

THE EXAMINER.

NO. 78 SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 1809.

THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

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

SWIFT.

No. 78.

SPEECH ON THE PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.

PARLIAMENT was prorogued on Wednesday last to Thursday the 10th of August. The Speech, as usual, is very meagre and partial, but full of self-complacency; and the writer, whoever he is, seems to possess at least one of the attributes of genius—a short memory. He commences by telling us, that “his MAJESTY has great satisfaction in being enabled, by the state of the public business, to release the Lords and Gentlemen from their laborious attendance in Parliament;” yet he makes no comment on the nature of this laborious attendance, he says not a syllable upon the various great questions that have been lately agitated respecting the Constitution—upon Mr. CURWEN’S Bill for instance, or Mr. WARDLE’S economical motions,—nay—not even upon the Duke of YORK’S acquittal—a subject, one should imagine, well worthy the patriotic and triumphant congratulations in such pieces of composition. Instead of all this, the writer of the Speech confines his acknowledgments to the liberal provision which the Parliament has been enabled to make “without any great and immediate addition to the burthens of the People,” and “to the increased provision for the poorer Clergy, an object in the highest degree interesting to his MAJESTY’S feelings and deserving the favourable consideration of Parliament:” so that this writer would make it appear, 1stly, that to have an eternal war-tax fastened upon our shoulders is much better than to bear a heavier one that may be shaken off; 2dly, that we have reason to congratulate ourselves upon having nothing in addition to this eternal war-tax and no more Inquisitors just now to pry into our family concerns once a year;—and 3dly, that the provision for the poorer Clergy is the most prominent and indeed the only domestic subject during the whole course of the Session, “interesting to his MAJESTY’S feelings and deserving the favourable consideration of Parliament.” “No,” say the Ministers, “that is not the case: turn to the second paragraph in the Speech, and you will see how ardently we inculcate, both by instruction and example, a spirit of attachment to the happy Constitution, and all that.”—Well: it is very true; there is such a paragraph in the Speech, and very much will the reader be surprised to find it; not that the idea is any way strange in itself, or even unusual in ministerial mouths; but to talk of constitutional example in times like these, and to recommend the Members of Parliament to carry this example into their “respective counties,” are fancies somewhat too fantastic to be put into the royal mouth.

Which are the counties that are the peculiar objects of this recommendation,—those that have thanked Mr. WARDLE for his public conduct, or those that have not? The former have certainly shewn no backwardness to hold up the Constitution to admiration, but then the Ministers cannot mean the latter, or they would insinuate something to their own disadvantage. The truth is, the difficulty lies not in the counties but in the definition of the word *Constitution*, which is at last plainly discovered to mean two things,—one with the Court and another with the Country. With the Country, it signifies purity of representation and of the three orders of the state; with the Court, it means the KING’S or rather the Minister’s pleasure, a venal Parliament, and a set of Placemen, who “can do no wrong.” This incapability of error used to be attributable to nobody but the KING himself, but since the time of the “ever-to-be-lamented PITT,” the privilege has been discovered to be quite as useful to the KING’S Servants, and now-a-days a Minister may squander the public money, enjoy five places, or make a market of the House of Commons, and all the while be as constitutional, conscientious, and ever-to-be-lamented a Minister, as one should wish to see on a summer’s day. Were it not, that the etiquette of Royal Speeches never mention the auditors personally, the Lords Commissioners might have explained themselves very satisfactorily on this head, and here proceeded to shew how the Members of Parliament were to instruct the natives constitutionally; as thus—“You, my Lord CASTLEREAGH, will shew them the merciful distinctions which we make between designs and deeds, and the ease with which the Constitution may be violated—provided—you know—it be done constitutionally:—you, Mr. PERCEVAL, will descant on that admirable constitutional power which enables a man to be in five places at once; and whenever an Irishman mentions the word Emancipation, will very naturally ask him by what right Queen MARY used to burn people: of course, if any body happen to tread on your toes at an election, you will be sure to raise a cry of “No Popery” which will get the scoundrel knocked down; and thus shew the people’s attachment to the Protestant Succession:—you, Mr. VANSITTART, will return to Old Sarum and descant on that judicious and impartial mode of government which sees no difference between a few posts and a populous city:—you, Sir VICARY, will explain to the youth of Cambridge the vast difference between law and equity:—you, RICHARD WHARTON, in writing against the Jacobins, will preach the venerable doctrines, too long neglected in this country, of divine right and non-resistance:—you, Mr. FULLER, keep up the dignity of the House by teaching people to swear and play the bullfou in all decent assemblies:—you, Mr. WINDHAM, prove that corruption is a mere matter of taste, like decayed cheese:

and you, the Members for Dover, Queenborough, Windsor, and the other *Treasury Boroughs*, convince your constituents what a blessed thing it is for them to have the QUEEN'S as well as KING'S Servants in Parliament, thereby converting the Members into so many representations of royalty, putting an end to all disorder respecting votes of money, and thus greasing the wheels of the Constitution so effectually and making it run so fast, that nobody will be able even to count the spokes, or to see of what it is made, or to conjecture where it can be driving to:" &c. &c.

The rest of the Speech, or rather the greater part of it, is occupied with Austria and France, complimenting the one and perfectly cutting up the other. Were I to be asked, to what writers the several parts of the Oration might be attributed, I should give the paragraph respecting "happy Constitution" to LORD CASTLEREAGH, that about the poorer Clergy to MR. PERCEVAL, and the satire against France to MR. CANNING. This Gentleman likes to have a rhetorical thrust at BONAPARTE, and flatters himself that he "speaks daggers" when he talks of atrocity, violence, and unparalleled usurpation. But these are flourishes in which a disciple of PITT and WELLESLEY cuts his own fingers more than any thing else. What is become of the Marquis's plundered provinces and imprisoned Nabobs? Does justice vary like complexion, and become one thing in Europe, and another thing in Asia? I should think so, did it not blush as deeply for us in India, as it does for NAPOLEON in Spain. The Ministers make a mere contingency of usurpation: they seem to think, that like colour it consists in exposure to the light, and that as a red waistcoat is no longer red when shut up in a box, so an usurpation that is not absolutely before our eyes is no longer usurping:—when a Spanish Prince is imprisoned, it is a monstrous thing; but when a political death or indeed any other death happens to a young Nabob, the case is totally distinct; and we must be mad, I suppose, not to see that as a Nabob has nothing to do with the balance or trade of Europe, he has no claim to the justice of Europe;—not to mention, that he wears a turban instead of a cocked-hat, and is no *Christian*! One is sick at this want of philosophy, candour, and common decency.

In short, the present Speech, like it's predecessors of late years, is addressed by the Ministers to themselves rather than to the Representatives of the People; in other words, the Representatives of the People are creatures of the imagination, and the Members of Parliament are creatures of the Ministry; they are in fact Members of Place, as much as of Parliament, and a Minister might as well stand before his looking-glass and make speeches to his own limbs, which cannot obey his will with more entire acknowledgment; instead of "My Lords and Gentlemen," he might as well say, "My hands and fingers, I am happy to release you for the present from your laborious duties in the pockets of the community. My dear mouth, you have particularly obliged me by repeating all the good things I have conceived, by laughing at them when nobody else

would, and by swallowing every thing I took a fancy to. My toes and knees, you know the great disturbance there is in the next street with that scoundrel my neighbour, who opposes every body: I have sent a German to keep him in play a little, and in the mean time we'll go and kick our Irish servant:"—&c. &c.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

MARSEILLES, MAY 28.—King Charles IV. his Queen, and the Prince of Peace, are still here; they inhabit one of the finest hotels in this city, and live at a very expensive rate. The King takes a walk almost every day to the harbour, and frequently visits the French playhouse, with which he seems much pleased. The Queen lives in a very retired manner.

FIFTEENTH BULLETIN OF THE FRENCH GRAND ARMY.

Ebersdorf, June 2.

The Army of Dalmatia has obtained the greatest success. It has defeated all that opposed it in the battles of Mont-Kittau, Gradchatz, Licca, and Attachatz. The General in Chief Sloissevitch has been taken.

The Duke of Ragusa arrived on the 28th of May at Fiume, and thus the Army of Italy has formed a junction with the grand army, of which the Army of Dalmatia forms the extreme right. The report of the Duke of Ragusa respecting these different events shall be published.

On the 28th, an English squadron, consisting of four ships of the line, two frigates, and a sloop, appeared before Trieste, with an intention of taking the Russian squadron. General Count Cafarelli had just arrived at that port. As the town was disarmed, the Russians landed 40 pieces of cannon, 24 of which were 36-pounders, and 16 of 24. They have placed these cannon on a battery, under which the Russian squadron came to anchor with springs on their cables. Every thing was ready to receive the enemy, who seeing he had failed in his design, went off. One thousand Austrians having passed from Krems to the right bank of the Danube, have been destroyed by the Wirtemberg troops, which took 60 of them prisoners.

RUSSIA.

PETERSBURGH, MAY 24.—Yesterday the Austrian Ambassador, the Prince Schwaritzenburgh, left this city with his suite.

GERMANY.

SWABIA, JUNE 3.—The division of the French army which is under the orders of the Duke of Dantzic, had no sooner left the Tyrol, than that ill-fated country became again the seat of warlike operations, where, on one side, Gen. Deroy, who was in Inspruck, has been compelled to retreat to Kuffstein, and the Bavarian Colonel Arco sustained a severe conflict near Scharnitz and Lofhasch; on the other side Gen. Chastelar is marching at the head of an Austrian corps, joined by a numerous body of armed peasants, through the Voralburgh, against Lindau. All the neighbouring country is in the utmost consternation.

MORAVIA, MAY 29.—Yesterday the head-quarters of the Archduke Charles were at Graf, or Mar-graff Neusidel, on the Russbach, in Moravia, near Esslingen.

MAY 31.—According to the accounts hitherto received, the Archduke John had arrived, on his retreat by Gratz to Koermens, on the Rhab, in Hungary, in order to form his junction with the Insurrection and the Archduke Charles.

SUPPLEMENT to the FIFTH AUSTRIAN BULLETIN.

The 22d of May was a very severe day, but it had a most fortunate result to the arms of his Imperial Majesty. The French Grand Army was conveyed over the Danube, in the night of the 21st, by four bridges opposite to Aspern. The Emperor Napoleon conducted the troops in person: At the head of the Austrian troops was the Archduke Charles.

The contest was continued through the whole day with the greatest obstinacy. At the decisive moment the Archduke alighted from his horse, seized a standard, and led his grenadiers against the French cavalry, which he routed. The first regiment of the Insurrection greatly distinguished itself in this battle. The loss of the enemy is reckoned at 20,000 in dead, and the Austrian army also sustained a considerable loss.

On the 23d the French retreated by the bridges which still remained over the Danube.—Their rear-guard only still remained—but these also had manifested a disposition to retreat when this intelligence came from head-quarters.

FROM THE AMERICAN PAPERS.

WASHINGTON, MAY 22.—This day both Houses of Congress assembled, and at twelve o'clock, the President of the United States communicated the following Message to both Houses of Congress:—

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

On this first occasion of meeting you, it affords me much satisfaction, to be able to communicate the commencement of a favourable change in our foreign relations; the critical state of which induced a Session of Congress at this period.

In consequence of the provisions of the Act interdicting commercial intercourse with Great Britain and France, our Ministers at London and Paris were, without delay, instructed to let it be understood by the French and British Governments, that the authority vested in the Executive, to renew commercial intercourse with their respective nations, would be exercised in the case specified by that Act.

Soon after these instructions were dispatched, it was found that the British Government, anticipating, from early proceedings of Congress at their last Session, the state of our laws, which has had the effect of placing the two belligerent Powers on a footing of equal restrictions, and relying on the conciliatory disposition of the United States, had transmitted to their Legation here provisional instructions, not only to offer satisfaction for the attack on the frigate Chesapeake, and to make known the determination of his Britannic Majesty to send an Envoy Extraordinary, with powers to conclude a treaty on all points between the two countries; but moreover, to signify his willingness, in the mean time, to withdraw his Orders in Council, in the persuasion that the intercourse with Great Britain would be renewed on the part of the United States.

These steps of the British Government led to the correspondence and the proclamation now laid before you, by virtue of which, the commerce between the two countries will be renewable the 10th day of June next.

