the date of the former advices. A considerable body of the French army having crossed the Zozere, had collected at Punhete, preparatory, as it was conjectured, to the investment of the city of Abrantes—from which, Punhete is distant only a few miles. It is now believed even at Lisbon, that the reports of MASSENA'S imminent distress for provisions, were wholly untrue.

In truth, Lord WELLINGTON himself appears to have been completely duped regarding the real state of the French army, which the public have been told by his Lordship were reduced to extreme distress, "possessing only the ground on which they stood." On that ground they remained for some weeks, unmolested by an army of superior force—in the face of which they have retreated with inconsiderable loss—and the passage of the Zezere, which the public was taught to believe difficult, if not impracticable, is effected by MASSENA, with as little difficulty as that of the Tagus by Gen. HILL.

The *Courier* observes, that if the campaign in Portugal should be protracted through the winter, Lord WELLINGTON must be already considered eminently successful!—We cannot perceive what the writer understands, or would communicate by such a remark. Of what materials is this fancied success composed? We have always believed that Lord WELLINGTON'S object was to defend Portugal against French invasion, and, although we may have erred in supposing our Government to have had any rational object whatever, it hardly becomes their advocates to reproach us for our credulity. If, indeed, it be yet contended, that this object has been accomplished, we would simply ask for its signs. Was it in the rapidity and devastation of a retreat, or in compressing the congregated population of the country within limits, which rendered the supply of sustenance at once difficult, precarious and expensive? Or shall we seek for it in the cheering prospect of the enemy's reinforcement, and our Commander's undisputed possession of Lisbon and its environs till the approaching spring? If this be termed the defence of a country, the Portuguese or any other people may well exclaim, "God preserve us from such defenders," *Non tali auxilio.*—*Morning Chronicle.*

LUCIEN BONAPARTE and his family and suite, consisting of 34 persons, are arrived at Plymouth in the President frigate, which was sent to Malta to bring them to this country. The frigate being put under quarantine, he has not yet landed; he is in good health, and the *Courier* says that he is "extremely pleased with the manner in which he has been treated since he has been under our protection."

Dispatches have been received by Government from Gibraltar up to the 26th ult. by which it appears that a formidable insurrection against the French had broken out in the Province of Granada, with every prospect of success. Velez, Malaga, and 23 of the neighbouring towns and villages, were in arms, and some ships of war have gone from Gibraltar and Ceuta to assist the patriots, and to supply them with arms. The dispatches state, that the fever has totally disappeared at Gibraltar.

Intelligence was on Friday received of the loss of three British frigates in the harbour Sud Est, in the Isle of France, into which they had proceeded with the characteristic intrepidity of British seamen, for the purpose of making an attack on a French squadron. The frigates unfortunately grounded and could not be got off. The *Neriede*, Captain WILLUGHBY, sustained with the most heroic courage the whole fire of the enemy for a considerable time, and continued the contest until every man on board was either killed or wounded. The other two frigates, the *Sirius* and *Magicienne*, were destroyed to prevent their falling into the hands of the enemy. It appears that Captain Willoughby alone gained his al-

lotted station, and engaged singly the whole French squadron, consisting of the *Minerva*, *Bellone*, *Victor*, *Windham*, and *Ceylon* (the two latter captured Indiamen) together with about sixty pieces of cannon, mounted on the batteries, in a manner that perhaps history cannot equal. The action lasted many hours, until ten at night, when the *Neriede* was taken possession of by a boat from the enemy, after having lost two hundred and sixty men, killed and wounded, and driven the whole of the enemy's squadron on shore as well as herself.—The accounts state that Captain Willoughby lost an eye, and was badly hurt about the head, but resolved that the English flag should never be struck while he had a man able to fire a gun; he would not leave her, when a boat from the *Sirius* was sent for the purpose, but declared he would not abandon his wounded shipmates. The *Iphigenia* took refuge in the Isle de Pas, and was there blockaded by the French squadron. Little probability exists of her safety. She had only provisions and water to hold out a week. Captain Lambert had refused to surrender at discretion, but offered to capitulate on being allowed to carry away the whole of the people on shore, and the *Iphigenia* to a British port. The answer of the enemy had not been received, but it is very easy to foresee that this proposal will not be accepted.

The *Ceylon* and *Windham* Indiamen were captured by some French frigates in the Mosambique Channel, when on their passage from the Cape to India, in company with two or three other ships. All of them had troops on board, for India. The *Windham* was afterwards retaken by the *Sirius*, but all the troops had been shifted from her on board of the French frigates.

Troops taken on Board the Windham.

3 Lieutenants, 1 Ensign, 5 Serjeants, 154 rank and file of different regiments.

Troops taken on Board the Ceylon.

1 Major-General, 1 Lieut.-Colonel, 2 Captains, 6 Lieutenants, 1 Surgeon, 16 Serjeants, 254 troops.

Officers Names who are made Prisoners.

Major-Gen. Wetherall, Lieut.-Col. Meyrick; Capts. Hughes and Blake, 24th foot; Lieuts. Kelly, Doolen, Blake, Gridley, Ferris, Brooksbank, ditto; Weatherall, 92d; Pearsonage, 24th; Preastley; Surgeon Featherston; Ensign Connel.

The *Boadicea* was chased and got into Bourbon. The *Ranger* transport, and *Havock* gun-brig, were taken. Admiral BEATIE was cruising in a frigate, and it was even feared that he might also be captured.—All this is passing strange!

Monday, at the Middlesex Sessions, 11 persons appeared before the Court, and applied for licences to become Preachers of the Gospel. It appeared that they were persons in obscure stations of life. The Chairman (Mr. MAINWARING) expressed great reluctance in complying with their desire, on account of their unsuitness for the sacred office they were about to enter upon, and a suspicion that their object was to evade the militia laws, and other public duties, from which Ministers are exempt. He admitted the claims of some, and rejected others, on account of not being of sufficient age.

The late HELY HUTCHINSON was of such a soliciting disposition, that the Marquis TOWNSEND, when Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, said of him—"If England and Ireland were given to this person, he would solicit the Isle of Man for a potatoe-garden."

The Gazettes are still fruitful in distress. The numerous bankruptcies form a dismal picture to the eye of the peaceful merchant! There never was a Minister (before *Wm. Pitt*) at the head of the affairs of this once flourishing country, who made war the immediate interest and the strong desire of its merchants! They supported him in the phrenzy, and they now reap the fruits of the policy.

On Friday morning, about six o'clock, part of the Dover Cliffs fell into the engineer's work-yard, near the Guildford Battery, by which several houses have been totally demolished, and the wife of Mr. POOLE, one of the foremen in the engineer's department, and six children, were killed! Every assistance that could be given was attended to by Sir DAVID RAE, Senior Officer of the Garrison. An alarm was given a few minutes before it fell: Mr. POOLE had partly dressed himself and went to call his wife and family when the fall took place; he was about half way buried, but was dug out by the labourers and soldiers, and hopes are entertained of his recovery. The wife and four of the children's bodies are dug out of the ruins. Upwards of fifty soldiers are employed clearing away the rubbish, and endeavouring to find the other bodies.

The Governors of the British Institution have elected as President, in the room of the late Earl of DARTMOUTH, his Royal Highness the Prince of WALES. The Marquis of STAFFORD was elected the Deputy President.

On Monday last, being the Anniversary of the institution of the Royal Academy, in a General Assembly of Academicians the following Gentlemen were elected Officers for the ensuing year:—

PRESIDENT—Benjamin West, Esq.

VISITORS—W. Owen, H. Thomson, J. Nollekens, J. Northcote, and S. Woodforde, Esqrs.

SUCCEEDED BY ROTATION TO THE COUNCIL.—A. W. Callcott, J. M. W. Turner, J. Soane, and C. Rossi, Esqrs.

AUDITORS—G. Dance and J. Farington Esqrs.

Silver Medals were given to the following Students:

Mr. C. W. Ross, for the best Drawing of an Academy Figure.

Mr. J. Linnell, for the best Model of an Academy Figure.

Mr. Louis Vulliamy, for the best Architectural Drawing.

THE KING'S ILLNESS.

MEDICAL BULLETINS.

!! Windsor Castle, Dec. 9,

"His Majesty has had several hours sleep, and appears better than he was any part of yesterday."

"Windsor Castle, Dec. 10.

"His Majesty is quite as well as he was yesterday, though he has passed a night with little sleep."

"Windsor Castle, Dec. 11.

"The King has had a very good night, and is better this morning."

"Windsor Castle, Dec. 12, 1810.

"His Majesty has passed a good night, and appears much the same as he was yesterday."

"Windsor Castle, Dec. 13, 1810.

"His Majesty has had but little sleep, and is much the same as he was yesterday."

"Windsor Castle, Dec. 14.

"His Majesty has passed a good night, and is much the same this day as he was yesterday."

"Windsor Castle, Dec. 15, 1810.

"His Majesty has passed a tolerably good night, and is quite as well as he was yesterday."

The examination of Dr. REYNOLDS by the Committee

of the House of Commons on Friday lasted three hours. Dr. REYNOLDS has attended his MAJESTY on all the four occasions of similar indisposition, and therefore it is supposed his examination was carried to more length. Dr. BAILLIE, who had not attended his MAJESTY on any of the preceding attacks, was only half an hour under examination.

"When his MAJESTY'S blindness first rendered him unable to read for himself any public document, or to sign it, unless the paper were put before him by another, and his hand guided to the particular place where the signature should appear, a person was employed as his *private Secretary*: such an appointment, as intended to remedy a deficiency in the royal powers, was, to say the least, a novelty. In addition to blindness, his MAJESTY is now afflicted with *deafness*, and we are told he is liable to have his reason deranged by *anxiety of mind*;—would it not then be more conformable to the character of our Constitution, that the proper authorities should take into their consideration his MAJESTY'S peculiar condition, and devise such permanent relief and assistance as his infirmities render necessary? At present, the KING and his people are each of them cast on the honesty of those who may happen to be Ministers:—this is not right; we ought to have some regular and constitutional security, that advantage shall not be taken of the Sovereign's afflictions, by those who are around his person, to promote their own petty personal interests, by misrepresenting public affairs, and deceiving the KING, to the injury of his subjects. It cannot be doubted that, as matters have been managed of late, this might be done; and if any discredit the integrity of the administration, such can have no confidence that it has not been done, unless it be supplied by the danger of the attempt. The present seems a proper opportunity for the Legislature to take his MAJESTY'S condition into consideration; and we do hope that some public spirited Member, undismayed by any imputation which may be cast upon his "*delicacy*," will introduce the subject, and recommend such measures as a regard to the Crown and to the Country may render proper to be adopted, even should the violence of his MAJESTY'S present malady give way to the efforts of medicine."—*Stamford News*.

THEATRICAL EXAMINER.

No. 84.

COVENT-GARDEN.

AFTER the despicable farce, at the Lyceum, of *Transformation, or Love and Law*, for which, I understand, the lovers of decency are to thank Mr. ALLINGHAM, people heard with some little pleasure that the new afterpiece, about to come forward, was from the pen of Mr. COLMAN; not that they expected any very superior delicacy, or even piquant humour, from the lees of that gentleman's fancy, but because they hoped at least to enjoy a hearty laugh or two at something worthy of moving their risible muscles. The piece was produced on Tuesday last, under the title of *X. Y. Z.*; and in spite of the general wishes to be pleased with Mr. COLMAN, added to the performance of LITTON, FAWCETT, and EMERY, was little less than damned. The plot, of which something might be made, though it is by no means original, turns upon the mysteries and mistakes of advertising. A sort of Country

Squire (Lisbon) comes to town with the intention of getting a wife, and advertises for one in the papers with the signature of X. Y. Z., which signature had been also chosen by a Manager of a Country Theatre (Fawcett) in advertising for an actress. The reader sees the rest. Two equivoques take place, in which the Squire, in one scene, plays at cross-purposes with the Actress (Mrs. Davenport); and the Manager, in another, with the Attorney (Blanchard) who acts for the marrying party. The under plot consists of the old intrigues of an Officer to run away with a Ward, and is assisted by a personage, who promises at the commencement something of Mr. Colman's former humour,—a Yorkshire Vagabond, who tells every body a story of his being "an orphan left by lamented parents." This is the only touch of originality, or rather shadow of a touch, throughout the farce. The mysteries are all seen beforehand; the mistakes and jokes anticipated; and the puns fairly groaned at for their villainous antiquity. The public have long seen with great regret the decay of Mr. Colman's humour, but they see, with still greater, his prurency increasing with his years. If he will not let us admire his old age, he need not take pains to make us despise it.

This production, wretched as it is and unworthy to be produced in any theatre, has nevertheless become a subject of litigation in the Court of Chancery. After being performed two nights, it was withdrawn in consequence of an injunction obtained by Mr. Colman's brother Managers of the Haymarket. Mr. Colman, it is said, had sold it to the Managers of Covent Garden Theatre after it had become the property of the Haymarket by regular and long-standing agreement. The disputes on this head are old and notorious. It appears unaccountable at first sight to people in general, why he should thus sacrifice the interests of his own theatre to those of another; but unluckily, such Managers as Mr. Colman do not long make the interest of their theatre their own. Their idle habits and involvements first impoverish the concern, and then, if they want ready money, they must carry their writings elsewhere. Ready money is the inspiring motive,—the *præsens divus*,—of all such persons; and is well understood, I believe, to be the only remaining sharpener both of Mr. Colman's and Mr. Sheridan's wits.