While I take pleasure in doing justice to the Counsels of his Britannic Majesty, which no longer adhering to the policy which made an abandonment by France of her decrees a pre-requisite to a revocation of the British Orders, have substituted the amicable course which has issued thus happily,—I cannot do less than refer to the proposal heretofore made on the part of the United States, embracing a like restoration of the suspended commerce, as a proof of the spirit of accommodation which has at no time been intermitted, and to the result which now calls for our congratulations as corroborating the principles by which the public councils have been guided during a period of the most trying embarrassments.

The discontinuance of the British Orders as they respect the United States, having been thus arranged, a communication of the event has been forwarded, in one of our public vessels, to our Minister Plenipotentiary at Paris, with instructions to

avail himself of the important addition thereby made to the considerations which press on the justice of the French Government a revocation of its decrees, or such a modification of them, as they shall cease to violate the neutral commerce of the United States:

The revision of our commercial laws, proper to adapt them to the arrangement which has taken place with Great Britain, will doubtless engage the early attention of Congress. It will be worthy, at the same time, of their just and provident care; to make such farther alterations in the laws as will more especially protect and foster the several branches of manufacture which have been recently instituted or extended by the laudable exertions of our citizens.

It will rest with the judgment of Congress to decide how far the change in our external prospects may authorise any modifications of the laws relating to the army and navy establishments;

The works of defence for our sea-port towns and harbours have proceeded with as much activity as the season of the year and other circumstances would admit. It is necessary, however, to state, that the appropriations hitherto made being found to be deficient, a further provision will claim the early consideration of Congress.

The whole of the 8 per cent Stock remaining due by the United States, amounting to 5,300,000 dollars, had been reimbursed on the last day of the year 1808. And on the 1st day of April last, the sum in the Treasury exceeded nine and a half millions of dollars: This, together with the receipt of the current year, on account of the former Revenue bonds, will probably be nearly, if not altogether, sufficient to defray the expenses of the year. But the suspension of the exports and the consequent decrease of importations, during the last 12 months, will necessarily cause a great diminution in the receipts of the year 1810. After that year, should our foreign relations be undisturbed, the Revenue will again be more than commensurate to all the expenditures.

Under the existing aspect of our affairs, I have thought it not inconsistent with a just precaution, to have the gun-boats, with the exception of those at New Orleans, placed in a situation incurring no expense beyond that requisite for their preservation and conveniency for future service; and to have the crews of those at New Orleans reduced to the number required for their navigation and safety.

I have thought also, that our citizens detached in quotas of militia, amounting to 100,000, under the Act of March 1808, might not be improperly relieved from the state in which they were held for immediate service. A discharge of them has accordingly been directed.

The progress made in raising and organizing the additional military force, for which provision was made by the Act of April 1808, together with the disposition of the troops, will appear by a Report which the Secretary of War is preparing, and which will be laid before you.

Of the additional frigates required by an Act of the last Session to be fitted for actual service, two are in readiness, one nearly so, and a fourth is expected to be ready in the month of July. A Report which the Secretary of the Navy is preparing on the subject, to be laid before Congress, will shew, at the same time, the progress made in officering and manning these ships. It will shew also the degree in which the provisions of the Act relating to the other public armed vessels have been carried into effect.

Aware of the inconvenience of a protracted Session at the present season of the year, I forbear to call the attention of the Legislature to any matters not particularly urgent. It remains therefore only to assure you of the fidelity and alacrity with which I shall co-operate for the welfare and happiness of our Country, and to pray that it may experience a continuance of the Divine blessings by which it has been so signally favoured.

Washington City, May 23, 1809.

J. MADISON.

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

In consequence of a dispute at the Cricket-ground, near Maiden, between Ensign P. Mahou and Assistant-Surgeon

Lewis O'Hara, both of the 11th regiment of foot, the parties met the following day, June 15th, on Woodham Mortimer Common. A number of spectators were present. The ground being measured at twelve paces distance, the parties fired without effect; when it was proposed, on the part of Ensign M. that a mutual concession should take place; which, from the nature of the insult received, being deemed inadmissible on the part of Mr. O'H. they proceeded to fire a second time, when the ball from Ensign M.'s pistol entering Mr. O'H.'s right side, passed through his body, and was instantly extracted by the application of a lancet from his left. After receiving the wound he declined altering his position for some minutes, but continued calling out to his adversary to fly, and evade the pursuit of some constables who were observers of the scene, and who succeeded in taking him into custody. Mr. O'H. was conveyed to his apartments in the barracks at Malden, where he expired the following morning at five o'clock. He was a very fine young man, in his 24th year, and was highly esteemed by his brother officers. His remains were interred with all possible respect, at Malden, on Sunday; the men of the 11th, and the Dragoons and Norfolk Militia, quartered in the place, lining the streets through which the procession passed, followed by the officers in garrison, and attended with the universal regret of the inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood. Ensign M. has since escaped from custody, and the seconds have likewise absconded.

Friday se'night as some of the artillery were throwing shells on a common near Seven Oaks, in Kent, it was observed that one of them did not explode, and every search was made for it in vain. An old woman, who had taken it up, was passing at the time with a basket on her arm; but the soldiers little thought she was in possession of it. The old woman was on her way to a neighbouring brick kiln, where she produced her prize to the men at work, who, after rolling it about, observed some grains of gunpowder to drop from it, and foolishly determined on firing it off; the old woman got out of the way; a lighted fire-brand was then applied to the gunpowder, the shell instantaneously exploded, carrying off the arm of the man who applied the fire, and killing his companion immediately on the spot.

SUMMER ASSIZES.

Home Circuit.—*Lord ELLENBOROUGH and Chief Baron M'DONALD.*

Hertfordshire—Monday, July 24, at Hertford.

Essex—Thursday, July 26, at Chelmsford.

Kent—Monday, July 31, at Maidstone.

Sussex—Saturday, August 5, at Lewes.

Surroy—Wednesday, August 9, at Croydon.

WESTERN—*Sir S. LAWRENCE, Knt. and Sir R. GRAHAM, Knt.*

Southampton—Tuesday, July 18, at the castle of Winchester.

Wiltshire—Saturday, July 22, at New Sarum.

Dorset—Wednesday, July 26, at Dorchester.

Devon—Saturday, July 29, at the castle of Exeter.

City and County of Exeter—Same day, at the Guildhall of Exeter.

Cornwall—Monday, August 7, at Bodmin.

Somerset—Saturday, August 12, at Bridgewater.

City and County of Bristol—Friday, August 18, at the Guildhall, Bristol.

MIDLAND—*Judges HEATH and LE BLANC.*

Northampton—Monday, July 10.

Oakham (Rutlandshire)—Friday, July 14.

Lincoln—Saturday, July 15.

Nottingham—Thursday, July 20.

Derby—Saturday, July 22.

Lancaster—Wednesday, July 26.

Coventry—Saturday, July 9.

Warwick—Saturday, July 29.

OXFORD—*Judges THOMPSON and BAILEY.*

Abingdon (Berks)—Monday, July 10.

Oxford—Wednesday, July 12.

Warcester—Saturday, July 15.

Stafford—Wednesday, July 19.

Shrewsbury (Shropshire)—Saturday, July 22.

Hereford—Thursday, July 27.

Monmouth—Monday, July 31.

Gloucester—Wednesday, August 2.

NORTHERN—*Judges CHAMBER and WOOD.*

York—Saturday, July 15.

Durham—Tuesday, July 25.

Newcastle (Northumberland)—Saturday, July 29.

Carlisle (Cumberland)—Friday, August 4.

Appleby (Westmoreland)—Thursday, August 10.

Lancaster—Monday, August 14.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Monday, June 19.

The Royal Assent was given by Commission to the Seats in Parliament Bill, Insolvent Debtor's Bill, African Coffee Bill, Irish Militia Bill, and the Irish Revenue Consolidation Bill.

The Judges Salaries Bill was read a third time and passed.—Adjourned.

Tuesday, June 20.

The Royal Assent was given by Commission to the Appropriation Bill, the Judges Salaries Bill, Sale of Offices Prevention Bill, Bankrupt Laws Amendment Bill, Friendly Societies Bill, Strand Bridge Bill, and Manchester and Greenwich Water Works Bill.

On the motion of the LORD CHANCELLOR, a Resolution was entered on the Journals, construing certain deeds of entail in the Roxburgh case favourable to the claim of Sir James Innes; but postponing the final decision upon the whole of the case until next Session.—Adjourned.

Wednesday, June 21.

The Commons being in attendance, the Royal Assent was given by Commission to the Local Militia Act Amendment Bill.

The LORD CHANCELLOR, immediately after the above proceeding, read the following Speech:—

My Lords and Gentlemen,

"We are commanded by his Majesty to acquaint you, that his Majesty has great satisfaction in being enabled, by the state of the public business, to release you from your laborious attendance in Parliament.

"His Majesty doubts not that on your return into your respective Counties, you will carry with you a disposition to inculcate, both by instruction and example, a spirit of attachment to those established laws and that happy Constitution, which it has ever been his Majesty's anxious wish to support and to maintain, and upon which, under Providence, depend the welfare and prosperity of this kingdom.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

"We have it in command from his Majesty to thank you for the liberal provision you have made for the services of the present year, and to express the satisfaction which his Majesty derives from your having been enabled to provide for those services without any great and immediate addition to the burthens upon his People.

"His Majesty particularly commands us to acknowledge your prompt attention to his wishes respecting an increased provision for the poor Clergy; an object in the highest degree interesting to his Majesty's feelings, and deserving the favourable consideration of Parliament.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

"The atrocious and unparalleled act of violence and treachery by which the Ruler of France attempted to surprise and enslave the Spanish nation, while it has excited in Spain a determined and unconquerable resistance against the usurpation and tyranny of the French Government, has, at the same time, awakened in other nations of Europe a determination to resist, by a new effort, the continued and increasing encroachments on their safety and independence.

"Although the uncertainty of all human events, and the vicissitudes attendant upon war, forbid too confident an expecta-

tion of a satisfactory issue to the present struggle against the common enemy of Europe, his Majesty commands us to congratulate you upon the splendid and important success which has recently crowned the arms of the Emperor of Austria, under the able and distinguished conduct of his Imperial Highness the Archduke Charles.

"To the efforts of Europe for its own deliverance, his Majesty has directed us to assure you, that he is determined to continue his most strenuous assistance and support, convinced that you will agree with him in considering that every exertion for the re-establishment of the independence and security of other nations, is no less conducive to the true interests than it is becoming the character and honour of Great Britain."

The Parliament was then prorogued in the usual form till the 10th of August.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Monday, June 19.

Mr. WILBERFORCE presented a Petition from the Rev. Mr. Madan, vindicating himself from the aspersions thrown on his character by the Petition of the Rev. Thomas Humphrey, presented a few days ago.—Ordered to lie on the table.

Sir T. TURTON presented a Petition from Mrs. Mary Ann Clarke, praying that the Papers belonging to her, which came into the possession of the House through the means of Mr. Nichols, of Hampstead, should be restored to her.—The Papers were ordered to be returned.

EAST INDIA CADETS.

Sir T. TURTON commented on that part of the Report of the Committee on the Abuses of East India Patronage that recommended the recal of all such Officers in the Company's service whose Offices had been purchased; this he thought to be a measure of reprehensible severity, and acting rigorously and cruelly against a number of innocent young men, who went out at an age when it was impossible for them to be guilty of the offence for which they were now to be punished by an order that would eventually be productive of their ruin, and blast all their hopes in life. He said that he trusted that that part of the Report would not be acted upon; and if it was not, he would be willing to withdraw his motion, but not otherwise. He then moved—"That the House should resolve that that House did not concur in the Report of the Committee appointed to inquire into the Abuse of East India Patronage, as far as related to the immediate necessity of recalling, and declaring incapable of holding any future situations, those persons, who, though either innocent or ignorant of the means by which their situations were procured, would be thus visited by a measure of severity equally repugnant to British justice and the rights of humanity."

Mr. DUNDAS said, that however willing the Court of Directors must be at all times to attend with respect to any communication from that House, still that House had not influenced the Resolution of the Court alluded to. In order to prove that the young men had had sufficient notice, he read an advertisement of the Court in 1806, giving due notification of the consequences resulting from the corrupt practices now prohibited. He concluded with moving the previous question.

Mr. BANKES spoke in favour of the Report of the Committee, and thought that the House should pause before they interfered with the Court of Directors.