ANTOINE DUBOST AND WILLIAM COBBETT.

MR. EXAMINER,—The *Edinburgh Reviewers*, in a late number of their work, hinted that they possessed the singular power of making certain writers (the *Quarterly Review Gentlemen*) advocate just what sentiments they pleased, merely by their taking an opposite view of the subjects discussed. This same power, Sir, I am quite satisfied you now possess over the variable though yet valiant Mr. Cobbett; and I put in his defences of *Sir R. Phillips* and the *Frenchman Dubost*, as proofs of my assertion.

That Mr. Cobbett is what is termed "a very keen fellow," cannot be disputed; but even this very keen fellow has of late done certain things, which prove, if proof were wanting, that *shrewdness* and *wisdom* are qualities altogether distinct in their natures. To be sure, when the bad passions come into play, even wise men at times trip most sully; and I can only account for Mr. Cobbett's Defence of *Dubost* (see his *Register* of last Wednesday) by

supposing, that he was at the moment suffering under the pain of divers strokes inflicted upon him by a certain *Examiner*, who has, fortunately for the cause of Reform, though unfortunately for the credit of its selfish advocates, proved that impostors shall not strut in the garb of patriotism undetected and unexposed.

As for *Sir Richard*, you have yourself, Sir, mentioned powerful reasons why Mr. Cobbett stands forth the champion of that miserable quack; but his monstrous Defence of the French Painter has excited, if possible, a still more general feeling of contempt; for certainly never was there a more worthless subject or a less worthy motive. How, Sir, did this Frenchman act? Why, having a quarrel with Mr. Hope (for a real or imaginary offence—let us suppose real) instead of confining his resentments to the men who had caused them, he paints a caricature, in which he introduces *Mrs. Hope*, as a female who had suffered herself to be united to a *Beast* on account of his great wealth;—thus holding up her and her relatives (the Archbishop of Tuam and other respectable persons) as objects for derision and scorn, if not for contempt and hatred.

Such, Sir, are the simple facts, viewed in the light most favourable to *Dubost*; for I have not dwelt upon the well-known circumstance, that Mr. Hope gave him no just cause for offence, but, on the contrary, rewarded him infinitely beyond his merits. Yet this is the man whom Mr. Cobbett is endeavouring to shield and to shelter;—this is the man whom that consistent Reformer is holding up to the public as worthy their support;—this is the man, whose assertions are to be taken for truth, although he has been convicted, upon the fullest proof, of grossly libelling an unoffending Lady, and of adding ingratitude to injustice.

But then *Mr. Dubost*, who is called by Mr. Cobbett "a very eminent French painter" (hold your sides, Messrs. Connoisseurs), has written a letter to the *Morning Post*, "which (says he) the impartial and just reader will be glad to see inserted here;" so, because the "very eminent French painter" has written a letter to the *Post*, his exposures must doubtless be partial and unjust! Never was there a more logical conclusion; never were cause and effect so rationally, so philosophically traced. Let us, however, Mr. Editor, hear this Caricaturist; for, if his word is to be taken, he seems to be infinitely more desirous of being thought "a very eminent" jockey, than of being deemed "a very eminent" artist. I copy from the *Register*, not the *Post*:—

"Sir,—As I had no opportunity of replying on the occasion of the late trial, I feel myself called on to publish the correspondence between me and Mr. Hope, which, together with my Appeal published against the calumnies of a Sunday Paper, will convey to the public some idea of the cause of my quarrel with that Gentleman. The *Press* being the only medium through which I can defend myself, I trust your liberality will give insertion to the few following facts. It will appear by them at least, that I am neither the "BEGGAR nor the RUFFIAN" I have been described. It is imperative on me to state that I am a native of Lyons; that my family was of the first respectability and fortune in France, previous to the Revolution; part of which fortune was lost in the general confusion of that period. I was well known at Paris, during the imprisonment of Sir Sidney Smith, not only as an artist, but as a gentleman who mixed in the best society, and as a sportsman of no little celebrity. The present coachman of Sir Sidney Smith was my groom for two years, and if I advance an untruth, he is in this country to contradict my assertion. I came to England as an amateur of horses, and as a professional and

to study the finest models of that animal to be seen in the world. The attentions which I received from numbers of the most respectable people in this country, induced me to make my stay longer; and I have now unfortunately a cause pending in the Court of Chancery, the protracted termination of which delays my departure. I have attracted the obloquy of many, by defending myself against the severe injury inflicted on me: I have, I hope, a mind able to despise the undeserved slanders by which I have been assailed.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

ANTOINE DUBOST.

London, Dec. 10, 1810.

Nothing certainly can be more keen and convincing! Behold this pictorial Niurod,—this “sportsman of no little CELEBRITY,” (a true copy),—this “gentleman who mixed in the best society” in Paris,—appealing to a groom for the truth of his assertions!—It was this touch of equality which no doubt fixed the vagrant esteem of Mr. Cobbett, whose stable habits and manners must have made him yearn in sympathetic sorrow for his convicted friend, the suffering *Antoine*. Amiable and matchless pair,—may your fortunes be equal to your fame!

A few words more, Mr. Editor, and I have done. Mr. Cobbett knows just as much of the arts as he does of the languages, and his bold opinions on such subjects only shew his utter ignorance of them. The man has no self-knowledge, Sir: he supposes that he possesses a universal genius, but he is, after all, little better than a superficial observer, and a bold talker:—

“An haberdasher of small wares
In politics and state-affairs.

* * * * *

For though his topics, frail and weak,
Could ne'er amount above a freak,
He still maintained 'em, like his faults,
Against the desp'ratest assaults,
And back'd their feeble want of sense
With greater heat and confidence;
As bones of Hector's, when they differ,
The more they're cudgell'd, grow the stiffer:
Yet, when his profit moderated,
The fury of his heat abated;
For nothing but his interest,
Could lay his devil of contest.”

HUMPHRES.

Mr. Cobbett may talk very well too upon the proportions of a pigstye, but of the merits of a painter let him not speak. As to *Dubost*, ask any judge of art in what rank he should be placed: they will tell you, that he is not even “eminent” as a French painter, the best of whom, David not excepted, are far below our English Artists. I only desire those who may have doubts about *Dubost's* professional merits, to seek for information, for as to his moral character, after the facts proved upon the trial, I am certain that no one man of feeling and of honour considers him in any other light than that of a needy adventurer, destitute of both; and I leave your readers, Sir, to judge which is the most despicable of the two,—the man who, to gratify his revenge, will unjustly and basely wound the feelings of an unoffending female,—or the person who voluntarily steps forward as the public advocate of such a miscreant?—Your's truly,

Westminster, Dec. 14.

A REFORMIST.

IRISH CATHOLICS.

Demi-official Statement of the Case of the Roman Catholic Militiaman, published in one of the Journals in the pay and under the controul of the Irish Administration.