Mr. WINDHAM said, that he could not help adverting to that sort of outrageous virtue, that, while it laid claim to immaculate purity for itself, went beyond all bounds in venting its vengeance against the alleged criminality of others. This was too much the principle in the present case. In this way of overdoing justice, Gentlemen seemed to argue in the same way the great King of Prussia did; who, when a soldier in a fresh breeze had his hat blown off, had the soldier severely punished for this accident; and it certainly was observable afterwards, that whether the man was innocent or not, fewer hats fell off afterwards.—(A laugh.)—He, however, was not for arguing in this manner in order to justify the punishing the innocent,

which he took to be impossible. Every means should be tried to get at the end desired, before they should adopt so harsh and unjust a mode as was suggested by the Report of the Committee.

Mr. WALLACE defended the Report of the Committee, and thought the plan proposed the most effectual remedy to check the growth of the evil.

Mr. STEPHEN was of opinion that the Committee went farther than they need have gone, in recommending the proposition they had done; the young men who would be sufferers in consequence of such a proposition being carried into effect, had not been guilty of the offence they wished to punish. They would be, however, utterly ruined if it was brought to bear against them. Many of them were now established there, and it would be hard to recal them after the sacrifices they had made. Tearing themselves, at a period of life when the affections were most warm, from all those near and dear ties of blood by which they were bound to their families and their homes, to go into a distant world in search of an honourable competence, after they had, perhaps, impaired their constitutions, or for any other reason had become unqualified to gain in this country a suitable subsistence. It was said, but let their fathers suffer; perhaps the father was long in the grave, and the son now the only staff of a declining mother, or dependent sisters.

Mr. GRANT was convinced that the practice which the Court of Directors wished to suppress, had a tendency to overturn the whole efficiency of the East India establishment. If situations were allowed to be obtained by corrupt means, all the confidence existing between the Company and the servants in India would be overthrown. Therefore, the only remedy which could be adopted was to strike at the root of the evil at once, by removing all persons who got into places under the Company by corrupt means.

Mr. PERCEVAL asked, if the House adopted the Resolution as it then stood, whether it could leave the question in an unprejudiced state? Were it fit all at once to declare, that the Directors had acted contrary to justice and humanity? If the Resolution passed, it would then be necessary to legislate for the Directors, to make bye-laws for them, and to take all their power out of their hands.

Sir S. ROMILLY considered this as a case of great injustice, and he was rather surprised to hear such austere sentiments of justice fall from Gentlemen on the other side of the House, which were so inconsistent with the doctrines that had been promulgated by them during the present Session. Gentlemen would recollect how the Secretary of State defended his corrupt conduct, and how William Beauchamp Hill, a man who had been convicted of taking bribes, was defended; and yet, after this conduct of theirs, they must now, from a desire of inculcating pure and rigid morality, ruin a number of innocent young men, who had committed no crime, and whose parents or friends might have given the money for their appointment.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL thought this question ought to be left altogether to the Court of Directors, and that the House should not interfere with their functions.

Mr. P. MOORE deprecated the recalling of the young men in India, who are fighting their country's battles in that country.

Mr. LUSHINGTON voted for the previous question.

Sir T. TURTON said, all questions respecting India of this kind, are by Ministers enveloped in the previous question.

The House then divided—For the previous question, 77—Against it, 35.—The Resolution was of course lost.

PUBLIC ECONOMY.

Mr. WARDLE said, he hoped he should be indulged in the observations which he was about to make, as he had been so particularly called forward. It had been represented that he had talked widely of the burthens of the country, and the grievances from which it might be relieved. He thought it but justice to himself now to state that which he had before stated on the subject; he had said, that if the House of Commons was reformed, and placed upon the original footing upon which the Constitution intended it should stand, the amount of the Income Tax might be saved to the country. If Gentlemen in that House thought proper to reprehend him for such language, he need

only refer them to the terms in which a great Statesman, whom they were in the habit of looking up to with reverence, had expressed himself on this subject in 1802. In that year Mr. Pitt, speaking on a Reform in Parliament, said, "that if the House of Commons had been always steady to the interests of their Constituents, then no such burthens as now existed would be suffered by the country." Now the language which he (Mr. Wardle) had used, was by no means equally strong with this. It had been made a matter of public accusation against him, that he had attacked public men; he took this occasion of solemnly declaring that he had never done so. He might have accused Ministers, or men in place, but as individuals he certainly never did, or at least, if he did, he was sorry for it, as it was contrary to his intention. If it was meant, however, by attacking men, that he attacked corruption, he was proud to plead guilty to the accusation, and to declare openly, that while he held a seat in the House, he would with all his powers attack corruption both in and out of that House. In 1802, Mr. Pitt also declared, that the defective state of the Representation was the disease under which the nation laboured, and that **WITHOUT A REFORM NO GOOD MINISTER COULD BE OF USE, AND NO HONEST MINISTER WOULD REMAIN IN OFFICE.**—If this was the opinion of that Statesman, why should the same sentiments be reprehended in others now? Without dwelling further on those opinions, he would now come to the principal object of his speech, the saving which might be made to the Public. In 1808, the public expenditure amounted to 71 millions of money. In 1809, it increased to 79 millions. A great saving, instead of this great increase, might have been made. The first article to which he should refer was, that of the Household Troops. There were two regiments of Horse Guards, upwards of 800 men each, and one regiment of Blues, of 600. Now it was well known, that these troops were never sent on service; and if 500 of them were kept for parade, it would be fully sufficient. The amount of Cavalry also which was kept up on our establishment exceeded all bounds. At present we had of dragoons 23,399 men. He was convinced that 15,000 would be fully sufficient for any service we might require, exclusive of those in the East Indies. By this diminution he would propose to save 1,276,000l. annually. He would next refer to Foreign Corps. These amounted to 22,978, the expence of which amounted to 1,800,000l. annually. This he thought by far too great a force of this description of troops. He was not singular in this opinion: he was borne out by no less an authority than that of Lord Chat-ham, who, in 1757, when the bugbear of invasion was stalking through the land, thought it most politic to dismiss these foreign troops altogether. He did not mean to cast on them, as men, any particular reflection; but he thought a suspicion ought always to light on mercenary troops. To justify this opinion, he need only refer to the expeditions to Quiberon, to Malta, to Hanover, where many of our native troops were wholly employed in keeping the foreign troops from desertion. At all events, they were a most doubtful species of force, and it was astonishing to think that some of their officers even had been placed in rank above British officers by having their Com-missions antedated! The next corps to which he should allude was the Royal Staff Corps, which cost annually 20,000l. and was a perfectly novel description of force, for it belonged to the Engineers; and if any such force had been wanted, it would have been easy to increase the Engineers, instead of instituting this new denomination of troops. The Militia also cost annually three millions, of which, by allowing half the men to spend a month employed at the harvest, 300,000l. might be saved. The expence attending the Local Militia amounted to 1,216,000l. out of which 800,000l. was allowed for the Staff! This he must call an expenditure both unnecessary and profligate, and one which would be corrected by a reformed House of Commons. The expence of the Army was most extravagant, it amounted to no less than 27,000,000l. per annum. A man per man would have a half-a-guinea for his jacket and trousers, and a guinea for his shoes. The expence of procuring them a necessary for the purposes of uniformity. The expence of the Army was also estimated

at 1,000,000l. per annum. This was also useless; for the spirit of the country, and the attendant advantages on the service, such as exemption from ballot, &c. ought to be sufficient to induce men to enter into it. This was the case in Ireland in 1782. For such a species of force military clothing was not necessary.—What had attire to do with men who could be employed but six weeks in the year? He next adverted to the Royal Waggon Train, in support of which 48,993l. was annually expended—it was quite useless, for it could only be employed at home, where its service was not requisite. He also objected to the institution of the *Maux Fencibles*, which cost 21,000l. per annum: Volunteers also were in use in the Isle of Man. But, above all, the expence attending on the Staff of the Army. It amounted to no less than 440,649l. per annum!—Now if he had an opportunity of going at length into the subject, he would undertake to prove that 200,000l. might be saved. Of the expenditure of the Recruiting Staff, which amounted to 349,000l. annually, 10,000l. might be saved. The cost to the country in Army Agency was 61,075l. Now if a General Agency Office was established, he thought 2,400l. in the War-Office might be saved, and perhaps a similar sum in the Pay-Office. The Horse Artillery cost 118,000l. In this service contract horses were now used, where artillery horses had been used before. In Fortifications at home, 700,000l. had been laid out; at this he could not help professing his astonishment: 27 martello towers were built, on each of which it was intended to mount a long gun and an howitzer: but when they were built, it was discovered that only the gun could be mounted; the consequence was, that it could not be pointed within 250 yards from the foot of the tower, nor point at all with any effect at low water;—four of these towers were placed on quick-sands, and even the situations in which they were all placed were so incommodious, that it was impossible that ever the enemy could be annoyed by them unless we could place English pilots in their ships. This was one instance of scandalous waste of public money, and the Royal Military Canal was another. This canal was calculated to answer any purpose rather than that for which it was intended. The enormous line of Fortifications at Dover was another instance; they were intended to prevent invasion, and yet required a garrison of 25,000 men, as if Bonaparte could land in this country in the face of 10,000. Out of this 700,000l. he calculated that 500,000l. might be saved. In Surrey, a Military Road was made at a great expence, which was now ploughing up; and there was one making in Scotland; he supposed when that was converted into agricultural purposes, one would be established in Wales! In the Commissariat Department also great waste took place; the Barracks in Great Britain and Ireland cost 764,942l.; and in Ireland many of those barracks were unoccupied, although others were still building. Next Session he meant to take an opportunity of shewing, that the soldiery might be just as well supplied, and 300,000l. per annum saved to the country. The next point to which he should call the attention of the House was, the expenditure for Army Clothing.—In this branch he was convinced that a saving of 9s. per man might be effected. He understood that Mr. Courtney would supply the clothing at 5s. 6d. per man under the charge made by Pearce and others, by private contract; and if the saving upon the other appointments should be calculated according to the same rates, the whole saving upon a military establishment of 200,000 men would not be less than 135,000l. But it appeared by the Papers on the table, that the Contractors had an allowance of 10 per cent. upon the amount of their contract, because they were paid only at the end of six months. By prompt payment a saving of 35,000l. would be effected. Another saving might have been made, if the clothing necessary for our Colonial Corps, and which had been sent out for the use of the Spanish levies, had been provided according to Mr. Courtney's plan. This saving would not have fallen short of 100,000l. and it was his intention, in an early part of the next Session, to bring this subject before the House, when he should pledge himself to prove, that under the Head of Army Clothing alone a sum of 270,000l. may be saved to the Public. In this opinion he was fully borne out by the authority of Gen. Stewart and Sir R. Wilson. He



felt it necessary in this place to observe, that the Military Expenditure in 1806, amounted to 17,344,420l.; in 1807, to 15,215,859l.; in 1808, to 15,596,539l.; and that in the year 1809, it rose again up to 17,490,060l. Here he was bound in justice to those Gentlemen, who certainly were not much in the habit of sparing him, to observe, that during the two years in which the late Administration had provided for the public expenditure, the expenditure for the army had been two millions less than it was in the present year. The next point he had to notice, related to the *Collection of the Revenue*; and the first circumstance he had to notice was, the expence of the Post-Office Department. The expence of the Post-Office in the time of Mr. Palmer amounted to 200,000l.; at present it amounted to 400,000l.; and for this increase he could discover no other reason than that the management was bad. As to the collection of the Revenue of Customs, he found that the number of Officers had been increased, and for the sole purpose of increasing the patronage of the Government. Before the construction of the India and London Docks, it was more difficult to collect the duties, because the articles upon which they attached were dispersed; but when they were collected within these Docks, one would have thought that the duties might have been easily collected. The fact was, that to the seven Surveyors before employed, three others had been added. On the bare article of Stamps, a charge of 130,000l. was incurred for their distribution. The expence of collecting this duty was very high; that of collecting the Malt Duties was 16 per cent. and the expence of collecting the duties on Candles was 12 per cent. but upon which a considerable saving might be made. When upon this part of the subject, he was naturally led to notice the amount of the balances supposed to remain in the hands of the Receivers-General of Taxes, on account of the Land and Assessed Taxes. These taxes amounted to 6,900,000l.; and the balances in the hands of the Receivers-General, on the 5th of January, 1807, appeared to have amounted to 586,970l. and those in the hands of the Collectors to 346,548l.; making altogether 933,518l. Now he could not conceive any reason why so much money should be allowed to remain in the hands of either of these officers. The rate of expenditure upon the collection of every branch of the public revenue had risen considerably of late. The whole charge of the management and collection of the public revenue, amounting in the present year to 2,816,516l. being at the rate of 41. 12s. 9d. per cent. If this charge were to be reduced, as he was convinced it might, to 31. per cent. leaving all idea of patronage out of the question, he had no doubt that a saving of above one million annually might be made upon the bare collection of the public revenue. It was impossible not to be convinced of this, if they looked to the comparative expence of collection within the last few years. In the year 1807, the public revenue had been collected at the rate of 41. 5s. per cent.; in 1808, at 41. 10s. 5d. per cent.; and in 1809, at 41. 12s. 9d. per cent.; being an increase of 7s. 9d. upon the expence of collection two years ago. Why, he would ask, should any such rise have taken place? When the debt, and consequently the revenue, was increasing, the expence of collection ought to have been diminished. The difference between the expence of collection in 1807 and 1809 amounted to a sum of 205,252l. In Ireland, too, the collection of the taxes was carried on at a rate of charge, which required the interference of that House. The amount of the duties levied in Ireland was 5,551,650l. whilst the charge of collection was 528,633l. being at the rate of 9l. 10s. per cent. If this charge were to be reduced to the amount of charge now paid by Great Britain, it would afford a saving of 284,519l. But the charge for collection of the revenue in Ireland, had been increased from 9l. 10s. to 11l. 12s. 6d. in the present year!! As to the expenditure of the Post Office in Ireland, it would scarcely be credited that it amounted to 50 per cent.!! The Post Office revenue in Scotland yielded 60,000l. more than the Irish, and was collected at an expence of 12 per cent. whilst the collection of that in Ireland amounted to a charge of 46 per cent! There was another point to which he wished particularly to call the attention of the House, namely, the expence of the Commissioners

for Auditing the Public Accounts. In the year 1807, they cost 68,910l. in 1808, 77,277l. and in 1809, 80,600l. being in the whole 267,347l. He did not mean to object to the expenditure of public money for expediting the audit and passing of public accounts; but from every thing he had been able to learn, he thought that the whole money had been thrown away. No progress appeared to have been made in getting through the public accounts, nor did it appear that any effectual progress was to be expected for years to come!! It was the duty of that House to attend to the auditing and passing of public accounts, without taxing the people to defray the expence of such a Commission. By such a course there would be a saving of at least 75,000l. When he looked to the amount of the Balances in the Bank, which generally exceeded ten millions and a half, the interest of which could not be less than between 5 and 600,000l. he was of opinion that the interest might fairly be taken at 500,000l. which with other advantages enjoyed by the Bank, made the Bank debtor to the public in a sum of 710,000l. But from this sum there were various items to be deducted, amounting to 471,220l. which would leave the public creditor to the Bank to the extent of 238,780l. It was not necessary for him in this place to advert particularly to *Stipendiary Places*, another Honourable Gentleman having stated that these places might be abolished to a considerable extent. He should however notice a doctrine lately broached in that House, that such places were *freeholds*. In answer to such an opinion, he had only to observe, that in 1744, it had been deemed expedient to reduce the establishment and salaries of the Tellers of the Exchequer, and of other officers, whose emoluments had increased in consequence of the augmented expenditure. The reduction that took place amounted to one-third of the emoluments; and so far from these profits having then been considered Freehold, the language held upon that occasion was, that, having increased beyond measure, they ought to be reduced within bounds. Another branch of the public expenditure, which might be dispensed with, was that which was disposed of in *Bounties*.—The best writers on public economy condemned the practice as bad, and it was his opinion that to continue these bounties was an idle waste of the public money. The total expenditure under this head, amounted to 526,870l. of which a considerable proportion was given to promote the linen manufacture in Ireland, and 3500l. to encourage the supply of fish for the markets of London and Westminster. He did not suppose that the bounty was of any material service in either case, and consequently was of opinion, that nearly the whole of the sum so disposed of might be saved for the public. The Hon. Gentleman then alluded to the expence of the contract with Mr. Bolton, for the Coinage of 10,000 tons of copper; and to the expence incurred for a house for the President for the Board of Controul, in Downing-street, as unnecessary items of public expenditure. There was another point, which he meant then only to touch upon, the amount of Military Expenditure for the Colonial Service. In the army extraordinaries there was a charge of a million and a half on account of the colonies annually. This appeared to him so enormous a sum, that he should take the first opportunity of directing the attention of the House to this subject. As connected with this part of his statement, he must observe that he saw no reason why the sum of 16,000l. should be expended annually upon the settlement of Sierre Leone. As to the fisheries of Newfoundland, he had a document in his possession which showed that in the year 1745 the settlement at Cape Breton yielded to France a million a year. When it was considered how much that colony had since increased, he did not think it too much to expect that it should now yield to this country at least half a million. The Military Expenditure of the country had increased in a most extraordinary degree since 1793. In Ireland, it had doubled even since 1799. Why had this been the case in that country? Putting humanity and justice out of the question, he should ask, whether it was the interest of the country to pursue a conduct towards Ireland which would render such an expenditure necessary? As the assertions he had thought proper to throw out upon these points, he should, on a future occasion, be prepared

bring the matter forward in a distinct shape, and to make good all he had said respecting it. He had the satisfaction to feel, that he did not rest upon his own opinion, but was borne out by the authority of those whose assertions were entitled to much greater weight and influence than any thing he could say. On the 1st of March, 1805, it had been stated in that House by Admiral Markham, that one-third of the Naval Expenditure might be saved by an honest, upright, and economical discharge of the different duties annexed to the various branches of the department. The Hon. Person had stated, that the Victualling Office, the expenditure from which amounted to 5,313,000l. annually, was the most corrupt of all; and it had even been admitted by the Secretary to the Admiralty, that that branch of the department was most vicious and faulty, and that the heads of that department ought to be removed. From what he had learned too upon the subject, he felt authorised in stating, that the canvass which had recently been supplied to the navy was of the most infamous description. Considerable loss had also been sustained by the public in the purchase of timber for the navy. Instead of the open contracts which were made formerly, private contracts had of late been substituted. The contract for the West Indies had been shut, as also that for Yarmouth, for four or five years. And whilst he was upon this subject, he should notice another fact with respect to the sale of grain at Deptford. A person who bought them at 1s. 10d. retailed them at 4s. 6d. and by this practice had, within a few years, amassed a very large fortune. He mentioned these circumstances only to shew, that the statement of the Hon. Admiral was not incorrect, when he affirmed, that by an honest and upright administration of the departments of the navy, one-third of the expenditure might be saved. He did not mean to detain the House unnecessarily, and should therefore not add many words. As to the papers for which he meant to move, he had only so state, that his object was to shew that the House ought to see that the public accounts should be properly settled. As the practice was at present, they voted every thing upon estimate, and it was almost totally impossible for them to get at any satisfactory account of the manner in which the sums voted were applied. The country, according to the system in existence, was obliged to allow at least twenty millions to remain unaccounted for, and without that sum ever being brought to a fair balance. He was convinced, that if in private life a man were year after year to allow his accounts to run on without striking a balance, he must be a very considerable loser; and a practice that would be ruinous to a private individual, must necessarily be injurious to the public. The late Chancellor of the Exchequer had stated, that 455,000,000l. of the public money were unaccounted for; and he agreed with that Noble Lord (Lord Henry Petty), that it was extremely desirable that the accounts should be passed, and the individuals concerned released from further responsibility and anxiety. Having thus stated the views he had upon this subject, he should conclude with moving, "That there be laid before the House an account of the total amount of the expense of the Royal Staff Corps, for the three years ending the 5th of January, 1809, together with the statement of their services."

Mr HUSKISSON observed, that the conduct of the Honorable Gentleman, in mentioning this subject in another place, had excited his surprise and regret, but that neither his surprise nor his regret had undergone any diminution from the present statement of the Honourable Gentleman. It appeared extraordinary to him that the Honorable Gentleman, as a guardian of the public purse, should have put off his statement to this late period of the Session, if he expected that any good could possibly result from submitting it to Parliament. But the Hon. Gentleman had said, that he would not even at this period have entered into the details which he had just submitted to the House, if he had not been provoked to it. Did the Hon. Gentleman then think, that, if he could point out the means of saving eleven millions of the public expenditure, he should have hesitated about bringing forward his statement? The Hon. Gentleman had stated, that last year the public expenditure was 71,000,000l. ergo, according to the Hon. Gen-

tleman's argument, 11,000,000l. may be saved. But before the Hon. Gentleman came to this conclusion, he should have pointed out the difference in the circumstances of the expenditure of the two years. He should have stated, that there had been, in the present year, a loan, which added at least a million to the public expenditure; that one million and a half had been paid to the East India Company; and that at least an addition of one million and a half had been produced to the expenditure of the navy, by the increased price of pitch, tar, hemp, &c. He did not mean to follow the Hon. Gentleman through all his details, because in so doing he should ill consult the time of the House. He could not however suffer many of his statements to pass away without some observation. The Hon. Member had begun his scale of retrenchment, by recommending a reduction of the cavalry force from 23,000 to 15,000, but this was a point of military policy not to be decided by the opinion of that Hon. Gentleman. The next point was the propriety of getting rid of the Foreign Corps. But was the Hon. Gentleman not aware that these foreign corps were composed of men the natural born subjects of his Majesty, serving from a feeling of loyal attachment to their legitimate Sovereign, and that if even we should get rid of them, we should have a military force 20,000 less than we have at present? As to the Local Militia, he should say, that if any part of our defensive force ought to be a favourite with the popular branch of the Legislature, it was that. If the Hon. Member could succeed in proving that we could do with one-half of our defence, and with one-third less of cavalry, there might be some foundation for his conclusions. As to the question respecting Fortifications, that was a point upon which military authorities differed. But upon principle, he could not see why the Hon. Gentleman should stop at a saving of 500,000l. The Hon. Member, in stating the expence of the Commissariat in Ireland at 95,000l. upon an expenditure of 150,000l. had fallen into a mistake. The Hon. Gentleman had confounded the expence of the corps of waggoners with the Commissariat. The Hon. Gentleman had also stated that a saving of 100,000l. might have been made upon the supplies of Clothing sent out to the Spanish levies, if they had been procured by open contract, whereas the fact was, that the supplies of that description sent to Spain did not amount to 100,000l. As to the credit given by the Hon. Gentleman to the late Administration for having saved two millions in the public expenditure, he would ask that Hon. Gentleman whether the expenditure could be the same when an army of 40,000 was employed on the Continent, as when no British troops were serving there? He did not suppose the Hon. Gentleman could have had it in his contemplation to make any improper impression on the public mind by his statement, but he was persuaded, that having made an inconsiderate pledge, the Hon. Gentleman was induced to bring forward his statement to redeem that pledge. When the Hon. Member talked of the increased expenditure of the Post Office, he seemed to have left out of his consideration the augmentation of the revenue of that department. He seemed also to forget the great advantages to the trading interests, arising from the establishment of Post Offices in the different parts of the Kingdom. The Hon. Gentleman had observed upon the increase of Inspectors of Customs, from seven to ten; but he could assure that Hon. Member, that there were no representations with which the Board of Treasury was more harassed, and to which it listened with more reluctance, than the application made for the increase of the establishment of Customs. As to the saving proposed by the Hon. Gentleman, from the 130,000l. the expence of the collection of the Stamp Duties, he was at a loss to conceive how the Hon. Member proposed to effect it. The House was aware, that the Stamp Duties applied to almost all transactions in life; that the amount of the Stamp Duties exceeded five millions; that it was necessary to have Distributors, or Sub-distributors in all parts of the country; and it would consequently be obvious, that the sum expended in the collection, was as small as it could possibly be. In fact, the Treasury in January last issued orders for reducing the allowance from 4 to 3 per cent. but it was found that persons could not be had to collect the duties,

and consequently the former allowance was necessarily restored. The Hon. Gentleman then took a cursory view of the arguments of the Hon. Gentleman (Mr. Wardle) respecting the Customs and Excise, contending always that the greatest regard was paid to economy in the regulation and collection of the duties thereof. He then ridiculed the idea thrown out by the Hon. Gentleman, of that House inspecting and auditing the public accounts, a duty wholly incompatible with the attendance of Gentlemen in that House, and in Committees of that House. The Hon. Gentleman was certainly wrong, if he supposed the French Treasury ever gained a million annually by the Newfoundland fishery, although the country might have derived benefit to that amount. When the Hon. Gentleman spoke of hundreds of millions unaccounted for, he must admit that there had been an arrear of two or three years in the auditing the accounts of the Pay-office. These accounts, however, as well as those of the Treasurer of the Navy, were now in a course of examination. He deprecated those general assertions made by the Hon. Gentleman and which might do a great deal of mischief by misleading the ignorant multitude. Was that the way that the Hon. Gentleman meant to push forward reform, by inducing the multitude to believe that it was only for want of reform that the pressure of taxes was felt? He could however boldly assert, that notwithstanding the weight of our taxes, there was no country in the civilized world which shewed less symptoms of deterioration or decay. If the Hon. Gentleman were to compare the amount of the taxes in this country with those in France, he would find that the taxes imposed in France are more oppressive, when the means of the people to pay them were taken into consideration. The mode of collection in France was also much more oppressive than in this country. The land-tax there, in many instances, amounted to one-half of the rent; and if it was left in arrear, the Government sent soldiers to live at free quarters in the house of the individual who was in their debt. The assertions which the Hon. Gentleman had made respecting the navy were not original. A gallant Admiral had, before he came into office, stated that he believed one-third of the expences of the Navy might be saved. That gallant Admiral afterwards came into office himself, as a Lord of the Admiralty. Many people were then anxious to see what great reform he would introduce in the Naval Expenditure; but he believed the gallant Admiral himself would now confess that his former assertion was rash. He considered that assertions of this nature were very dangerous, and regretted that the statement of the Honourable Member had been made so late in the Session.