“We have minutely investigated the circumstances of the soldier's case, whom Mr. O'Connell represented to the Catholic Committee to have been tried and transported for attending a Chapel; and the result has been, that the man was not tried for any such offence, nor was he transported. With that candour, which shall ever regulate our proceedings with the public, we shall now declare the facts, which actually occurred, and which have been thus malignantly distorted. In the month of July last, a Roman Catholic Soldier refused to attend a Protestant place of Worship, and in consequence of the manner of his refusal, he was confined to the black-hole. During his confinement he addressed a very strong letter of remonstrance to the Commanding Officer, the language of which was so disrespectful and of so mutinous a tendency, that for this letter he was brought to a Court Martial, and sentenced to receive ONE THOUSAND LASHES. This punishment he commuted for service for life in a foreign corps.—A Memorial was laid before the Commander of the Forces, detailing all these particulars, and his Lordship being of opinion that the punishment awarded WAS EXCESSIVE, the Soldier was instantly discharged from confinement in the Isle of Wight, in order that he might return to his duty in the regiment of militia he had belonged to.—For the accuracy of these facts we can pledge ourselves. Whatever opinion we may entertain of the severity of the sentence, and of ordering a Roman Catholic Soldier to Church, knowing as we do, that it is contrary to the regulation, the humane and equitable conduct of the Commander of the Forces makes it superfluous for us to enlarge on the subject. But it is hereby most satisfactorily ascertained to the army, that if the lowest individual in rank feel himself aggrieved, he may depend upon being redressed by applying in a respectful manner to the proper authorities, and that the interference of a Catholic Committee upon military transactions is at once a most unnecessary and unconstitutional intrusion. We trust, therefore, that as the present was the first, so it will be the last, exhibition of such interference, and that we shall bear no more of subscriptions to overawe Courts Martial, and make the Mutiny Bill of no effect.”

It must naturally occur to the Reader to ask the mighty rulers of the land, by what authority the Commanding Officer of the regiment dared to order or request or even to intreat an Irish Roman Catholic Militiaman to attend any mode of worship repugnant to his conscience? Can any man pretend that he had been ignorant of those statutes which relieved our countrymen from the malignant thralldom of intolerance; or can any man say that it was not a crime to endeavour to drive, by the influence of his military authority, a Catholic protector of his country from that source of happiness which is to be found in the asylum of religion? As well might the Commander order the unfortunate man to murder his Pastor; because both cases are offences against the common rights of nature, and the positive laws of the land. The right of the Militiaman to worship his God according to his conscience is undisputed; and as the words of the refusal are not given, it is impossible to say whether or not the answer was offensive, and therefore such as would justify a trial by Court Martial.—The statement mentions, that to order a Roman Catholic Militiaman to go to the Protestant Church is “contrary to the regulation, the humane and equitable conduct of the Commander of the Forces.” This assertion is not true. The right of the soldier is not the boon of the noble Commander, but it is the right of human nature, recognized by an Act of Parliament, which as yet is able to controul even his Lordship.—It may be asked, too, whether this officer, who illegally required the militiaman to go to a Protestant place of worship, has been brought to a Court Martial himself, for so flagrant and so dangerous a violation of the law?—If the Gentleman who

so grossly misconducted himself has not been reviewed by his superiors, why should it be expected that the law of the land ought to be silent, or that the real Patriots of the country should suffer the sacred rights of their fellow-subjects to be trampled on with impunity, by a frantic, a fool, or a bigot!—*Dublin Evening Post.*

RICHARD THROP, CAPTAIN MASON, AND THE LORD MAYOR.

DEPOSITION OF RICHARD THROP.

“London, December 15th, 1810.

“Voluntarily came before me this day Richard Throp, a Private in the 2d Royal Regiment Tower Hamlets Militia, who solemnly sweareth, the Charges he preferred before a Court of Enquiry against Colonel Matthew Smith and Adjutant William Mason, both of the aforementioned regiment, as well as those he afterwards exhibited before a General Court Martial against Captain Mason, he received by post from Liverpool, from an unknown person;—that he was actuated thereto by no motive whatever, but the good of his Majesty's service and the welfare and comfort of his comrades;—further this Deponent sweareth, the money he possessed for his discharge was his own property, lodged by himself in the hands of Mr. Robert Penfold, of Deptford, from whom he drew the same, and a deal more from his friends, at different times, for the sole purpose of enabling him to proceed in the Prosecutions abovenamed.—This Deponent also further sweareth, that he now stands indebted in the sum of FORTY-FIVE GUINEAS, for the able legal assistance he received, which was never (to his knowledge) remunerated by Drafts on any Banker. This deponent now sweareth, that his relative, Mr. Monk, was never authorised by him to negotiate for the purchase of his discharge, nor does he believe he ever did; having positive directions from him to the contrary—(and had this Deponent received his discharge, he never would have abandoned the prosecution). Further this Deponent sweareth, that the unsolicited passes he received, signed Major Forasteen, the Commanding Officer of his regiment, struck him with so much astonishment, that he suspected some deception; and therefore PARTICULARLY cautioned Mr. Monk to that effect, not to enter into any agreement with Benjamin Johnson (or any other person) in his behalf. Lastly, this Deponent sweareth, that so far from the charges before mentioned originating in a conspiracy, he never knew any thing of those charges until they came into his possession. This Deponent is compelled thus publicly to make affidavit, in order to exonerate himself from the imputations cast upon his character in the Examiner of Sunday last, by a person calling himself J. Mathew.

“Sworn at the Mansion House, London,

“Dec. 15, 1810.

“RICHARD THROP.”

[The LORD MAYOR's signature should have been added to the above Affidavit;—but, strange to tell, after Throp had been sworn, his Lordship observed to him, that he had himself been upon the Court-Martial which tried Capt. Mason,—that he knew his (Throp's) motive for making the affidavit, and that he would not sign it!—It remains to be seen, whether his Lordship has not in this case violated his Magisterial duties; that he has acted most indecently, there can be no doubt whatever.—These militia corruptions are indeed deeply rooted, when Chief Magistrates step forward in their favour; but the day of exposure is at hand.—*Exam.*]

133, Whitechapel-road, Dec. 12, 1810.

SIR,—My name having been most improperly introduced into your paper on the 9th inst. by a person who stiled himself J. Mathew, and who wrote a defence of Captain Mason,—I think it absolutely requisite to signify to you, that so far from negotiating for the discharge of my relative, Richard Throp (private 2nd R. R. T. H. M.), the instant Benjamin Johnson divulged the business to me, I positively declined the introduction of my name in any shape; adding, if Captain Mason, or any other Officer, wanted me, they knew my residence: further, I solemnly protest I never offered any money for that purpose, directly or indirectly, to any person, as Richard Throp suspected it to be a lure and cautioned me to that effect: yet, notwithstanding (to crush enquiry by obtaining Richard Throp's papers), the afore-mentioned Benjamin Johnson had the audacity to judge and present a memorial to one of the Field Officers of the aforementioned Regiment, for the purchase of Richard Throp's discharge, in which he stated it was at the request of myself and other relatives, ALL of which is FALSE.—I am, your's most obediently,

J. MONK.

MILITARY FLOGGING.

[FROM THE MORNING CHRONICLE.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MORNING CHRONICLE.

SIR,—In a day like the present, when reformation is so incessantly insisted upon, I am surprised that the existing mode of punishing military culprits by flagellation, has not attracted more of the notice of an enlightened public.

It certainly is a disgrace to a civilized country like that of Great Britain, to have in her military code a law which tolerates such a punishment to the extent often inflicted; and which, from its severity, frequently ruins the constitution of the unhappy victim, and sends him eventually to a premature grave. How must the heart of every friend of humanity revolt, when he is informed, that a sentence of 800 or a 1000 lashes has been put into execution on an unfortunate fellow-creature? Such a punishment is beyond the power of human nature to bear. I remember I once saw a letter, written by a soldier who had received 200 lashes, wherein he stated that he had been confined in the military hospital in consequence, nearly two months,—that his back was then literally a mass of corruption,—and that the professional gentlemen who attended him had declared it doubtful whether it would not have such an effect on his frame as to terminate in a consumption. If such be the fatal result of only 200 lashes, judge, Sir, of the situation of the man, who has endured 800 or 1000 lashes!

I beg to be understood that I am by no means an enemy to order and discipline. I am fully aware, that a regard to the laws ought to be enforced by proper penal sanctions. But judgment should at all times be tempered with mercy and moderation, and not be unnecessarily severe; for then, instead of having the desired effect, it will tend to harden the heart of the offender, and lead him to the commission of greater enormities.

I have before premised, that these general observations refer solely to the military. My only object is to draw the attention of the higher orders of society to the subject, by suggesting the propriety of limiting the number of lashes, if that mean and disgraceful mode of torture

is at all necessary and must be resorted to. To have it defined by legislative sanction for what offences it shall be inflicted, without leaving such a sentence so absolutely in the power and judgments of Courts-martial. I really conceive that this is a subject which is well deserving the notice of our representatives in Parliament, and loudly calls for discussion and reform. With a sincere desire that this cruel punishment may be either laid aside, or, if that be impracticable, that it may be inflicted more sparingly and with less severity, I am, your's, &c.

Brighton, Dec. 10, 1810.

AN ENGLISHMAN.

NAVAL MISMANAGEMENT.

The winds and seas are Britain's sole domain,
And not a sail without permission spreads.

SIR,—As an exemplification of the above lines of the poet, which one of our papers has adopted as the motto of its naval article, allow me to relate to you, and to the public, the following authentic history:—On the afternoon of Friday the 30th of November, six French lugger privateers made their appearance in the Bay of Seaford in Sussex, where they were permitted to spread their sails without molestation for almost four-and-twenty hours, till having, I imagine, satiated themselves with plunder, and sent off to their native ports several cargoes of British property, and what is worse, several crews of British sailors, they thought fit to return quietly to their homes in order to divide the spoil. A small sloop, which had left Newhaven harbour about an hour before, fell an easy prey; being boarded and sent off to France in the sight of a great number of spectators, whose feelings on the occasion it is not necessary to describe. Two other sloops preserved themselves from the same fate by running ashore, to their infinite hazard, on the rocks to the west of Newhaven; and two of the privateers were prevented from taking a fine brig which they had chased into the bay, by the exertions of Mr. Goldfinch, the officer at the Seaford signal station, who fired a cannon, which has lately been placed on the hill, with such effect as to deter them from continuing the pursuit, though they were at that time within musquet shot of their prey.

The luggers which had chased on shore the two sloops, had the audacity to fire twice at the people who were assembled on the heights at Newhaven, and they continued for hours so near the shore as to be heard talking to each other, and laughing at the bustle which their shots occasioned among the spectators.

Such was the state of affairs when the day closed upon us, but as there were several sail of coasting vessels seen bearing up from the westward, there is no doubt but the night was more propitious to their enterprises than the day had been. In the morning not a sail was to be seen in the offing excepting one of the luggers, which was perceived at a distance returning in triumph to her home.

The heights of Seaford command a most extensive sea view; the whole coast from Selsey Bill to Beachy Head spreads out on either side, and as it is the highest land on the Sussex coast, excepting Beachy, it of course commands a view across the sea of very considerable extent. Yet during the whole of Friday, and I believe the whole morning of Saturday, not one of our cruisers were in sight, though the signal for an enemy was flying at Seaford for hours on the afternoon of the former day.

I shall at present content myself with this relation of the facts, reserving my comments for a future opportunity; for should you deem this letter worthy of your notice, I shall trouble you with some further communications on the same subject,—a subject in my opinion of the greatest importance, both as it concerns the commercial interests of our countrymen, and as it concerns the safety and happiness of our brave tars, who now, after enduring all the hardships of their profession, after braving the fury of the winds and the seas, and perhaps in sight of the very shore where their wives and children are anxiously watching their return,—are too often dragged away to a foreign prison, there to sicken and to die at a distance from every friend, or to draw out their years of youth and health in a lingering state of banishment, woe, and misery. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Lewes, Dec. 5, 1810.

A SOUTH SAXON.

TAX GATHERERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR,—So much has been said and written upon the subject of Taxes, and their oppressive influence upon the greater portion of the community, that it would be a mere waste of time to attempt to prove what is so generally acknowledged and felt. But so little has been observed upon the mode of collecting these taxes, and the general conduct of Collectors, that I feel myself fully warranted in submitting the result of my own observations to the perusal of your readers.

I reside in a neighbourhood abounding in small houses, chiefly occupied by poor people, and who, for the most part, are unable to pay their Taxes when they are first called for; they are also ignorant of the duties of Tax-gatherers. It therefore not unfrequently happens that said Collectors violate their duty with impunity. I shall content myself, however, with the relation of one instance, out of many, in the person of a worthy Collector, who is indeed the terror and dismay of all the little housekeepers in the vicinity of Blackman-street, Borough. When this publican and sinner sallies forth from his shop, with pen and ink dangling from a button, the poor women stand at their doors in trembling anxiety, lest their little stock should be seized upon ere their husbands return to their dinners. With the voice of a lion in quest of prey, he roars out for instant payment, or threatens instant ruin. But as one fact is worth twenty assertions, I submit the following:—P. is a Tax-collector in the Borough of Southwark; B. is a poor woman who keeps a small house in the neighbourhood; P. calls upon B. for 17s. 6d. Taxes; *swears* he had often called before. B. not having the money, requests P. to wait, whilst she stepped out to borrow it: when she returned with the money, P. produces a warrant of distraint, and demand six and twenty shillings! B. not being prepared for this new demand, and unable to comply with it, P., assisted by a broker, seizes upon her goods, and sells them to pay all expenses, no previous notice having been given! Shall we, Mr. Examiner, see and hear such proceedings as these, and not dare to name them? Have we not still sufficient liberty of the press left us to permit a simple statement of the grievances of our unprotected fellow-creatures? I have no desire to exaggerate. But were I asked, what is the real cause of disaffection, I should reply, that, next to the pressure of