Mr. PARNELL contended that the Hon. Gentleman had been compelled to make the present statement by the particular manner in which he had been called upon by the Gentlemen opposite. The Hon. Member, instead of being answered, is grossly misrepresented. When mentioning the enormous increase in the Expenditure, he is told of the great advance which has taken place in the prices of articles. "But why," said Mr. Parnell, "has such advance taken place? I maintain that it is a consequence of the improvident measures of this House, and if this House did form a true Representative Body of the People, giving full effect to the abilities of the country, no such advance would have taken place." Here Mr. Parnell went into various statements shewing that the Hon. Gentleman (Mr. Wardle) had advanced nothing but what would admit of the clearest proof. Alluding to the enormous military expenditure of Ireland, Mr. Parnell said, "it could only be accounted for by the impolitic resistance which is made to the constitutional claims of the Irish people. It is notorious to every one that the object of this expenditure is in a great degree to keep the people in subjection, and that so large an army would not be wanting, if no such object existed: I have therefore a right to say, that if a wiser policy was adopted in governing Ireland, a great portion of this expenditure might be saved, and an additional security obtained for the defence of the country against invasion, in the hearts and affections of the whole people." The savings calculated by the Hon. Gentleman are—

Army	-	-	-	-	£ 1,182,000
Revenue	-	-	-	-	1,440,000
Commissioners of Inquiry	-	-	-	-	75,000
Pensioners	-	-	-	-	300,000
Colonies	-	-	-	-	500,000
Bounties	-	-	-	-	150,000
Allowance on Debt	-	-	-	-	210,000
Irish Military Expenditure	-	-	-	-	2,000,000

Making a saving of - - - - - £10,857,000

And the saving which might take place in the Navy would amply make good what this sum wants of ELEVEN MILLIONS. "I have felt it due," concluded Mr. Parnell, "to the Hon. Member behind me, to make these observations in support of what he has advanced. He has undertaken a task of great responsibility and labour, with a view to promote the public good, and the manner in which he has made his statements entitles him to the thanks of this House and of the country; and as I think that the investigation which he has set on foot into every branch of the Public Expenditure will be attended with the best effects, I have felt it my duty to give him all the support in my power."

After some conversation between the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Dundas, and Mr. Huskisson, the question being loudly called for, the following returns, being part of Mr. Wardle's motions, were agreed to:—

Return of the expence incurred by the Ordnance during the last three years—Expences incurred by the Local Militia to the present time—Expences of the Waggon Train during three years, ending the 5th of January, 1809—Expences of the Manx Fencibles in 1809—Expences relating to the Commissariat Department and Royal Artillery to 1809—The Account of all monies expended as remuneration for commissions for temporary purposes since 1788—Expences for Printing and Stationary during three years, ending the present year—Expences for Naval Services—Expences for the Establishment of the Mint—Expences incurred in building a new Mint, making Fortifications, Martello Towers, and a Military Canal, since the commencement of the war to the 5th January, 1809, with many other papers relative to the Army Expenditure.

MR. LUKIN, MR. WOODFORD, & MR. GARDENER.

Mr. P. MOORE begged again to call the attention of the Right Honourable the Chancellor of the Exchequer to the papers which were printed, on his motion, in April last, respecting two refractory accountants under Mr. Lukin, viz. Mr. Woodford and Mr. Gardener, who had separately received large sums of money from the public, for the professed service of foreign corps. He said, the Right Honourable Gentleman and House would find those papers of great political import, and would not now press his attention to them, further than expressing his confidence, that the mentioning the subject to the Right Honourable Gentleman would, as on a former occasion, rivet his attention. He had heard with satisfaction, that in consequence of what he had before suggested, the Right Honourable Gentleman interfered with the auditors; that since then Mr. Woodford had fled the country, and the auditors had subsequently gone through the ceremony of opening a box of vouchers left by Mr. Woodford; but he could not learn whether any further proceedings had been taken; he therefore thought it his duty to call the attention of the Right Hon. Gent. and of the House, to the great point which ought to be immediately looked at. They would see, by the papers above referred to, that Mr. Woodford had to account for upwards of 300,000l. and that Mr. Gardener had separately to account for upwards of 180,000l.; whereas it would appear that Mr. Woodford had given in accounts, taking upon himself the whole of these two sums, thereby collusively covering and exempting Mr. G., as if no such person existed, or no such sums had ever been issued to Mr. G. Now, said Mr. Moore, Mr. G. received the money from Mr. Lukin, not from Mr. Woodford, but in his answers to the Commissioners of the Inquiry, (not on Oath like the other Witnesses), it will be observed he said, he had received the money from Mr. Woodford, and

merely conveyed it as he received it from him; which is completely contradicted by the papers now before the House. Mr. Moore said, he thought it his particular duty to call the attention of the House to this subject at this time, as Mr. Woodford having quitted the country, no time should be lost in examining a box of vouchers which Mr. W. has left, forthwith, so far to relieve Mr. W.'s account in the sum of 180,000*l.*, received by Mr. G. from Mr. Lukin, and to examine Mr. G. *in oath*, on his own accounts, as the Auditors had repeatedly required, but which it appears has been as often prevented by *undue influence in some quarter or other*. Mr. Moore said, he was exceedingly desirous that this should be accomplished without delay, as it was necessary to clear up some points of the 7th Report of the Commissioners of the Military Inquiry; and he hoped the examinations would be in a condition to be produced at the next meeting of Parliament, to render that Report in a more perfect condition for consideration than it at present afforded.

Mr. HUSKISSON said, that no doubt the Auditors would take the subject into consideration, and examine the accounts and vouchers appertaining to them, and do what was right.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said, that it was very true Mr. Woodford had quitted the country, but that he had written a letter notifying that he had appointed an agent to fulfil these duties, and to produce his vouchers to the auditors; and he had no doubt but the Auditors, though they could not be expected to break off in the middle of their Investigation of other accounts, for the purpose of taking up this subject in particular, would fulfil their duties.

Mr. MOORE said, he was afraid he was not understood, and therefore repeated, that it was not Mr. Woodford or his agent that was to be called upon separately to account for 500,000*l.* but that Mr. Gardener, who was *on the spot*, should be called upon separately to account for 180,000*l.* which he had received from Mr. Lukin, and not from Mr. W., that Mr. Woodford's account should be exonerated in the sum of 180,000*l.*—that Mr. G. should be called upon to make good that sum, as he had separately received it,—and that if that was not done, Mr. G. would virtually escape with 180,000*l.* without any account or examination at all, as no accounts or examination of Mr. Woodford could answer that purpose, or be any satisfaction to the Public. Mr. Moore said that these were sums of magnitude, and about which the Public, whose attention had been particularly attracted to it, ought to be satisfied; and that having stated the facts in his place, he had so far fulfilled his duty to them.—Adjourned.

Tuesday, June 20.

Mr. HUSKISSON moved, that a new Writ be issued for the Election of a Member for the county of Stafford, in the room of Lord Granville Leveson Gower, who has accepted the place of Secretary at War.—Ordered.

FINANCE.

Mr. VANSITTART rose, pursuant to the usual practice, to move certain Resolutions respecting the amount of the National Debt; the expenditure of the year, &c. &c. The sum to be provided for this year, he stated to be no less than eighty-two millions *l.*—Although he did not mean to say that the supplies were not equal to the charge, he found fault with the charge upon the War Taxes, which was objectionable, as anticipating our resources, and having a tendency to leave us without the means of an extraordinary exertion. He concluded by moving a Resolution, stating the amount of the actual debt, being upwards of 567 millions *l.*!

Mr. HUSKISSON was disposed to agree to the Resolutions, which he had no doubt contained an accurate view of the state of our Finances.

The several Resolutions were then put and carried.

INDIA FINANCE.

Mr. CREEVEY adverted to the India Account, and lamented that it should be so imperfect. He expressed his hope that the Chancellor of the Exchequer would make no agreement with the Company for the renewal of their Charter, in the present state of darkness. He then moved that the account be printed.

Mr. DUNDAS agreed entirely with the Hon. Gentleman, that Government ought not to give any pledge to the Company.

Sir J. ANSTRUTHER confessed that the India Expenditure was at present somewhat *above their income*; but this was owing to the wars, a circumstance which added every year to the debt of this country.

The Account was ordered to be printed.

CANADA.

Mr. P. MOORE gave notice of a motion for next Session, respecting the state of Upper Canada, which he understood to have been for some time filled with discontent, owing to the misconduct of the Governor.

Mr. PERCEVAL suggested the propriety of not entering upon any statement at present on the subject, because his Noble Friend (Castlereagh) who must be best acquainted with the circumstance, was not present.

Mr. MOORE said, he would not have said any thing on the subject had he not been furnished with documents.

MODE OF STIFLING INQUIRY.

Mr. W. SMITH presented a Petition from Beecher Westripe Atkins, some time Barrack-Master in the Isle of Wight. The Petition stated, that the Petitioner had before brought his case before the House, upon affidavits, stating, that he had been removed from his Office for having exposed certain Abuses in the Barrack Department. He had, however, got no relief, and was therefore induced to apply to the House again. The Petition was ordered to lie on the table.—Adjourned.

Wednesday, June 21.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER informed the House, that his Majesty had been waited on with the Address, praying that some Church Preferment be granted to the Chaplain of the House; and that his Majesty has been pleased to declare that he will order the same.

The Deputy Usher of the Black Rod summoned the House to attend the House of Peers, in order to hear his Majesty's Speech for proroguing Parliament read.

The SPEAKER, after returning to the House, read a copy of the Speech, and the Members dispersed.

TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTS.

- T. Dickie, Cornhill, bookseller. Attorney, Mr. Birkett, Bond-court, Walbrook.
 J. S. Jackson, New-road, Welclose-square, money-scrivener. Attornies, Messrs. Jones and Roche, Covent-garden.
 G. Houghton, late a prisoner in France, merchant. Attorney, Mr. Warrand, Castle-court, Budge-row.
 W. Kent, Upper Russel-street, Bermondsey, tanner. Attorney, Mr. Oldham, Swithin's-lane.
 W. Clapham, Kennington, wine-merchant. Attornies, Messrs. Teasdale and Browne, Merchant Taylors'-Hall.
 Isaac Cooke, Gravesend, carpenter. Attorney, Mr. Evans, Gravesend.

CERTIFICATES—JULY 11.

- W. and T. Ollivant, Manchester, cotton-manufacturers.—E. Holroyd, Manchester, manufacturer.—G. A. Riddlestoffer, Whitechapel, haberdasher.—G. Riddell, Berwick-upon-Tweed, grocer.—R. Courteen, jun. Great Bell-alley, merchant.

SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

Admiralty-Office, June 24,

Copy of a Letter from the Hon. Capt. Irby, of his Majesty's ship *Amelia*, addressed to Admiral Lord Gambier, and transmitted by his Lordship to the Hon. W. W. Pole.

His Majesty's ship *Amelia*, off *St. Andero*,
 10th June, 1809.

MY LORD,

Acting in obedience to your Lordship's order of the 15th ult. I received information of an attack being about to be made by the Spanish patriots on the French troops in possession of the town of *St. Andero*; and having established signals

Between his Majesty's ship under my command and the fortress of Golezand, I proceeded off this place in company with his Majesty's ship Statira, she having joined me on the 8th instant, but a strong wind and current prevented our getting up till this day, when, on our approach, firing was observed in every direction on the shore, and several vessels trying to effect their escape out of the Harbour, which were captured as per margin *; one boat only getting away; more must have escaped, but were prevented through the activity of Captain Boys, in his Majesty's ship Statira. They appear fine vessels, and have several of the French army on board, with chief part of the Hospital Staff. The corvette is the same lately so gallantly engaged by Captain Skinner, in his Majesty's sloop Goldfinch, and since by the Black Joke lugger, and has proved a great annoyance to our trade. I learn by a Spanish Officer, who came to me from the shore, (Aide-de-Camp to General Ballestero,) and by our own boats which I sent on shore, that the French troops have all surrendered, and that the town is in possession of the Spanish Patriots under the command of General Ballestero.

In consequence of the number of Prisoners I have sent the Statira into port with the prizes, and shall remain myself off this coast, in hopes of being able to render further assistance to the Spanish cause. I have the honour to be, &c.

FRED. PAUL IRBY.

To the Right Hon. Lord Gambier.

* French National Ship Corvette La Mouche, Captain Alegro, 16 brass 8-pounders, and 180 men.

French National Brig La Rejouie, Captain Breton, 8 8-pounders, and 51 men.

French National Schooner La Mouche, No. 7, Capt. Carnase, 14-pounder gun, and 25 men.

Lugger La Legere, Capt. Sequire, not being seaworthy, the cargo put on board La Rejouie.

Lugger Notre Dame, Captain Bergo Chin, 5 men, being a Spanish vessel seized by the French; the cargo put on board La Rejouie.

Captain Goate, of his Majesty's ship the Mosquito, has transmitted to the Hon. William Wellesley Pole two letters from Lieut. Mansel, commanding the Patriot gun-vessel, giving an account of the capture by that vessel of a Dutch national gun-vessel of one gun, with swivels, and ten men, in the river Jahde; and of a Danish privateer of one gun and six swivels, and twenty-five men, off Langerooz; and also of the destruction, by the Patriot and Alert hired vessel, of two French privateers and a sloop, in the Jahde.

BANKRUPTCIES SUPERSEDED.

T. Bolton, Langton Little, Yorkshire, dealer; and Jacob Jacobs, Wentworth-street, Petticoat-lane, glass-cutter.

BANKRUPTS.

B. Tanner, Dartmouth, Devonshire, shipbuilder. Attorney, Mr. Hurd, Temple, London.

I. Israel, jun. Gloucester-street, Commercial-road, linen-dra- per. Attorney, Mr. Osbaldeston, Little Tower-street.

J. S. Isaacson, New-road, Wellclose-square, merchant. At- tornies, Messrs. Jones and Roche, Covent-garden.

J. Rock, Westmorland-buildings, Aldersgate-street, tailor. Attorney, Mr. Lee, Three Crown-court, Southwark.

T. Neale, St. Martin's-lane, dealer. Attorney, Mr. Robin- son, Charterhouse-square.

W. Squire, Leeds, hosier. Attorney, Mr. Tottie, Leeds.

J. R. Bolton, Charing-cross, wine-merchant. Attorney, Mr. Hannam, Great Piazza, Covent Garden.

J. Parsons and W. Daniel, St. Martin's-lane, hair-merchants. Attorney, Mr. Cunningham, Red-Lion-square.

J. Heywood, Manchester, baker. Attorney, Mr. Hewitt, Manchester.

J. D. Scott, South Cadbury, Somersetshire, jobber. Attor- ney, Mr. Harvey, Lamb's-Conduit-Place.

T. Cogan, Houndsditch, stationer. Attornies, Messrs. Wilt- shire and Bolton, Old Broad-street.

J. Butterworth, Abchurch-lane, broker. Attorney, Mr. Druce, Billiter-square.

J. Bickford, Brixham, Devon, shopkeeper. Attorney, Mr. Ballachy, Capel-court, Bartholomew-lane, London.

W. Matthews, Spitalfields, carpenter. Attorney, Mr. Wil- liams, Royal Exchange.

Ed. Knight, Horsleydown-lane, lighterman. Attorney, Mr. Druce, Billiter-square.

F. C. Walsh, Strand, chemist. Attornies, Messrs. J. and W. Richardson, New-Inn.

T. Humphryes, Cheltenham-place, St. George's-fields, horse- dealer. Attorney, Mr. Martin, Vintner's-hall, Upper Thames-street.

CERTIFICATES—JULY 15.

W. Tinney, Cambridge, surgeon.—J. Holt, Salford, Lan- cashire, dyer.—W. Earle, Edmond-street, St. Pancras, dealer.—G. Blakey, sen. Stepney, ship-owner.—J. Denny, Barbican, stationer.—W. Gillespie, Basinghall-street, tailor.

—J. Philcox, Brightelmstone, Sussex, carpenter.

SATURDAY.—HOLIDAY AT THE BANK.

The article from *Whitchurch* did not arrive in time for insertion in this day's Paper.

THE EXAMINER.

LONDON, JUNE 25.

THERE is not a jot of news from the Continent, nor in fact ought any to be reasonably expected, when we recollect the exhausted state of the two great armies, and the time they must take to collect the strength of two nations for the last great struggle. It was on the 15th of June that BONAPARTE confessed he should be necessarily inactive for six days, and granting that a battle took place almost immediately after this, the intelligence would hardly have arrived before this time. It must be confessed, that the want of news has an aspect more unfavourable to the Austrians than to the French; for BONAPARTE is accustomed to collect and concentrate his immense forces with a silence almost supernatural; but if a nation like Austria had possessed any very wonderful spirit of patriotism, they would certainly have made a little more noise in the world by this time, with what they call their Insurrections.

On Monday, Mr. WARDLE gave an outline of his en- quires into the Public Expenditure, in answer to those Ministerialists who demanded an immediate explanation: yet he had no sooner concluded, than one of them who had wondered why he did not bring it forward, was angry that he did bring it forward, and replied in the old strain, that people were much better off in this country than in France. This is indeed a very strange mode of reasoning to a free people; I am kicked on the shins; and the man who has kicked me begs me to be perfectly comfortable, because my neighbour has had his bones broken. How- ever it does very well on these occasions, because it has nothing to do with the subject, and the less a Minister says on his own side of the question, the more art does he shew in its support. Mr. WARDLE has succeeded in procuring a number of papers relative to the subjects of his inquiry,

and he will bring it forward in a more argumentative shape next Session, provided the Ministers will hear him. In the mean time, the public must be happy to see that he has the support of so moderate as well as skilful a man as Mr. PARNELL. This subject will be discussed in the *Examiner* of next Sunday.

A private letter was received yesterday morning from Rotterdam, of which the following is an extract:—

“JUNE 21.—Another battle on the Danube is the whole subject of conversation—but the Government Officers keep so rigid a silence, that we can learn no particulars respecting the letters that have undoubtedly arrived from Vienna.—No one can tell how the news transpired, but every body has the same account.—The battle is supposed to have begun on the 12th, and continued with fury, day and night, till the 15th, down to which day, and no further, the account comes.—We all believe that BONAPARTE has been again defeated; and it is even said that he had demanded a truce—but that, I fear, is only a revival of the *old report*.—One thing we all rely on—that BONAPARTE has not gained a great victory, for then we should have had the accounts published. For my own part, I am afraid to indulge my *hopes*, for according to accounts from the French who are here, the preparations of BONAPARTE, after the battle of Essling, exceeded any thing of the kind that had ever been made before—and those who gave those accounts, have made themselves certain that he would crush the Austrians at the next attack—and they affect to laugh at the account of BONAPARTE’S defeat. The anxiety of those who wish well to the Austrians is really terrible—for they have lately spoken so openly, that if BONAPARTE succeeds, they will inevitably incur his vengeance, as they are all marked by the spies which he has here.”

An Austrian Messenger arrived yesterday morning.—He left Presburgh on the 20th ult. and brings no account of any military movement of importance on the part of the Austrians since the 22d ult. The Archduke was at that time near Esslingen.—The Hungarian levies to the amount of 60,000 men, were to join the Archduke the 9th inst.

There is a report of the Turks having defeated the Russians and killed 6000 men.

A Gottenburgh Mail was received yesterday morning, by which the departure of the Austrian Ambassador from Petersburg, and that of the Russian Ambassador from the Court of Austria, are confirmed. The demonstrations of the Russians are certainly warlike.

On the 5th inst. the Duke of SUDERMANIA was chosen King of Sweden; on the 7th he was proclaimed at Stockholm; and on the day following a grand procession was to have taken place, but the rain prevented it; the next day, however, it was performed. The streets were lined by the troops. His Majesty, CHARLES XIII. rode through the ranks on horseback, amidst acclamations from all ranks of people.

The length of time that has elapsed since any intelligence has been received from Sir ARTHUR WELLESLEY, has begun to give rise to considerable anxiety: but it is the anxiety of desire, not of fear. When the last accounts came away, the march of the British troops into Spain, in pursuit of VICTOR’S army, was suspended, in order to give time for the arrival of those supplies of necessaries essential for a long campaign.

It appears from the Message of the new American President, that the arrangement with England gave the Americans peculiar satisfaction. When they find themselves disappointed, some disagreeable consequences, it is feared, may ensue.

The Amsterdam Court Gazette of the 13th inst. contains the Dutch official account of the capture of Stralsund, and death of SCHILL.—The conflict in the town was dreadful, and the victory dearly purchased on the part of the Dutch and Danes, by the loss of a number of valuable officers.

SIR JAMES PULTENEY has retired from his situation of Secretary at War; and is to be succeeded by Lord LEVISON GOWER. This must be considered certainly as an accession of talent and character to the present Administration. On the subject of SIR JAMES PULTENEY’S “going out,” the country will be perfectly indifferent, if he only does not “go out” to Spain again.

A mutiny amongst the Local Militia which broke out at Ely, was fortunately suppressed on Wednesday by the arrival of four squadrons of the German Legion Cavalry from Bury, under the command of Gen. AUCKLAND. Five of the ringleaders were tried by a Court Martial, and sentenced to receive 500 lashes each, part of which punishment they received on Wednesday, and a part was remitted. A stoppage for their knapsacks was the ground of complaint that excited this mutinous spirit.

Mr. VALENTINE JONES, that Prince of Peculators, has been sentenced to three years imprisonment in Newgate, but he has not refunded the immense sum he robbed the public of, nearly a hundred thousand pounds! If Mr. ALEXANDER DAVISON (who not only returned the money he had illegally taken, but the *profits* also of several years services) merits two years confinement for his offence, what does this man deserve for frauds of a hundred times the amount? Either Mr. DAVISON has been punished with too much severity, or Mr. JONES has not received due castigation. Mr. HIGGINS too, his worthy colleague, is he entirely to escape the fangs of Sir VICARY?

FREGALITY.—Mr. Mattinson was formerly curate of Petersdale, in Westmorland, for the period of 60 years, the annual stipend of which never exceeded 18l. Upon this slender pittance he contrived to maintain a wife, and educate a family of four children. While curate of this parish, he buried his mother, and afterwards officiated as minister at the second marriage of his father; he christened his wife, and published his own banns of marriage; he christened and married all his children, and gave his only son a good education, so as to qualify him for the University. This venerable man lived to the age of 90, and died in 1786, universally respected, after having accumulated a fortune of 1000l. His son is at present master of the grammar school at Lowther.

A letter from an Officer, dated Sicily, 12th April, 1809, says—“Mount Etna burst out on the 26th or 27th ult. in a most tremendous manner. The first great eruption was from the very top. Twelve new craters opened shortly afterwards, about halfway down the mountain, and have continued to throw out rivers of burning lava ever since. Several estates have been covered with the lava 30 or 40 feet deep. The first three or four nights I saw it very well from this, and a very large river of red hot lava running down from the crater.”

An *opponent* has started up to Captain BARCLAY, likely to pluck the laurels from his brow. It is no other than an *old woman*, a Nurse in one of the City Hospitals, who offers for the bet of a pound of Scotch snuff, to keep awake with him for a twelvemonth to come without winking or blinking.

DEATH OF MR. LAMBERT!—We have to announce the death of this celebrated man, which took place at Stamford, at half-past eight o'clock on Wednesday morning.—Mr. LAMBERT had travelled from Huntingdon to Stamford in the early part of the week, intending to receive the visits of the curious who might attend the ensuing races. On Tuesday evening he sent a message to the Printing Office, requesting that, as “the mountain could not wait upon Mahomet, Mahomet would go to the mountain”—or, in other words, that the printer would call upon him and receive an order for executing some hand-bills. The orders he gave upon that occasion were delivered without any presentiment that they were to be his last, and with his usual cheerfulness. He was in bed—of large dimensions—fatigued with his journey, but anxious that the bills might be quickly printed, in order to his seeing company next morning. Before nine o'clock on that morning, however, he was a corpse! Nature had endured all the trespass she could admit: the poor man's corpulency had constantly increased, until, at the time mentioned, the clogged machinery of life stood still, and this prodigy of Mammon was numbered with the dead!—He was in his 40th year; and upon being weighed, within a few days, by the famous Caledonian balance (in the possession of Mr. King, of Ipswich), was found to be 52st. 11lbs. in weight (14lbs. to the stone), which is 10st. 11lbs. more than the great Mr. BRIGHT, of Essex, ever weighed. His coffin is six feet four inches long, four feet four inches wide, and two feet four inches deep: the immense substance of his legs makes it necessarily almost a square case; it is built upon two axle-trees and four clog wheels; and upon these the remains of the poor man will be rolled into his grave. A regular descent will be made, by cutting away the earth slopingly for some distance. The window and wall of the room in which he lies must be taken down, to allow his exit.

Last Friday an Inquest was held on the body of R. F. ATKINS, Capt. Adjutant of the Royal Pembroke Fusiliers, who was found dead in one of the Five Fields, near Chelsea. It was proved that he shot himself about two in the morning. In one hand was found a paper parcel, in the other a small pistol, with which he shot himself in the temple. In his pocket was found a promissory note for 8l. 8s. payable to the deceased, duplicates of a watch and seals pledged for 2l. 12s. 6d. and a purse with 4s. 6d. In the parcel was the following letter:—“As some inquiry may be instituted as to the cause of my death, I think it necessary to state that it was inflicted by my own hand, partly from pecuniary embarrassment, and partly from the effect of a strong nervous malady, which is fixed so strong on my spirits as to render life insupportable; and I desire, that whoever finds my body will forward the parcel. I wish for nothing more than death.—(Signed) R. F. ATKINS, Captain-Adjutant Royal Pembroke Militia.”—Lieut.-Col. SARGISON, brother-in-law to the deceased, stated, that the deceased was last Tuesday gazetted as Adjutant, a rank he had long wished for. That in the year 1807 he began to appear unusually thoughtful, and that while sitting with him he was often sullen, and appeared as if he had been asleep and start up and rub his eyes. He was at others times a good companion and was a sincere friend. Verdict, Lunacy. He was not 30 years of age, of an amiable disposition, and had been brought up to the bar, but preferred the army. He had some estates in Kent, and was single.

The total amount of the Public Expenditure of Great Britain (exclusive of the charge of Loans raised for Ireland) for six years ending the 5th of January 1809, being the 6 first years of the present war, is about 395,945,599l.; whereof 166,445,052l. arose from the charge of public funded and unfunded debt, and 229,701,647l. from all other services: and about 224,403,222l. has been raised by the ordinary revenue and incidental payments of various kinds, 92,240,000l. by extraordinary war taxes, 81,168,418l. by additions to the public funded debt, and 3,500,000l. by an advance without interest from the Bank.

Mr. WAITHMAN should have mentioned the name of the citizen whose love of good eating he alluded to in the Common Council. What a determined eater he must be, who is thus distinguished above his corporation colleagues!

MR. SECRETARY CANNING TURNED MILKMAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR,

Old Brompton, June 21.

As the parties who fancy themselves aggrieved in the following case, have threatened to appeal to the EXAMINER, whose known patriotism, love of justice, &c. &c. they think will induce him to give the business publicity, I think it a duty that I owe to my worthy neighbour, Mr. CANNING, to put you in possession of the facts, and thereby rescue him from the misrepresentations of interested people. The simple affair to which I allude is this: the illustrious Secretary above mentioned has taken the house and Land occupied by the late Duchess of GLOUCESTER, in that part of the world called Old Brompton (of which part I also am an inhabitant!) and being, by the niggardly allowance of the country to men holding public situations, reduced to the necessity of living very economically (or, as some say, wishing to imitate the great men of antiquity, CRASSUS, &c.) my good neighbour chuses to retail daily, at two-pence the quart, to the surrounding inhabitants, the skim-milk, which the late Duchess very prodigally distributed to the poorer sort for nothing. Now, Sir, several dealers in milk, who used to serve this part, have taken umbrage at this invasion, as they are pleased to call it, of their prerogative, (mark the rascals!) and have set up a cry, (Great is Diana of the Ephesians!) against the sale of skim milk, to the detriment of their genuine commodity. Among these I have particularly noticed one man, who seems to feel himself greatly injured, though he says nothing unless questioned; he is notwithstanding very unreasonable in his ideas of the subject. Would you think it, Sir, he supposes, because he has a wife and eleven children, and has served the neighbourhood seven and twenty years, that a great man has no right to set up against him! Precious effects of your reforming systems, and a sure proof of the reviving spirit of Jacobinism!—'Tis true, that the loss of the sale of sixty pints of milk weekly (which I'm told is the case) may exasperate the poor man, and warp his understanding, and produce those symptoms of indignation against my worthy neighbour, his fellow Tradesman; but he should consider, that every one has a right to do the best for his family, and though he loses the sale of sixty pints, the Noble Secretary clears five shillings by it. I might easily enlarge the defence of my honest neighbour, and swell this letter to a great extent, by relating how John the Coach-

man openly goes round the neighbourhood seeking custom for his master or mistress, &c. &c. and thus shew that there is no underhand dealing in the case, but all fair, like an honest-dealer; but you must already perceive, Sir, the injustice done to the Noble Secretary by their clamour, and you will be able very clearly to convince them (with the assistance of my Lord CASTLEREAGH and the *Morning Post*,) that the selling of skinn milk to one's neighbour, through the medium of John the Coachman, or any other agent, has nothing in it inconsistent with Old English liberality, and does not in the least trench on the rights and privileges of other dealers. I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

SANGRADO.

P. S.—I am told that the milk is not reduced below the Suffolk standard, and certainly two pence a quart is a moderate charge.

FINE ARTS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The respectability as well as the wants of Engravers demand a permanent provision. Few are able to appreciate much less willing to assist merit for its own sake. Deprived of prosperity, it is esteemed only by the philosophic few, scorned by many, contemned and neglected by most. Mr. P.'s Letter therefore very properly advises an immediate Meeting of the Engravers, for the purpose of considering of the plan of a Fund to provide against the casualties of life, similar to that of the Royal Academy. In these times of taxation, few Engravers, however eminent, are able to anticipate a supply to themselves and families for an evil hour; but the aggregate may easily obtain what individuals cannot. To enforce the necessity of this Meeting, were it not for the feelings of respectable relations of the parties, I could state several instances of distress experienced by excellent artists and their families, beside those of the venerable Mr. GRIFFITH and the ingenious Mr. TAGG, who is confessedly one of the best Aqua-fortis Engravers in England, and to whose capital etchings are owing half the beauties of most of our best prints for several years back.

ROYAL ACADEMY EXHIBITION.

237. *Narcissus*. J. POCOCK. Except the President's, Mr. HAYDON's, Mr. WILKIE's, and Mr. HOPNER's, this is the best coloured oil figure piece in the Exhibition, having no predominance of blue like some of Mr. OWEN's, of green like some of Mr. PHILLIPS's, of tawney or any other particular hue, like most of the rest. It resembles TITIAN's, which was nature's. If Mr. POCOCK continues to cultivate his eye for colour, he will be an estimable painter, notwithstanding his feebleness of expression. *Narcissus* is better drawn than any of Mr. POCOCK's former pieces, but he has little character. He is a handsome boy, but not the languishing *Narcissus*. The PRESIDENT'S *Narcissus in love with his own image*, has colouring as correct and landscape as noble as the best of TITIAN. With deference however to the matured judgment of the first painter in Europe, I think that a youth of 11 heads high has not the just proportion of a strain smitten with his own beauty. The accompanying allegory is depicted with the judgment of a first rate mythologist.

262. *View in the Vale of Marlow*.—W. DE LA MOTTE. A chaste and vigorously touched landscape.—272. *Infant Washermen*, C. C. COVENTRY, is highly pleasing in its light, shadow, and juvenile character.—Miss JACKSON'S *Venus* has a pleasing tone of colour.—Mr. J. SLATER'S por-

trait sketches are spirited; and a *View on the Rhine*, J. WRIGHT, Esq. *Honorary*, is worthy of a professor. With other good portraits, Mr. WOODFORD had a capital likeness of *Mr. Serjeant Dost*. His *Henry* and *Emma* evinces his usual taste and feeling in fancy subjects, especially those of love. *Henry*, in a very expressive attitude, is stiding the last hard condition—

“Or yield thy virtue to attain thy love;

Or leave a banish'd man, condemn'd in woods to rove.”

The beautiful and complacent countenance of *Emma* depicts her attachment to *Henry*, and her confidence in and resignation to his will. Her head dress is peculiarly tasteful; as is the chequered sun-shine through the leaves, partially illuminating the lovers.—If Mr. LOUTHERBOURG had the harmonious colour and clear obscure of TURNER, the beauty and dignity of his landscape compositions would rank high indeed in the scale of excellence; he would then be rich but not gaudy, forcible but not staring. His masses of cold and warm colours are too distinct and positive. Thus in a 12 square feet canvass, four feet are a separate mass of bright yellow, four bright blue, and four bright green, without any intermixture in either to connect it with the other two, rendering the whole crude and disjointed. This animated Artist would do well to contemplate the Rainbow, the most perfect individual form in nature for the union of harmony in colour, with beauty, grandeur, and forcible but delicate relief. Indeed, to select nature, all our painters should perpetually refer on all occasions. Mr. LOUTHERBOURG'S penciling, like his conceptions, is generally vigorous, but sometimes speckly feeble in his trees, and he never gives the silvery hue of nature to water. He aims at the tint of the emerald when he should give us the clearness of crystal.

Mr. ANNAB'S landscapes have an unaffected, tasteful, and cheerful distribution of light and shade. His trees, and whole composition have a simple elegance. His chief deficiency is in his colouring, which in most of his pieces is too grey. This complexion suits his *Roslin Castle by moonlight*, but not his daylight pieces. Their beauty and elegance would have had a double charm, had they been dashed with warmer hues. It is in landscape as in human beauty. An elegant set of features has a thousand times the animation when they are enlivened by the fresh carnations of health and beauty.

Mr. SANDBY'S talent, which appeared last year to suffer a suspension, has resumed its original vigour. His *View on the Kiburn Road* is without his former spottiness, and it is touched and massed with much taste and force. His *View from the back of No. 4, St. George's Row*, of a neat little garden bounded by a room, shews what interest genius can confer on a trifling object. I say trifling, simply as it relates to so artificial and confined a view, for there is one object there of no mean consideration, as it is consecrated by taste and virtue,—it is the venerable artist's painting room.

Mr. DRUMMOND'S best piece was 440, *Queen Margaret attacked by Robbers*. It has a forcible character of ferocity in the robbers, and of fear in the countenances and attitudes of the Queen and her son; but she wants the dignity of royalty. Mr. DRUMMOND excels in subjects of vehemence, in low characters, but cannot display dignity. His general colour, though rich, is tawdry. He begins to shew more precision in his drawing. Without this, the expression of passion, of dignity, and beauty, must be comparatively feeble.

Next week I shall sum up my remarks on the Exhibition of this season, and consider it as to its evidence of the state of the Arts in England.

R. H.

CITY.

CORPORATION ABUSES.