taxation; the conduct of Collectors is calculated to excite a serious and alarming discontent in the minds of the middle and lower classes of society. Redress, I know, may, with much difficulty, be obtained. But by whom? Not by the poor woman above alluded to; and the rich are not much in the habit of concerning themselves in any such matters. Nevertheless, it is not improbable but some measures may speedily be taken; although I am informed that, unless embezzlement can be proved, these gentlemen are appointed for life. If this be the fact, it is very desirable that such men may not be long-lived. As I hope shortly to address you again on the Southwark subject, I beg leave to subscribe myself, your's, &c.

PHILO-JUSTITIA.

SIR RICHARD PHILLIPS.

SIR.—It gives me singular satisfaction to be able to afford you an opportunity of correcting the misstatements of some of your late Correspondents, who have thought proper to interest themselves very warmly in the affairs of Sir Richard Phillips. I have this day attended a meeting of Sir Richard's Creditors in Guildhall, and I am sure it would have given you heartfelt satisfaction, as it appeared to give every one present, to have observed the looks and heard the gratulations of the Creditors then present, when it was demonstrated to them, upon the most moderate calculation, that a surplus would remain to the Bankrupt, after every one had received 20s. in the pound, of 57,889l. 18s. 6d. in which calculation no account is made of the following items, viz.—“Book debts, considered bad or doubtful, 4,919l. 0s. 4d.; Copy-rights, MSS. &c. which cost 115,000l. valued at only 38,534l. leaving a balance of 76,466l.; debts due from Bankrupt's estates, and bills in hand on which dividends may be received, amounting to 19,376l. 14s. 6d.; supposed profit on the sale of stock 16,000l.; and on works in hand 6000l.” By this statement you will perceive, that had it been thought necessary, from the amount of debts proved, or remaining to be proved, to make out a statement still more favourable to the Bankrupt, the above-named surplus sum might have been stated at 180,646l. 11s. 4d. in which account I have not included some items of value and importance; as I am anxious rather to give you a statement under than over Sir Richard's clear surplus. The amount of debts expected to have been proved or claimed amount to 106,689l. 3s. 3d.; but the debts actually proved are upwards of 35,000l. short of this sum. I must again be allowed to say, that you will derive pleasure from this information; and I myself heard a gentleman inform the Commissioners, that the above estimate of stock was full 20 per cent. below its value in the trade; and one of the Assignees assured me that Sir Richard's stock, &c. is estimated at not less than 30 per cent. lower than the very lowest wholesale value.

I am certain that you will not hesitate to give this Letter a place in your Paper, from the circumstance of your having admitted Communications of a directly opposite tendency.—I am, Sir, your's,

JOSEPH NIGHTINGALE,
One of Sir R. P.'s Creditors,

No. 17, Spencer-street, Northampton-square,
Dec. 8, 1810.

P. S. It is worth observing, that not a single Creditor present, whose debt had been proved, made the slightest objection to signing the Certificate on the spot; and that considerably more than the necessary amount, in value, has already signed.

CASE OF THE IMPRISONED PRINTERS.

SIR.—Having observed my name in the Examiner among the other printers prosecuted by Messrs. Walter, proprietors of the Times newspaper, and feeling unconscious of any delinquency on my part, I hope you will permit me to offer a few

words on the subject.—I know, Sir, how improper it would be in me to call in question the stern integrity of a British Jury, or the impartial administration of justice from the bench; yet, I hope I may be permitted to state a few facts in defence of my character against the calumnies of the prosecutors.—You are acquainted, Sir, with the issue of our trial; but as the evidence given thereon is not yet ready to present to the public in a fair and impartial manner, I shall content myself with observing, that my name was not uttered by any one witness produced; and though it may be unnecessary for me to protest against allegations that were not substantiated by evidence, I do most solemnly declare, that I was never privy to, or concerned in, any one act that could give a colour for the disgraceful charge of conspiracy; my whole crime (if I must call it such) consisted in soliciting of the Prosecutors an increase of wages in some proportion to the exigencies of the times, which had been acceded to by the Book Master Printers; my solicitation was treated contemptuously by them, and I gave the usual notice (14 days) to leave their employ, and quitted accordingly at the expiration of that period—a practice which had been mutually acted upon by Masters and Journeymen for at least half a century: nor upon quitting their employ, or subsequently, did I receive any invitation, either directly or indirectly, to continue or return; but after pursuing my business peaceably for upwards of two months, the Prosecutor obtained a Bill of Indictment against me and others, pregnant with the foulest charges, such as my soul abhors; and if my name had not been coupled with transactions of which I had no more knowledge than I have of what may be going on in the empire of China at this moment, that bill of indictment could not have been obtained against me, nor should I at this time have been shut up in a prison, and an amiable wife and five unoffending infants exposed—to what? God alone knows.—Upon this indictment however, I was pronounced guilty, (with the rest) as I before observed, without my name being mentioned in any part of the evidence, and committed to Newgate to be brought up for judgment the next session.—As soon as my mind was a little reconciled, I wrote to a gentleman at the bar, who advised an affidavit to be presented when we went up for judgment. This was accordingly formed; and as the most obnoxious part of the evidence seemed to arise from a department with which the compositors had not the smallest connection, it disclaimed all participation with that department, and Counsel was retained to plead in mitigation; but why no one did plead, I cannot tell the reasons, as I have not seen the Solicitor since our sentence; when the affidavit was delivered in court, but never read.—I know, Sir, to my sorrow, that I have nothing to do with the law now but to obey it. But, as if the dreadful sentence passed upon us by the RECORDER were not sufficient, it seems we are still doomed to be insulted and trampled upon by the base epithets and vile misrepresentations of the prosecutors, in their report of that sentence. What they are pleased to style us, is too contemptible to notice; but the address they have represented as spoken by Mr. RECORDER, I will beg leave to repeat. It is as follows:—

EXTRACT FROM THE TIMES OF THURSDAY, DEC. 13.

“Prisoners, you have been convicted of a most wicked conspiracy to injure the most vital interests of those very employers who gave you bread, with intent to impede and injure them in their business; and indeed, as far as in you lay, to effect their ruin.—The frequency of such crimes amongst men of your class in life, and their mischievous and dangerous tendency to ruin the fortunes of those employers, which a principle of gratitude and self-interest should induce you to support, demand of the law, that a severe example should be made of those persons who shall be convicted of such daring and flagitious combinations, in defiance of public justice, and in violation of social order. No symptom of contrition on your part has appeared—no abatement of the combination in which you are accomplices has yet resulted from the example of your conviction. Persons of your description must, therefore, be taught to feel the effects of that contumacy in which they presume to wrestle with the laws of the land, and to set up their daring combinations and wills against the good order and

well-being of society and the interests of honest industry in this country."

Now, Sir, the fact is, that Mr. Recorder left off at the first period, though the words were not exactly the same as the extract; where the *Times* obtained all the rest, I must leave your readers to conjecture. They likewise as falsely assert, that two of us begged hard for mercy: I conceive, Sir, a man unconscious of crime cannot ask for mercy (it would be committing suicide on his reputation) though death were to be the result; what I intended to ask (and I believe my words conveyed the meaning) was for justice; and my fellow-sufferer merely enquired, whether our sentence was to include the time we had already been imprisoned? To which he was answered by Mr. Recorder in the negative.—From this spirit of vindictiveness and misrepresentation on the part of the Prosecutors, (after they had succeeded in their designs against our liberties, our families, and every thing that was dear or valuable to us, life excepting), it may be seen plainly with whom and what we have had to contend. But, Sir, the subject is too afflictive for me to pursue further at present, and I will endeavour to reconcile my mind to these extraordinary circumstances by the conviction, that when all human dispensations of justice shall be no more, the accused and accusers will meet at another tribunal, on more equal terms.—Your most humble servant,

T. W.

Newgate, Dec. 14.

[It is only an act of justice to state, that the Writer of the above letter has been long known to the Superintendent of the *Examiner* Printing Office, as an industrious, sober, and altogether respectable man. That some of the men, with whom it has been his ill-fortune to be joined, have acted a very improper part, cannot be doubted; but it certainly would have become the Prosecutors to have acted with a less vehement and more discriminating spirit, throughout the whole affair.]

LAW.

COURT OF CHANCERY.

Wednesday, Dec. 12.

X. Y. Z.

Mr. SHADWELL applied to his Honour, on the part of the Proprietors of Covent-Garden Theatre, to suspend an injunction which had been obtained from the Chancellor by Mr. Morris, of the Haymarket Theatre, for preventing the acting of the new Farce X. Y. Z. The facts upon which Sir Samuel Romilly obtained the injunction were, that in the year 1805, Mr. Morris had entered into partnership with Mr. Colman, in the concern of the Haymarket Theatre; and that there was an engagement between them, that Mr. Colman should write only for the "Haymarket Theatre." After this piece had been given in, notice was sent by Mr. Morris to the Proprietors of Covent-Garden Theatre, that he intended to apply for an injunction to stop the representation of it. They proceeded notwithstanding, and therefore it was necessary to make the application. The Chancellor considering the injury that might result to the Covent-Garden Proprietors, from disappointing the expectations of the public, allowed the Farce to be acted last night; but granted the injunction to stop any further representation till he had heard the parties.

Mr. SHADWELL stated, that the Covent-Garden Proprietors had announced the piece for repetition this evening, in the hope that the Lord Chancellor, upon a statement of the circumstances, would dissolve the injunction; and they had done this, because, unless the representation was continued night after night, the benefit of the Farce would be almost entirely lost to the Proprietors, notwithstanding the sum they had paid for it to Mr. Colman; and the expence they had been put to in bringing it forward. He had an affidavit of Mr. Harris, that they had received no notice of the engagement between Mr. Morris and Mr. Colman, till they had advanced 200l. upon

account to the latter, and made preparations for acting the Farce; and he therefore submitted that the Proprietors of Covent-Garden Theatre stood in the situation of purchasers for valuable consideration without notice; and that the engagement between Morris and Colman ought not, in this instance, to affect them.

The MASTER of the ROLLS asked, whether he had any power to suspend the Lord Chancellor's injunction?

Sir SAMUEL ROMILLY agreed with the Master of the Rolls that his Honour had no authority in this case. The Proprietors of Covent-Garden Theatre had acted very rashly in announcing the piece for repetition, after notice of the Chancellor's injunction. He had not heard any proposal from Mr. Shadwell to account for his share of the profits to Mr. Morris, in case he ultimately succeeded, provided Mr. Morris should be disposed to consent upon these terms that the Farce should be performed to-night.

Mr. SHADWELL said, that they had no objection to these terms.

Sir S. ROMILLY then consented to waive the injunction for one night, upon the condition stated, observing, however, that it would be no easy matter to settle what should be Mr. Morris's share, as it would be necessary to decide how many came to see *Gustavus Vasa*, and how many to see *X. Y. Z.*

On Thursday an application was made by Mr. HART, to the Court, praying that the injunction might be suspended for the present, on the ground that the Proprietors, having given a valuable consideration to Mr. Colman for the copy-right, and the public curiosity being awakened to see the piece, the damages which the applicants would sustain would be considerable, if the injunction was continued. It was furthermore insisted, that Mr. Morris, who is concerned in the Haymarket Theatre with his brother-in-law, Mr. Colman, could not have any right to demand a *lien* on the genius of that Gentleman. His abilities as a play-wright, were, in fact, all that remained to enable him to provide for his maintenance, in the present shipwrecked state of his fortune, and although it was true that an agreement was made between the parties, that he should not write any play for any other Theatre, yet it would not be contended that Mr. Morris could compel the exertion of his abilities.

The LORD CHANCELLOR, without giving any opinion on the merits of the case, directed that an order should be made for suspending the injunction for the present, with this understanding, that on the merits of the case being fully before the Court, if it should appear the Haymarket Theatre were legally interested in its suppression, then the Proprietors of Covent Garden Theatre should be accountable for the profits during its being performed.

BISHOP OF LONDON'S COURT, DOCTORS' COMMONS.

COPP v. COPP.

This was a suit of divorce, brought by Sarah Copp, of Coleman-street, against John Sebastian Copp, by reason of cruelty and adultery. It appeared from the proceedings produced in this case, that the parties were married at Manchester, in May, 1810, where they lived together for some time; that they then came to live and reside at Bromley, and that during such period, Mrs. Copp had issue several children. It further appeared, that Mr. Copp frequently treated his wife with great cruelty, and that finally he became acquainted, and had a criminal intercourse, with one of Mrs. Copp's servants (the nurse). These facts being proved, and there being no opposition set up on the part of the husband, the Court immediately pronounced the usual sentence of separation.

OLD BAILEY.

On Tuesday, G. Warwick, H. Byrne, R. Howlett, J. Scott, J. Clifton, and J. Gee, pressmen of the *Times* newspaper, were indicted for a conspiracy to injure Messrs. J. Walter, sen. and J. Walter, jun. proprietors of that paper; but in consequence

quence of the absence of Benjamin Beveridge (the informer), who (though in Court at the commencement of the trial) was no where to be found when his evidence was called for, the men were of course acquitted; but remanded on their former sentence.