At a Court of Common Council on Wednesday, after the proceedings of the last Court had been read, the Clerk was ordered to read the Report of the Finance Committee; when he had concluded,

Alderman DOMVILLE said, that the abuses in every branch of the City Expenditure called for the interference of the Court. What he should propose would be chiefly confined to the Standing Committees, whose charges had greatly increased; and although he was aware many were of opinion that these Committees might reform themselves, he thought it his duty to warn the Court against such delusion. While he was thus calling upon the Court for retrenchment, he could not help briefly touching on the savings which might be effected in their parliamentary business and law proceedings. Gentlemen formed schemes, mounted their hobby-horses, and when they were thrown out of their stirrups, the loss fell on the City. By granting specific sums for specific purposes, great savings might be expected, and he hoped that while Gentlemen were willing to exclaim against the expenditure of Government, they would not be unwilling to look at home. The worthy Alderman concluded with moving a string of Resolutions, the first of which was, "That in future the annual sum of 700l. should be paid to the Committee of City Lands, and also 500l. to the Bridge House Estate Committee, as the recompence for their services and expences of every description."

Mr. DIXON was willing to give full credit to the motives which had induced the worthy Alderman to bring this measure forward; but he did not conceive it necessary: it would be quite sufficient to recommend to the Committees to be more economical in future. (*A laugh.*) He then moved an Amendment, "That some of the Committees had exceeded the bounds of prudence, and recommended strict and persevering economy in future."

Mr. DUFFEL conceived the expences incurred by the Committees justifiable. When they met it was but fit they should *dine together*, and invite such persons as their business might call from home.

Mr. JACKS said, the mere management of the estates of the City cost annually 18,460l. amounting to about twenty-one and a half per cent.!! In 1794 the expences of the Bridge House Committee amounted only to 681l. they now amount to 2923l. If this Committee were to meet of an evening, as they formerly did, a saving of 500l. a-year might be effected.

Mr. WAITHMAN conceived the business of these Committees might be very well done after dinner; he had served upon Committees, and the way the time was wasted, *till dinner was ready*, tried to make him regret leaving his business.—There were those who came into the Corporation merely for what they could make in Committees; if these Resolutions passed, they would probably leave them. There was one Gentleman in particular, who, though he had never missed him at a dinner, he had not observed at the Court more than twice in six years. He should vote for the motion, as part of a system of reform, and was convinced the funds of the City were adequate to every purpose, if properly applied.

Mr. MAWMAN gave the motion his hearty concurrence.

Mr. VANDERCOM could neither agree with the Resolution or the Amendment. Unless the Committees were allowed reasonable expences, and necessary refreshments, they would not get their business done. There were other well known causes of complaint, though Gentlemen were shy of mentioning them, arising out of patronage and law expences. He was once on a Committee, when a vote of 200 guineas was proposed. He asked what it was for? The question was unexpected—

the Mover could not tell; the person who was to receive it was called in to explain—he had done nothing which entitled him to it, but he had done business, in the law way, for *other persons*, in which he had had an eye to the interests of the City! He recommended fixed salaries for the Law Officers, instead of allowing them an increase of business, and then they would have less law-suits, and less law expences, which now amounted annually to 8000l. As it was now, when the Comptroller was employed, he took the Solicitor upon his back, the Solicitor the Remembrancer, and so they went riding one upon another, till the papers were increased beyond all bearing.—They should begin with great errors, instead of paltry ones.

After some other observations the Amendment was negatived, and the original motion carried. The other Resolutions, restricting the Committee for General Purposes to 500l. the Navigation Committee to 600l. abolishing the annual allowance of 150l. for a water excursion, &c. &c. were then carried.

LAW.

COURT OF KING'S BENCH.

Monday, June 19.

THE KING v. VALENTINE JONES.

The late Commissary General in the West Indies, was brought up to receive the judgment of the Court, having been found guilty of fraud and peculation, to the amount of 87,179l. being but a moiety of the sum of which the country had been defrauded by his collusion with one Matthew Higgins, better known as "Big Higgins."

Judge GROSE, after commenting upon the enormity of the offence, and the effrontery of the offender, said, that whatever other proceedings might be instituted, it was their duty to pass such sentence, as would be likely to prevent future peculation, and then adjudged him to be imprisoned three years in his Majesty's gaol of Newgate, and to be incapacitated from serving his Majesty in future.

Thomas Steel and Sarah Cumberland, also received the sentence of the Court for a conspiracy, in swearing a bastard child to a wrong father. The man is to be imprisoned six months, and the woman two months, in the Castle of York.

ADMIRALTY SESSIONS.

On Friday an Admiralty Sessions was held at the Old Bailey, before Sir Wm. SCOTT, Mr. Justice GROSE, and a numerous Bench of Civilians.

John Sutherland was tried for the wilful murder of Wm. Richardson, a boy of thirteen years old, by wounding him in the lower part of the belly, on the 5th of November last, with a dirk or dagger, of which wound he died on the 14th of November last.

John Thompson, an American Black, who served before the mast as an able seaman, deposed, that about a month before the fatal event took place, he shipped with Capt. Sutherland, who was master of the brig *Friends*, which was at that time lying in the River Tagus, about a mile from Lisbon. That vessel was at that time in the transport service. On the day stated in the indictment, the Prisoner went on shore; the crew consisted only of the mate, and two foremast men, besides the witness and the deceased. The boy was not quite 13 years of age; he was cabin boy, or servant to the Prisoner. On the Captain's return from shore, there was no one on board but the witness and the deceased; they were successively called into the cabin; the deceased was called down to the cabin a second time by the Prisoner, and in about five minutes afterwards witness heard him *sing out*, calling on him (the witness) by name, repeatedly. Supposing the Captain was only beating the boy, as usual, he took no notice, until the boy *sung out* repeatedly, and with more violence. He then went down to the cabin, where he saw the boy rolling on the floor, apparently in great agony, with his bowels hanging out!! The Captain stood over the boy with a naked dagger in his hand. The boy shewing his wound, said, "see what Captain Sutherland

land has done to me!" The Captain at first said nothing, but on the witness proceeding to go on deck again, the Captain said, "I know, Jack, I have done wrong." The witness in return said, "I see, Sir, you have done very wrong." Witnesses then went up and hailed the Elizabeth transport, which lay near them; a boat with the mate and two men belonging to that ship came alongside, but they did not venture to go into the cabin. The Witness then went with them to his Majesty's ship the Plantagenet, in order to procure a Surgeon, but to no purpose. On his return to his own ship, he found the mate on board. The Captain ordered the Witness to put on shore, to go *hunt for a Doctor*. They went to the English Barracks, but could not find one. After walking about some time, witness asked the Prisoner if he did not mean to go off (meaning to his ship), to which the Prisoner answered, "No, bet you may go off if you like." The Witness, however, stuck close to the Prisoner until they met an English and a Portuguese soldier; Witness told them what had happened, and the Prisoner was conveyed on shipboard. The Witness understood that in the meanwhile a Surgeon had come from the Audacious man of war, dressed the boy's wound, and had put him to bed. When the Captain came on board, the Mate asked him how he came to use such a deadly weapon to the boy, pointing to the dagger. The Captain said, he would take care he should not hurt any one else with it, and instantly threw it overboard.—The Prisoner was next conveyed on board the Audacious, and the boy was carried to that ship after him. The Captain did not appear to be at all alarmed at the time of the witness first going down into the cabin. The boy lingered under the constant apprehension of death for nine days, and died on the 14th of November.

M. Irvine, the principal surgeon, and Mr. Bligh, assistant-surgeon, of the Audacious, described the nature of the wound. The Captain begged of each of the surgeons separately to do what they could to save the boy's life, adding, "for by so doing you will be the means of saving mine." He said that he had committed the deed in a fit of rage and intoxication, adding, that he had been robbed and plundered by the crew, but never said a word against the boy. They were fully convinced that the wound was the cause of the boy's death. Whilst the boy was under the most serious apprehension of his dissolution, Mr. Irvine took down in writing his declaration, in which he stated that Captain John Sutherland at first gave him a slight wound, upon which the boy exposed the wound to him, saying, "See what you have done to me;" upon which the Captain inflicted on him a second wound, which was more desperate than the former. This was witnessed by the two surgeons, and attested with the mark of the boy, then almost dying.

There was another witness on the part of the prosecution, but it was agreed by the Counsel on both sides, that it was unnecessary to call him.

The Prisoner when called upon for his defence, said that he left it entirely to his Counsel.

Several respectable men gave the Prisoner an excellent character for general humanity and mildness of disposition, previous to the present transaction.

Mr. Justice GROSS recapitulated the evidence.

The Jury turned round in their box for about two or three minutes, and pronounced the prisoner *Guilty—Death*.

The Judge of the Court of Admiralty then delivered the awful sentence of the law in the most solemn, distinct, and impressive terms.

The prisoner is a tall strong-looking man, about 45; he was rather unwell, and was indulged with a chair. He was particularly agitated whilst the Judge was pronouncing the sentence; and was supported out of Court by two men. He has a wife and five children.

The execution will take place on Thursday morning next, at Execution Dock. The Court adjourned till the 4th of July.

ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

An Inquisition was taken on Monday in Castle-street, Oxford-market, on the body of Jane Moisseau, or Jane

Seymour, who was found dead in her bed on Sunday morning.—It appeared, from the testimony of Mary Churton, at whose house the deceased lodged, that she had given way to excessive inebriation. On Saturday afternoon her two children were taken under the care of the parish of St. Mary-le-bone, which seemed much to distress her. She went out, and returned about 3 o'clock, quite intoxicated. She went to bed, sleeping with the witness, about 11 o'clock, but at 4 in the morning was found dead in bed by the witness. Other witnesses confirmed that the deceased was constantly in the habit of inebriation.

Surgeon Morris opened the body of the deceased, to ascertain the cause of her death; and he had no doubt that such was occasioned by excessive drinking. Verdict—*Died by excessive Drinking*.

The deceased, it may be recollected, was tried about two years ago, for robbing her mistress, a milliner, in Berkeley-square.

An Inquisition was held on Thursday, in Leman-street, Goodman's-fields, on the body of Mr. Farnsworth, late a respectable inhabitant of that vicinity.—It appeared, that the deceased, about half-past 11 on Tuesday night, was riding on the Mile End-road, near the Livery stables of Mr. Wallis, where stood a waggon loaded with timber, belonging to Mr. Mountford, about 20 inches from the footway, from which one of the pieces of timber projected about three feet.—It was rather dusk than dark; the deceased galloped furiously, and his head came in contact with the timber, with such violence, that a crash, resembling the breaking of a door, was heard, when he was precipitated from his horse, and killed on the spot.—The Coroner remarked on the culpable negligence of the Proprietor of the waggon, in placing a vehicle, so loaded, to remain all night in a public road. The waggon and the timber were stationary, otherwise the whole would have been a forfeiture to the Crown. Verdict.—*Ca. Death*.

The public have been most villainously imposed upon for some time past, by a set of men going about pretending to establish provincial banking-houses. In order to get their notes into circulation, and to prevent their being too suddenly called upon for payment, the notes are for the most part made payable *only in London*, though some of the smaller ones run "here or at London." The pretended banking-house in London, situated in the New City Chambers, has every external appearance of business, but on one pretence or other the notes when presented are not paid. The persons who attend pretend either that they suspect the notes have been stolen, or that the head of the concern is not at home, or that they have not heard from the country, &c.; the note of course is sent back to the place from whence it is drawn, and the same answer is given. The head of the concern is in the King's Bench, a prisoner for debt, and all the other names mentioned in the body of the note, though real names, are a set of swindlers imposing on the public.

DEATHS.

On Thursday se'night, in Jermyn-street, Sir George Baker, Bart. Physician to the King and Queen. He had nearly attained his 88th year.

Mrs. Ford, of Sudbury, Worcestershire, a Quaker, on the 28th ult. she took her child to a Surgeon to have a swelling on the throat lanced; when the operation was about to be performed, Mrs. Ford fainted through terror, and almost instantaneously expired.

On Wednesday, as a Porter in the employment of Messrs. Brown and Hawes, wine merchants, was passing along Union-street, in the Borough, with a hamper of wine on his back, he fell down in a fit and instantly expired.

On the 18th inst. at Devizes, Mr. S. Williams:—he being warm with riding, drank a bottle of Soda water, and soon after complained of a pain in his bowels, and notwithstanding the best medical assistance, he expired the next morning.

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