W. Wentworth and *G. Warwick* were then put to the bar on a similar charge; but their trials were put off till next Session, on an affidavit of Mr. Walter's solicitor, stating, that Beveridge was absent, from what cause he did not know, and that his evidence was so material, that he could not safely proceed to trial without it. They were therefore discharged on their own recognizance.

On Wednesday the Sessions ended, when Sentence of Death was passed on John Ladoane, Richard Lawson, James Gill, George Cogdell, Richard Norris, John Farley, William Britton, Mark Taylor, Mary Cairllon, John Hopkins, Joseph Jones, Richard Prescott, Thomas Robinson, Mary Beldon, William Berry, Charles Glover, Mary Tooley, Thomas White; John Newhall Hepburn, Charlotte Taylor, Ann Stevens, and Joseph Sexton.—Several were ordered for transportation, &c. &c.

The Journeymen Printers, convicted last Session, were sentenced to be imprisoned as follows:—John Gee and Robert Howlett, two years. William Clifton, Stephen Beckett, and George Westray, eighteen calendar months. Stephen Hurley, Henry Byrne, and Thomas Woolley, one year. Roderick Paskin, Edward Kidd, William Williams, Corbet Latham, William Coy, James Macartney, John Mackintosh, Nathaniel Collins, Malcolm Craig, John Chapman, and John Simpson, six calendar months.

ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

DREADFUL SHIPWRECK.—The bark *Aurora*, on her passage from Quebec to Sheerness; on the 22d ult. encountered a heavy gale, which stove in her houts and washed overboard almost all her provisions, the only article left being some bread, sufficient only for 24 hours. At this time they were 1000 miles from the land. The crew continued till the 26th without food, almost deprived of raiment, and their limbs were frost-bitten, when they were again assailed by a still more dreadful gale, which threw the vessel on her side; by which the first and second Mates, two seamen, and two boys, were washed overboard, and thus released from the prospect of a more horrid death. The remaining crew, (the Captain and three men) clinging to the side of the vessel for eight hours! when the ship righted, but was full of water. The wretched survivors got upon the foretop, and secured themselves. The decks now blew up, and thus situated, they endured all the horrors of starvation for seven days more! when, on the 2d instant, the *Maida* bore in sight and bore down to their relief. A boat brought the wretched sufferers off the wreck: they had been kept alive eleven days merely by sucking the ropes, which afforded them the water gathered during the heavy rains! One man appeared dead, and the others were senseless and in a most horrible condition. They have arrived at Plymouth, all extremely ill. No hopes are entertained of the recovery of one of them, and it is expected that each must lose a limb, in consequence of their suffering by the frost.—When part of the crew was washed over, one of the little boys clung to the Captain, who could have saved him had he had a rope; but an awful wave carried the lad into the bosom of the ocean, and he was never seen to rise.

On Friday evening, about five o'clock, the house belonging to Mr. Grant, in White Hart-yard, Drury-lane, fell down with a tremendous crash, burying in the ruins several persons. Among others, Mr. and Mrs. Anderson were precipitated from the garret into the cellar, and were taken out dead. A nephew of the unfortunate sufferers was also taken out, but happily sustained no material injury.—The son of Mr. Anderson made his escape by dropping out of the two pair of stairs window, by which he was dreadfully hurt.—Mrs. Grant and family were in the shop serving at the time when this accident happened; but fortunately escaped with their lives. Two young

men were taken out of the ruins with broken thighs, and otherwise hurt.

A Lady of the name of Brewster, in Maddox-street, was so seriously burnt by her clothes taking fire, on Monday night, that she is not expected to recover. Mrs. B. had dressed herself for one of the Theatres, and was in company with her son when the accident happened by the candle. Every assistance was afforded her, but her clothes were nearly burnt off her back.

Saturday week, about three o'clock in the morning, a fire broke out in Lisle-street, Leicester-square; at the Mexican Coffee-house. A boy was so dreadfully burnt that his recovery is doubtful. Some lodgers, together with the waiters and female servants, almost without clothing, escaped, partly by the roof and partly by the street-door, upon the alarm being given by the watchman. The fire broke out in the lower part of the premises; but how it originated is not ascertained. In less than an hour after the alarm was given, the whole premises were destroyed, and Mr. and Mrs. Simeon perished in the conflagration.

MARRIAGES.

On the 6th inst. J. W. Webster, Esq. of Clapham, to the Right Hon. Lady F. C. Annesley, second daughter to the Earl of Mountnorris, and sister to Viscount Valentia. The bride was attired in a most costly suit of Brussels lace. The veil alone cost 150 guineas.

On the 8th inst. at St. James, Westminster, Mr. Hagan, of Woodstock-street, to Miss Gill, of Cork-street:—and at the same time Mr. J. Eddleston, of the War-Office, to Miss Darra-cott, of King-street, Covent-garden.

DEATHS.

On the 30th ult. suddenly, at Lancaster, Rowland Lord Viscount Fauconberg, in the 66th year of his age. He was one of the few remaining Catholic Noblemen of the ancient stock of the Peerage of England. As his Lordship was never married, his title descends to his brother.

Lately, at Sandgate, Newcastle, aged 111 years, Thomas Robinson.

At Gosport, Mrs. Burton, wife of Mr. Burton, formerly of the Haymarket Theatre. A rapid consumption hurried her off in the "Spring and May of life."

On Thursday se'night, at Packington, the seat of the Earl of Aylesford, J. F. Rigaud, Esq. Royal Academician, a Member of the Academy of Bologna, and of the Royal Academy of Stockholm, and Historical Painter to Gustavus IV. King of Sweden.

Lately, at Seville, a servant in the house of Don Fernandez Garcia, aged 106. During the epidemic in Seville, in 1800, he was supposed to be dead; but at the moment of his interment, some signs of life appearing, he was recalled to sensation by pouring a small quantity of wine down his throat.

On Saturday week, Mrs. Gainelli.—A Medical Man, with a singular want of caution, having abruptly informed her of the death of a friend, the shock was so violent, that the unhappy lady fainted, totally lost the power of utterance, and died in a few days. She was in good health previously to the fatal announcement.

Suddenly, at Stanton, Mr. W. Briggs. This person had accumulated a considerable property, and his attachment to it was excessive:—he deemed it an act of great extravagance to wear a shirt, and he indulged himself in doing it only on two days in the year, namely, when he attended Litchfield and Derby races.

At Ticknall, in Derbyshire, on the 25th ult. G. Wilkinson, labourer, aged 104. On the Jubilee day (Oct. 25, 1809), this poor man sat at the head of the first table, when the labouring poor of Ticknall, and their families, amounting to 1000, were entertained with a plentiful dinner.